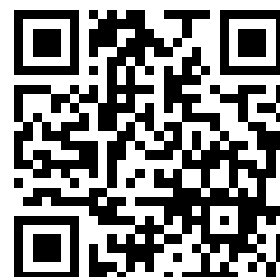


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COMMEMORATIVE

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD

—OF—

WOOD COUNTY,

OHIO;

ITS PAST AND PRESENT,

EARLY SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT; ABORIGINAL HISTORY; PIONEER HISTORY; POLITICAL ORGANIZATION;  
AGRICULTURAL, MANUFACTURING, COMMERCIAL INTERESTS, INCLUDING OIL AND GAS; HISTORY OF  
THE COUNTY, TOWNSHIPS, TOWNS AND VILLAGES; RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, SOCIAL,  
POLITICAL AND MILITARY HISTORY, INCLUDING ROSTER BY TOWNSHIPS; STA-  
TISTICAL AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTER; BIOGRAPHIES AND POR-  
TRAITS OF EARLY SETTLERS AND REPRESENTATIVE  
CITIZENS, ETC.

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~ILLUSTRATED~

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CHICAGO:  
J. H. BEERS & CO.,  
1897.



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FROM THE PRESS OF WILSON, HUMPHREYS & CO.,  
FOURTH ST., LOGANSPORT, IND.

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## PREFACE.

THE hand that should have penned this preface is stilled in death. The patient labors of Prof. M. A. Leeson, who spent nearly one year in diligent and tireless effort in gathering the broken threads of Wood County's organic history, and recording the story of her pioneers, were suddenly brought to a close by his death just as the chapters of this volume were coming from the press, and the writer hereof was asked to pen this page of the book, the Preface.

It may be done in a few words. It is the purpose of this volume to record the names and the work of those who reclaimed the county from its wilderness state, and laid the foundations for its civilization and permanent progress. It is little more than a record of what has been done; when it was done, and by whom it was done. The ways of the pioneers were not the ways of to-day; yet their story has an interest to us, because they were our ancestors—our heroic kindred, and we have a just right to feel a pride in what they did.

Besides the interest which attaches to our direct ancestors, we, as a patriotic people, feel an interest in the land we occupy, also who our predecessors in occupation were in the far-off past—whence they came and what became of them. That is told in the introductory chapters, ten of the first eleven of which are the work of this writer, before the compilation and organic history work was turned over to the literary care of Prof. Leeson. With this were turned over notes, data and fragmentary newspaper sketches, the collection of many years.

The writer of the introductory chapters spared no pains to make the work correct by such well-recognized authorities as Francis Parkman, John Dawson Gilmary Shea, Drake, Schoolcraft, Lossing, Bancroft, and numerous local authorities. This part of the work is presented in the chronological order of the events, rather than under the several topics in which the local history has been arranged. It is but just to acknowledge the great aid afforded in the local work by the files of newspapers of the county, which, in the recent years of the county's progress, are a faithful reflex of its history. Regrets are vain; yet we all realize how much better this work could have been made thirty years ago when most of the principal actors were living, than now when nearly all are gone, and the local civil records are in many instances lost or destroyed—at least missing. In the matter of the Soldier Roster and Record, it is but just that the writer should say, in behalf of the proprietors and publishers, Messrs. J. H. Beers & Co., that they have spared no pains or expense to make that complete and correct. To make it perfect, even in a single township, would be impossible at this time; but that this effort comes nearest to that attainment of any that has been, or can be, made, will become apparent to any who will take the trouble to inspect it carefully.

The Biographical and Portrait feature of the work (which was no part of this writer's original plan) has been thrown in by the publishers as an extra attraction. It may be correctly said of this feature that these sketches, in succeeding years, will possess great value and interest, not only to the families themselves, but to the searcher in genealogies for history.

While great pains have been taken, both by writers and proof-readers, to avoid errors, no exemption on that score can be claimed in a work of this kind, embodying so many proper names, also dates and incidents, often dependent entirely on the memory of individuals. It is believed, however, that the book will be received in that generous spirit which is satisfied with honest effort, rather than in a spirit of captious criticism.

To those generous friends who have rendered valuable assistance in collecting data and making corrections, many obligations are acknowledged.

C. W. EVERS.

OCEAN SPRINGS, MISS., January 11, 1897.



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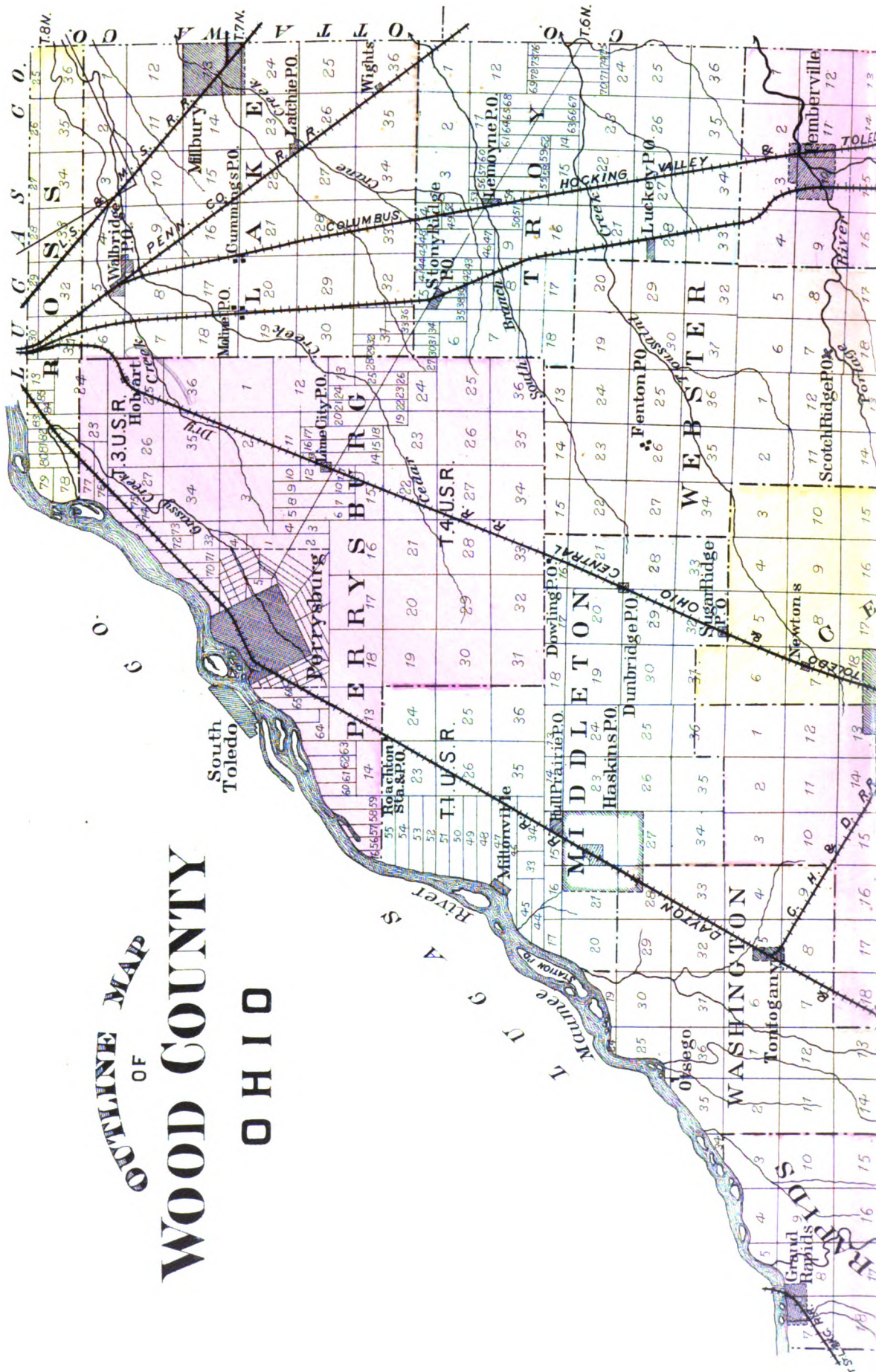
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# **OUTLINE MAP** **OF** **WOOD COUNTY** **OHIO**







## INTRODUCTION.

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CIVILIZATION, fitfully and slowly, spread her far-reaching mantle over the Maumee Country. She wavered and hesitated. More than once she advanced. More than once she retired in confusion and dismay. The obstacles were many and serious. Few inhabited lands have presented greater. To the vast stretches of swamp, inaccessible forests, and a dangerous miasmatic climate, was added the implacable hatred of savage tribes and bands—made desperate and revengeful by real or imaginary wrongs—who had retreated here, before the westward march of the hardy white Pioneers.

But Civilization, in her advances, is not always of gentle mien and timid speech. She can march to her work by rugged paths. She can wring victory from many a stubborn field; by many and devious forms of assault. The desert, the glade, the morass and the fertile valley are, alike, witnesses to the magic of her touch. She goes forth, now in the mailed armor of the Crusader; anon in the humble garb of the prayerful missionary—an Apollyon to destroy, or an Angel to save; a tyrant to command and enslave, or a fair goddess to woo to the ways of freedom and greatness. Her march, from the remotest date in history, when Babylon was in its infancy, down to the last Indian treaty in America, or the latest discovery in the "Dark Continent," is marked by the devastation of war and the civilizing influences of the peaceful missionary.

So she at last came to the Maumee Country. In one hand, the olive branch of peace, in the other, the sword of the conqueror. That August day on the Maumee, 1794, comes to us through the mist of a century, like a phantom tableau, historic and tragic.

Civilization and Barbarism stood beside that peaceful river, front to front, in battle array. Gen. Anthony Wayne, by his presence, said: "Civilization sends this army; I am her agent; this flag I carry is her symbol. Accept peace or flee for your lives." In heroic spirit and defiant words, Barbarism answered: "There can be no peace till you leave our land. We are here to stay your further advance, or perish in the trial." The tableau was dissolved—the tragedy began. Before the sun had set, the emblem of the new race waved triumphant over that bloody field. The victor's cannon peals proclaimed the permanent occupation of the land by the white men.

But this is a single, though important, incident, of the many which go to make up the story of our occupation of the Maumee Country. The time; the means; who our predecessors were; whence they came; where they went, and why we were nearly three decades later than some other portions of Ohio in making a beginning—all these things will present themselves as we gradually unroll the scroll and examine the impress each event has left, more or less indelibly, upon the records.

Prior to Wayne's campaign, little is known of the Maumee Country. Its history can be written on a single page. We are not old. Whatever distinction the American is entitled to for reclaiming this land, we cannot boast of the antiquity of our civilization, or its institutions. That dreamy charm or spell, upon which Oriental countries, and even Europeans, pride themselves so much, is denied us. We do not need it. The world measures now by events, not by hoary antiquity. The feeling of our newness is more strongly impressed when we recall the fact



that in the spring of 1788 there was only one white settlement in the present limits of Ohio, and the Maumee Country, even thirty years later, had but few white men in its boundaries.

But let us take the lighted lamp of history, and start along the dusky aisles of the past, back as far as the last quarter of the seventeenth century, say 1680—sixty years after New England was settled. The light grows dim; we are treading on the shore of the pre-historic past. The shadowy outlines of unrecorded centuries are just beyond us. We can go no further. The past is a sealed book, and History, herself, like a sleeper waking from a half-forgotten dream.

Let us glance hastily at the landscape and map out, from the boundless waste, as nearly as we can, the speck or place where Wood County is to be staked out by bounds. We can define it. It lies on the south side of the Maumee along the Rapids. What is it? A wilderness of swamp, forest and plain; dreary, desolate. There are no signs of human habitation except the rude hunting camps of some nomadic savages. The face of the country bears no marks, save what has been written on it by Nature's working forces. The red men, occasionally seen, have many conflicting legends, told in as many different tongues, but none of these claim more than a migratory residence in the Maumee Country. No tribe here claims ancestral graves. They have taken refuge in this fine hunting ground, perhaps from some more powerful tribe, and remain here only till they can escape to some more secure asylum beyond reach of their persecutors. Stripped of all romance and glamour, and trimmed down to reality, such was about the condition of this country when the whites first saw it.

These briefly outlined facts, with many other things in the same connection, will be more fully dwelt upon in the succeeding chapters. Wood County, chaotic, un-named, and undefined in boundary limits, will, for the present, be treated of under the more general name—"Maumee Country," of which she is a good-sized fractional part.

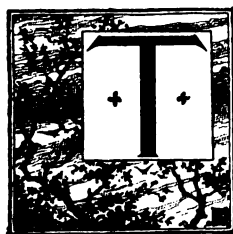
C. W. E.



# HISTORICAL.

## CHAPTER I.

PREAMBLE—BOUNDARIES—TOPOGRAPHY—DITCHES—NATURAL HISTORY—GEOLOGY.



THE territory now known as Wood county, from the beginning of French exploration to 1713, formed a part of the original province of Quebec; from 1713 to 1764, it was a part of Louisiana; from 1764 to 1769, under the British Parliament Statute, it belonged to Quebec province; from 1769 to 1778, under authority of the Virginia Legislature, it was attached to Botetourt county, Va., and from 1778 to 1787 it formed a part of Illinois county, Va. [Virginia's ownership during this time was more nominal than real, as the history of that time clearly indicates.] When the Territory northwest of the Ohio was established in 1787, Wood county was its wildest and most inhospitable part. The Ottawas, Wyandots and other tribes claimed it as their hunting grounds.

Wood county is bounded on the north by Lucas county, on the east by Ottawa, Sandusky and Seneca counties, on the south by Hancock county, and on the west by Henry county. The area, as stated by local authorities, is 382,845\* acres, distributed through Congressional Townships 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 N., in Ranges 9, 10, 11 and 12 east of the principal meridian. The county seat, which is near the geographical center, is in Latitude 41 degrees, 24 minutes, 30 seconds N., and Longitude 6 degrees, 44 minutes west of the Washington meridian. The population, according to the Census of 1890, was 44,395, or one inhabitant to each tract of 8,623 acres, or 74.23 inhabitants to each square mile.† The altitude at Bowling Green is 167 feet above the level of Lake Erie, or 739.9 feet above sea

level; at the Foot of the Rapids of the Maumee, 634.9 feet above sea level; at Bloomdale, 193 feet above lake level; at North Baltimore, 177 feet; at Weston, 164 feet; at Bairdstown, 184 feet; and at the north line of Section 17, Middleton township, 91 feet above lake level.

*Rivers and Streams.*—The Maumee river flows along the northwestern borders of Grand Rapids, Washington, Middleton, Perrysburg and Ross townships, abolishing section lines, and making a natural boundary between the counties of Lucas and Wood, excepting  $7\frac{1}{4}$  miles of the north line of Ross township. In early years, as early as 1671, it was called by the French, Miami du Lac. It is a river, which, could it speak, might tell of a thousand battles between the tribes, and of other sanguinary engagements between the Americans and their Indo-British enemies. The original name was suggested to the French by that of the tribe found near its head in the Fort Wayne neighborhood, just as they called the two rivers, flowing into the Ohio, "Big Miami" and "Little Miami of the Ohio." In after years, when the militia, under Wayne and Harrison, visited the valley, they caught the sound "Omee" or "Maumee" from Indians and English traders, and this rendering of the name has been attached to it down to the present day, notwithstanding the strong effort made, in 1855, to change it to "Grand Rapids River." The Portage river, Toussaint creek, Beaver creek and Tontogany creek, and their feeders, were the natural drains of the county, but since 1853 many artificial channels, known as "ditches," have been made, and the creeks named cleaned and deepened to form parts of the drainage system.

*Ditches.*—There are many old settlers of forty years ago who remember the ante-ditch period, and who may compare the county of that time with the present county, and tell of what good has been accomplished by the millions of dollars, drawn from the land owners, by special taxation, and expended in draining their territory. The

\* The area is variously estimated. In one report it is given as 398,720 acres; in the "Hundred Year Book," 399,266 acres; in another report, 396,640 acres; in "Ohio Statistics," 385,970 acres; and by Surveyors Wood, Davis and Spafford, at about 382,845 acres.

† The total vote November 3, 1896, was 14,070, which on a basis of one vote to every five inhabitants (the usual estimate) would make the population to-day 70,350, which, no doubt, is an over-estimate as there are so many single men in the oil fields of the county. The population in 1896 might fairly be estimated at from 60,000 to 65,000.—EDITOR.



first practical work done, under the first ditch law, was in 1854.

In December, 1853, the following named citizens were paid for their services in surveying and appraising swamp lands and laying out ditches on the same: S. Jefferson, surveyor, \$96.25; Thomas Garrett, \$72.25; John Russell, \$74.75; L. L. Loomis, \$36; Joseph Wagoner, \$25; Lewis Goss, \$24; Peter St. Clair, \$22; and other small sums. The Act of the Legislature, approved September 28, 1850, providing for the drainage and reclamation of waste lands, was observed by the commissioners in 1853, and in December of that year they fixed the prices of such land at from \$1.50 an acre to \$3, and in one instance—the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 29, T. 4, R. 9—at \$4 an acre. On the same date they authorized the construction of twenty-six ditches—eight in Center township, three in Webster, seven in Portage, four in Milton, three in Montgomery and one in Middleton—together with clearing out Johnson's creek, Swail run, West Branch of Rocky Ford, and Bull creek. S. Jefferson and S. H. Bell were the surveyors on this work. Advertisement was made in *The Perrysburg Journal* and *The Northwestern Democrat*, and on January 25, 1854, Asa W. Douglass was awarded the contract on Ditches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 12 and 13 for \$3,938, exclusive of \$11.85 for finishing Ditch 24. William S. Hopper, Samuel Huffman, Daniel Shoffstall, John Mercer, John W. Woodbury, R. M. Shaver, Dean & Emmons, Jonathan S. Wheaton, Sylvanus Moorehouse, S. Swigert, William Johnston and Solomon Shoffstall, were the contractors on the other ditches, doing the work at from 20 cents to \$2 a rod.

The Act, entitled "An Act to more effectually provide for locating, establishing and constructing ditches, drains and water-courses in townships, and to repeal certain Acts therein named," was passed April 18, 1874. This Act repealed that of May 6, 1868, and a former repealing Act of April 18, 1870, as well as the Act of March 13, 1872, without prejudice to rights acquired or liabilities incurred under the old acts mentioned. Prior to the Act of March 13, 1872, there were no less than 3,000 miles of main or county drains, and 2,000 miles of side or township drains. Of this mileage 371  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles were in Wood county. N. H. Callard, of Perrysburg, in a paper on this subject, says: "It will be remembered by the older classes of citizens that the conditions in nearly three-fourths of the area of Wood county was literally, during a considerable part of the year, either wholly or partially covered by water. To all intents and purposes it was a

'black swamp.' The change in its physical conditions have been almost phenomenal in their results. There are now 664 public highways intersecting the 389,600 acres which comprises the county of Wood. In collateral line with these roads are ditches which in most instances are of large capacity and carry off large bodies of water to their outlet in the river. The Jackson cut-off is but nine miles long, but in its depth, width and capacity it constitutes a veritable canal, and in a wet season would float a canal boat. Its construction cost \$110,000 and effectually drains some 30,000 acres of what were very wet lands, but now are some of the most productive. The Toussaint ditch is 22 miles in length, the Rocky Ford 17 miles. Each branch of the Portage river has been cleared from obstructions, and made very effective for purposes of drainage. These items, important as they are, represent in part only the thorough and effective work which has been accomplished by Wood county in the line of drainage."

The sum of \$1,500,000 was expended on roads and ditches from the fall of 1874 until the fall of 1881, or during Mr. S. Case's term as auditor. Messrs. Donaldson, Ames and Wood were the county surveyors; while W. R. Gillis was surveyor for the cut-off. This large sum is but a fraction of the total expended in making this county productive and habitable. The record of the work fills very many journals and account books, so that here, in addition to the beginnings of the ditch system, it may only be written that there are 896 ditches in this county.

*Zoology.*—For years after the organization of Wood county, it continued to be a great preserve for large game. The bear, wolf, red-deer, fox, panther, wild-cat and lynx were regular inhabitants of the wilderness, and, as told in the pioneer chapter, were killed here even after the war. The wild turkey, prairie chicken, snipe, woodcock, quail, partridge, wild duck, wild goose, and all the birds belonging to this latitude were inhabitants of this forest. The rivers and streams were full of fish and, altogether, the district was the paradise of the hunter, even after the forest gave echo to the road and railroad builders, ditch excavators, lumbermen and farmers. What it was in the days of Indian occupation, before Nature's destroyer came to improve Nature, is only told in legends. Pontiac and Tecumseh looked upon it as the greatest of hunting grounds and the Iroquois, before them, battled for its possession. It is now given up to agriculture and oil and gas development, with the sites of old Indian camps to prosperous towns and pleas-

ant villages; white hunters, amateurs in their way, come to find a little sport, but not one of the aborigines, who revelled in Nature's lavishness here, comes back to behold the change.

*Forest Trees.*—Of the 382,845 acres, forming the area of Wood county, 337,760 acres were covered with timber in 1853. In 1870, the forest covered 267,946 acres. The native trees, of the first order, included white elm, sycamore, cottonwood, black ash, white ash, hickory, burr oak and red oak; of the second order, white oak, beech, sugar maple, poplar, linn, soft maple, walnut and butternut; and, of the third order, yellow oak, pin oak, sassafras, red-elm, gum, mulberry, iron-wood and buckeye. All the shrubs and flowering plants, common to northern Ohio, grew here in profusion until the modern improver removed them as he did the forest. Large and small fruits find a favorite soil and climate here, while shade and ornamental trees, shrubs and flowers may grow to perfection within her boundaries.

*Sanitation.*—The sanitary condition of the county was known to be so bad, that few had the courage to locate here. In 1850, the Census enumerators found only 9,157 persons within its boundaries, and but few of that small number escaped the fever and ague and other diseases common among inhabitants of low or swampy ground. The pestilence\* of 1854 drove the people to a realization of the dangers which surrounded them, and the drainage of the territory was undertaken immediately—a great work which has been continued down to this day.

In 1837, there appeared in the *Maumee City Express* nine doggerel verses which, while intended to be funny, helped to retard settlement. After describing the potatoes, fish, animals of the chase, birds, corn, whisky, girls, boys and the ague, the poet closes with the following lines—

There's a funeral every day, without a hearse or pall;  
They tuck them in the ground, with breeches coat and all.

Other poets, too, had written so much on the unhealthy character of the Maumee Valley, that it was resolved, at a meeting held November 7, 1855, to call the river "Grand Rapids River," and to give the bay and the valley the same name. It is worthy of note that Wood county took the initiative, in carrying out the resolution, by changing the name of the old town of Gilead to Grand Rapids. Though the residents of Maumee changed the name of their town to South Toledo, the new name was merged into the old, so that Grand Rapids town is the only survivor of the effort to induce a new nomenclature.

\*Cholera.

The improvements known as ditches abolished the necessity of seeking a change of name; for not only have they contributed to render the soil of Wood county as fertile as that of any other division of the State, but also to render it as healthful as any county between the Alleghany range and the Rocky mountains.

#### GEOLOGY.

The clays, gravels and sands of Wood county are too well known to require any description here. They belong to what is commonly called the Drift, and form the basis on which the agriculturist builds up his fortune and, in turn, builds up the country. Geologists maintain that the territory now embraced in this county, with large areas adjacent, was submerged until the beach was formed on the line which extends from the Sandusky river, at Tiffin, westward to Defiance. Like their knowledge of the oil reservoirs, much of all they say is speculation; for all known about this planet on which we live is to all that is not known about it, as one grain of oil sand is to all the grains of oil sand in the Ohio field.

On the rocks forming the crust or crown of the earth, in this section of Ohio, the quarryman and drill let in some light, and released from depths far below sea level specimens of sand and clay and rock to instruct us all. Of such Prof. Edward Orton has often written, and from his paper on the geology of this county the following descriptions of the strata are taken:

"*The Bedded Rocks.*\*—Leaving the unconsolidated materials that cover the surface of the county at present, let us inquire as to the rocks that make its ancient and real foundation. The strata that are exposed within its limits belong to two separate divisions of the geological scale. It is impossible to lay down on the map the exact boundaries of these divisions, because of the cover of drift already described. In but few instances can the bedded rocks be traced continuously from farm to farm, or from section to section; but advantage must be taken of every exposure, and the topography of the country can sometimes be used as a guide to the continuity of the underlying rock. The rock exposures are found in knolls and ridges and in banks and beds of the water courses, large and small, across the county. The two divisions already referred to as constituting the surface rocks of the county are named herewith, beginning with the lowest or oldest.

"*The Niagara Limestone* constitutes an im-

\* By Professor Orton, written for this work.

portant element in the rocky floor of Wood county. It occupies considerable areas in the central and southeastern portions of the county. Outcrops are found in Center, Liberty, Plain, Middleton, Webster, Troy, Freedom, Montgomery, Perry, Bloom, Henry and Portage townships.

"The Lower Helderberg Limestone is next above the Niagara limestone. It is found in all the townships named above, and in the remaining townships of the county as well. Both the Niagara and the Lower Helderberg belong to the Upper Silurian division of the general geological scale. Each of these formations will be briefly characterized, beginning with the lowest or oldest.

"The Niagara limestone is one of the best known formations of the continent. It gets its name from the famous cataract, where a magnificent section of it is disclosed. Its lithological character in Wood county is not in all respects the same as at the Falls. At the latter place the rock is a fairly pure carbonate of lime, while in Wood county, as everywhere else in Ohio, it is a magnesian or dolomitic limestone, nearly half of its substance being carbonate of magnesia. But the continuity of the stratum from the Falls to northern Ohio is established beyond question. It is altogether probable that the change from a calcareous to a magnesian composition is gradual, but as the formation is deeply covered by strata of later age across the intervening region, this point cannot be established by observation. In Wood county it is in the main a light-colored and porous rock, not more than twenty feet of which are seen in any single natural section. The Bowling Green quarries can be taken as fairly representative of the entire formation in the county. The upper beds are buff or cream-colored, the lowest are gray or light blue. But the difference in color depends largely on the degree of weathering to which the rocks have been exposed. In composition, the rock, like all the stratum in northern Ohio, is a remarkably pure dolomite, as is shown in the following analysis made for the State Geological Survey: Carbonate of lime, 53.98; carbonate of magnesia, 43.25; alumina and oxide of iron, .40; and silica, 1.53. The analysis was made from the Bowling Green stone

The character of the lime produced by burning this stone is well known and highly approved. It is technically known as mild, or cool lime. There is no purer dolomite in the world than that which some portions of the Niagara limestone of northern Ohio yield. Opinions differ widely and

radically as to the relative values of the limes made from these dolomites and from the true limestones of the Upper Helderberg group, as shown in some portions of the Marblehead and Kelley's Island district. The Niagara limestone of Wood county occurs sometimes in rather massive beds, but generally it is quarried in thin and uneven layers. It is not well adapted to use as a building stone nor as road metal, but in the absence of better materials it is turned to some small account in both these ways. The stratum has been proved to have a considerable thickness in the county, though, as already stated, its outcrops do not exceed twenty to thirty feet. The record of deep wells show that the total thickness of the formation is not less than 250 to 300 feet. It reaches these figures in its outcrops in northern Ohio. Like all the other members of the geological scale of the State, this stratum had its origin in an ancient extension of the Gulf of Mexico to the line of the Great Lakes. Its most characteristic development is in western New York. But it can be traced from this center far to the northward, westward and southward. A peculiar phase of it is found in Ontario (Canada), in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, where, as already described, it occurs as a magnesian limestone. This composition of the stone seems to indicate that it was formed in an enclosed or isolated portion of the sea basin. Where the waters of the ocean had full sweep, true limestones were formed such as are found in New York, in southern Indiana and to the southward. This formation, as it occurs in Wood county, is rich in fossils, which occur, however, in almost every case, as internal casts. Several forms that are new to science have been obtained from the Risingsun quarries. Directly below the Niagara limestone, a bed of fine-grained shale or clay is always found. It is known in Wood county only through the records of the oil wells. In them it attracts universal attention from the fact that it is almost generally found safe to set the casings of the oil wells in this bed. It is known by the drillers as the "break" in the limestone. It ranges in thickness from five to thirty feet. This stratum is known in the scale as the Niagara shale. It is widely extended and vies in importance with the overlying beds. It reaches a thickness of 100 feet in Highland and Adams counties. It is only the uppermost division of this great Niagara formation that appears at the surface in Wood county.

The Lower Helderberg limestone is the next and only formation above the Niagara limestone which is found in the surface rocks of the county. Of this surface it constitutes a far larger part

than the other element. Like the Niagara formation, it is also a predominantly dolomitic or magnesian limestone, having apparently originated under much the same general conditions as those assigned to the latter. It differs from the Niagara in its bedding and its other physical characteristics. It is destitute of, or at least poorly supplied with fossils. It has been found by the drillers to be several hundred feet thick (500 to 700); but entire sections of it are not found in the county. Its beds are generally thin, seldom exceeding six or eight inches, but as they are tolerably even and regular they furnish somewhat better building stone than the Niagara. There are, however, several phases of the formation in the county. In the upper part there is a remarkable band of conglomerate, the pebbles of which sometimes rise almost to the size of boulders. The pebbles are themselves fragments of the same formation, but were broken loose from their native beds, and water-worn before being re-cemented here. This phase appears only in the more northerly exposures of the limestone, and it will no doubt prove to be one of our best guides in tracing the stratigraphy of the formation.

On the geological map of the county, in Volume II, "Geology of Ohio," a band of the Salina formation is shown in Wood county, intervening between the Niagara and Lower Helderberg areas. This representation was based on a theory and not on observed facts. The Gypsum beds of Ottawa county are now known to be about the middle of the Lower Helderberg series, and not at its base, as was then believed. No considerable deposits of gypsum have been reported in the well records of recent years; but it would occasion no surprise to come upon such beds at any time, in future explorations. Another feature shown on the map above named must be corrected. A formation locally known as the Grand Rapids sandstone, and found on the western side of the county, is referred to the Oriskany horizon. For this reference there is no good reason in the light of present knowledge. The Grand Rapids sandstone, so-called, is a magnesian limestone of average quality. It contains less than two per cent of total impurities, only 1.25 per cent. being referable to sand. Under proper conditions this "sandstone" can be burned into fair lime, the popular impression to the con-

trary notwithstanding. It occurs in a massive bed fourteen feet thick, which can be easily split into courses of convenient size. It is light colored, and, while holding quarry water, it can be cut easily. It is strong and durable, and in fact can be counted a first-class building stone. It is exposed, however, only in the bed of the Maumee river at low water, in the vicinity of Grand Rapids, and it cannot therefore enter the market under favorable conditions. To be worked with proper advantage, it would be necessary to open quarries on the east bank of the river. The stripping would be excessive, and it would doubtless be found necessary to keep pumps running constantly to keep the quarries free from water. The time has not yet come for going to such expense in quarrying building stone in Ohio. Small balls of chert are occasionally found in the so-called sandstone. They carry obscure fossils, but none of the latter have been observed that establish or suggest the Devonian age of the beds.

The direct economic products of the surface rocks are, as has been shown, magnesian limestone of the highest excellence, and building stone of not more than medium quality at best, the quarries of Grand Rapids alone being excepted. The many local quarries reduce, however, the cost of stone for cellars and ordinary foundations, to a considerable extent, and in this respect they render good service. In some districts, the granite boulders of the drift are abundant enough to allow of their being utilized in foundations and walls. With skillful work on the part of the stone-mason they leave nothing to be desired in such uses, so far as appearance and durability are concerned.

Ten years ago a chapter on the geology of Wood county would have stopped at this point. There would have been nothing to add with reference to the economic geology of the county, but every reader now knows that what has already been told is absolutely insignificant in comparison with what remains to be told, viz.: the production of oil and gas from certain of the foundation rocks of the county. The only factors of mineral wealth that would now come to mind in connection with the economic geology of the county would be the last named substances. [Prof. Orton's theory of the origin of petroleum is given in the chapter on the Gas and Oil fields of Wood county.]

## CHAPTER II.

FRENCH OCCUPATION—HOW AND WHEN THEY CAME—THE INDIAN TRIBES—DESTRUCTION AND EVICTION BY THE BLOOD-THIRSTY IROQUOIS. LEAGUE—OHIO ALMOST AN UNINHABITED WILDERNESS—WHY THE FRENCH FIRST LOCATED NORTH OF THE LAKES—FRENCH AT DETROIT, 1701—OTTAWAS AND WYANDOTS SETTLE ABOUT DETROIT—LATER REMOVE TO THE MAUMEE—FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR—FRENCH DISPLACED BY ENGLISH—TREATY OF 1763.

**I**N the far-away time when this narrative begins, three great nations of Europe were rivals for supremacy on this continent. Spain had made claim to Florida and the country west of it; England had planted some settlements north along the Atlantic coast to Maine; further north France held dominion, including the islands about the mouth of the St. Lawrence. That great river, navigable hundreds of miles, proved of inestimable value to France in the race. By the chance fortune of securing that open highway to the far interior she outsped her rivals in the westward march. Seven years before the Pilgrims came to the New England coast, Samuel Champlain had unfurled the banner of France on the shore of Lake Huron, more than one thousand miles inland. Through the far-reaching affluents of that great artery of the continent, the hardy voyageur penetrated the depths of the remote wilderness and learned of the boundless resources of the great West, long before English explorers ventured across the Alleghanies. As early as the year 1608 Champlain brought out a colony of his countrymen to the site of Quebec, and began the groundwork of permanent occupancy. This work the French continued in America with unabated zeal for a period of about one hundred and fifty years; it was a work thrillingly interesting in its historical details, and singularly eventful upon the destinies of mankind in its outcome. With their settlements established on the outlet of the Great Lakes, it was not a matter of chance or accident that the French became the discoverers of that part of Ohio adjacent to Lake Erie. The same watery highway, that carried the onrolling floods of the Maumee down through the St. Lawrence to the sea, guided the adventurous explorers back to their source. Thus it happens that the French are our earliest historians.

Beyond the Atlantic, in the musty archives of France, we will have to look for most of the scattered fragments of what is recorded of the Maumee Country during the rule of that nation here.

That period extends from its discovery, about the year 1679, until the English displaced the French in 1763. The history is but little and mostly relates to a race of people who, like the elk and buffalo, which furnished their subsistence, has long since passed from our borders—a race whose wandering life and deeds of savagery are of little interest save to the historian and antiquary. Though the Indian has gone, and his place is filled by another people, working out their destiny along new lines, it is just to give him some space, small though it be, in our story.

In the Marine and Colonial departments, at Paris, in shape of reports, maps and correspondence of officers in America, and in the archives of the Church, among the reports of the Jesuit missionaries, laboring among the North American savages, is to be found the earliest recorded history of our Indian predecessors. There, on time-stained, moth-eaten pages, in faded parchment covers, is told the melancholy story of some of the vanished nations who once roamed and hunted in the wilderness about Lake Erie—nations that perished under the deadly blows of their own races in an exterminating conflict, which was only a tragic part of the wide-spread revolution, begun before the discovery of their country by European adventurers, and fully as disastrous to the aborigines as the after complications of the survivors with the white men.

From such scanty data as the Frenchmen have left us, let us draw a hasty sketch of the Indian situation as it was at that time. In that broad domain of territory teeming with natural advantages, capable of sustaining an empire greater than any dreamed of by Charlemagne, lying north of the latitude of the Ohio river and stretching from the Atlantic ocean to the Father of Waters, were two generic branches of the red races, differing in language and some minor points—the Iroquois and Algonquin. These were again divided into numerous cognate tribes, with some dissimilar traits, but with a general re-

semblance. Within the territory south of Lake Ontario, and between the Mohawk and Genesee rivers, was a cluster of beautiful lakes, since made classic ground by the genius of Cooper. That charming country was the seat of the Iroquois League, the most remarkable and unique confederacy mentioned in Indian history, embracing five tribes—the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas. Their perfect union, unbroken to the last, and their favored location, gave them supremacy among the tribes. Parkman speaks of the Iroquois as the "Indian of Indians." De Witt Clinton calls them the "Romans of the New World." They were certainly like the Romans in one respect: they were remorseless, blood-thirsty conquerors. They held all the tribes, from the treeless plains of the Mississippi to the wooded slopes of the Atlantic under the spell of their prowess. The secret of their confederation and the term of its existence are involved in the uncertainty of mythical tradition. Their fighting strength, at the advent of the white man, was estimated at about four thousand warriors.

This confederacy, sometimes called the Five Nations, and after the year 1715, when they were joined by the Tuscaroras of the south, the Six Nations, was the Iroquois proper. Around them, however, were allied nations of the same linguistic stock. To the southwest, on the Susquehanna, were the warlike Andastees; south of Lake Erie the powerful tribe of Eries; on the north shore of the same lake, the Neutral Nation, so called by the missionaries, their territory extending into New York; in the peninsula north, formed by Lakes Erie, Huron and Ontario, were the numerous clans of the Hurons—sometimes called the Huron-Iroquois, as they were of the same stock—numbering, at one time, twelve thousand souls. These were named Hurons by the Jesuits, after the lake on the shores of which they had their homes; but at a later date, after the great catastrophe that partially destroyed and scattered the tribe, the principal band took the name of Wyandots. As, later on, the Wyandots figure in the history of the Maumee Country, it is desired to make this genealogy clear. Northeast of the Hurons, near the Ottawa river, of Canada, was the tribe of Ottawas, of the Algonquin family, well known in later years on the Maumee.

There is some obscurity in the French maps and accounts, of that time, regarding the west end of Lake Erie, as no missions had been established south of the lake. There is evidence, however, tending to show that the Neutrals, as they

were called, had fortified villages on the Sandusky river, whither they had fled for safety shortly before their final destruction. But other authorities claim that it was the Eries who suffered annihilation on the Sandusky. There is pretty conclusive evidence, too, that the Miamis used the hunting grounds of the Lower Maumee at an early day. This tribe had its chief seat on the heads of the Maumee and Wabash rivers, and its clans claimed portions of Indiana, Ohio and southern Michigan. The French named the river "Miami-du-Lac," probably after some tribe in the vicinity. La Salle met a war party of the Miamis, at the Kankakee portage, as early as 1681, on their way to fight the Illinois.\* The Miamis were among the few who did not suffer seriously by the Iroquois, though more than once they had to flee to the farther shore of Lake Michigan to escape the deadly blows of the insatiate New York conquerors. Their central village, Ke-ki-on-gay, was established, at an early date, on the site where Fort Wayne now stands, and subsequently they were among the most hostile tribes the Americans had to deal with.

Contiguous to, and almost surrounding the territory of the Iroquois, was the vast domain of the Algonquins. To draw lines of comparison between these two families is difficult. They were so related by conquest, absorption and location, as at times to baffle analysis.

All, however, were savages, differing but little in character, and similar in habits, customs and superstitions, where climatic conditions did not interfere. The Iroquois was the highest type of North-American savagery; daring, politic and ambitious; a fair exemplification of the best estate attainable outside of the pale of civilization. That these people, left undisturbed, would have developed a civilization for themselves no one believes who has studied them well. They were as fixed in their habits, laws and customs as the migrating birds of passage. Their lives were a series of impulses and their most important actions were incited by omens or the meaningless nummeries of conjuring "Medicine Men." They studied the signs of the woods that they might follow the game and track, or evade an enemy; but the open book of Nature had never suggested to them an invention or an art. In religion they were no better. "The religious belief of an Indian," says Parkman, "is a cloudy bewilderment where we seek in vain for system or coherence." The primitive Indian was as much a savage in his religion as in his physical life; he was, says the same author, "divided between

\* Parkman's "Discovery of the Great West," P. 269.

fetish worship and that next degree of religious development which consists in the worship of deities embodied in the human form. His conception of their attributes was such as might have been expected. His gods were no whit better than himself. Even when he borrows from Christianity the idea of a Supreme and Universal Spirit, his tendency is to reduce Him to a local habitation and a bodily shape; and this tendency disappears only in tribes that have long been in contact with civilized white men. The primitive Indian, yielding his untutored homage to One All-pervading and Omniscient Spirit is a dream of poets, rhetoricians and sentimentalists."

Both peoples—Algonquins and Iroquois—produced warriors of distinction and chieftains whose statecraft evidenced a considerable degree of sagacity. In this respect the Algonquins did not suffer by comparison. Powhattan and King Phillip were Algonquins, as later were Pontiac, Tecumseh, Little Turtle and Black Hawk.

Of the habits, customs and superstitions of those people who were our predecessors, much can be said; of their previous history but little, and that based on no better authority than legends and unreliable tradition. The Indians, as first found by the whites, are nearly as great an enigma as their predecessors, the legendary Mound-Builders, whose history can only be traced in the works that have outlived them. They were in possession—so far as their nomadic habits could make a possession. That much is certain; nearly as certain is the probability of their ultimate extinction.

The revengeful cruelties and homicidal fury exhibited in their incessant wars upon each other, as depicted by the early French discoverers, is calculated to somewhat dispel one's belief in the stories so often told in prose and song, of the primitive happiness of the Indian race. Possibly some of that happiness has existed in the brain of the sentimentalists, rather than in the reality, the result of undigested theories and uneducated sympathies.

Champlain's settlement found friendly neighbors in the hordes of Algonquins. The warriors besought the French to join them in a war expedition against their enemies, the Iroquois, to the south of the St. Lawrence. Here transpired an incident, which, though it seemed trivial in itself at the time, ultimately had much to do in shaping French history in America. Champlain acceded to the request, and taking a couple of his soldiers joined the war party. Firearms were then unknown in the woods of America, and when the proud Iroquois, in the first onset of bat-

tle, witnessed the blaze and crash of the muskets and saw three of their leading chiefs go down with ghastly death wounds, they were dumb-founded and fled panic-stricken, hotly pursued by the exultant red allies of the French. Champlain had made a mistake—a mistake that sorely troubled the French for more than a hundred years afterward. That act helped to engender Iroquois hostility, which, fed by other causes, contributed in no small degree to the failure of the French colonial project in America.

A little later on French explorers dared not venture to the west by way of the St. Lawrence and lakes, but turned northward instead, and the rising settlements lived in dread of their ferocious neighbors to the south. In this unfortunate condition of affairs, the reader finds the principal explanation for the French pioneers turning to the inhospitable region to the north of the Great Lakes, instead of to the nearer and more desirable country further south. For this cause, doubtless, the Maumee Country was not discovered until more than seventy years after the settlement at Quebec was made. Mackinac, Green Bay, the "Soo" and Mission La Pointe, north of the lakes, are more than a quarter of a century older than Detroit. There was a cause for this. Iroquois hostility drove the French northward. Their usual route was by the Ottawa river, of Canada, thence by the north shore of Huron, Mackinac, and so on to Lake Superior. Along this route were the missionary stations, the centers of the early colonial history.

Thus far we have dwelt upon the maps and history of the country, presumably as the French first found it. Now let us make a revise of the history and map of this same country with the changes of half a century. At the beginning of 1670 the land of the Hurons is a solitude. The Moloch of havoc had been there. Iroquois tomahawks spread desolation through all the borders. The missions and missionaries were gone. The survivors of the once populous Indian cantons were scattered bands of fugitives. After destroying the Hurons the Five League despoilers fell upon the Neutral Nation with ruthless fury, and the wilderness north of Lake Erie became a solitude. South of the lake the Eries, after a heroic resistance, shared the same fate, and their name only lives in the blue waters beside which they perished. Little is known of them—the missionaries, it is thought, never dwelt among them. The Andastees, too, after a savage and protracted struggle, which crippled and nearly baffled their conquerors, were exterminated. Thus, one after the other, four great nations



perished at the hands of their savage brethren. The present State of Ohio became a vassal canton of the Iroquois, and, it might be added, was almost a solitude. The population, thus displaced, made what has been deemed by some to have been the first occupation. All that can be truthfully said, however, is that they were the first occupants of whom the white men knew anything.

The French colonists had been friends and allies of the Hurons, as well, and for that reason had not escaped unscathed. The revengeful Confederacy, obtaining guns from the Dutch and English, whose settlements were beginning to dot the Hudson and Mohawk, made frequent merciless raids, spreading desolation along the whole line of the St. Lawrence settlements, until the colony tottered upon the verge of ruin. Montreal was captured; its inhabitants butchered or carried away captives, and the blood-smeared victors yelled their exultant war-whoops under the very walls of Quebec.

Let us refer again to the same map. Far away, on the south shore of Lake Superior, near Chequamigon bay, are the fragments of the once proud, but now expatriated, Hurons. Near them were the Ottawas—associates in exile. They, too, had to flee before the fury of the conquerors. These tribes for more than twenty years, like the Israelites of old, wanderers in the vast wilderness, had at last squatted there, near some kindred clans of the Chippewas. The faithful Jesuits had been with them in their wanderings. The Mission La Pointe\* was established; but Father Marquette, who established the church of Sault Ste. Marie in April, 1668, and who was at La Pointe in 1669, wrote very discouragingly of the progress he was making among the heathen hordes. In his report he says, concerning the Ottawas: "They were far removed from the Kingdom of God, and addicted, beyond all other tribes, to foulness, incantations and sacrifices to evil spirits." It was not long, however, until a quarrel with the Sioux, who were west of them, caused the Hurons—or Wyandots as they will hereafter be called—and Ottawas to flee southward; the former settling about Mackinaw, and the latter on some islands below the straits, and still later, about Little Traverse bay. These locations they held for nearly a century, and again grew numerous and strong. Here we will leave them for the present.

It will be of interest at this point to know where the maps of that time, 1670, located some other tribes, with whom history brings us in con-

tact, in later years. The Chippewas were on Lake Superior; the Sacs, Winnebagoes and Menominees, in Wisconsin; the Kaskaskias and other Illinois tribes on the Illinois river; the Potawatamies on the south end of Lake Michigan, about the River St. Joseph; the Miamis along the Ohio and Indiana State line; and the Delawares (vassals of the Iroquois), in central Pennsylvania. The wandering Shawanees are not easily located, but at that time were probably about the mouth of the Cumberland river. With the exception of the Miamis none of these tribes then claimed a home in what is now Ohio. The reader should note this fact, as a century later at least six tribes claimed ownership in Ohio soil. These tribes, mostly Algonquins, had generally been allies of, and were friendly to, the French, and more or less hostile to their old enemies, the Iroquois.

The French, taught by bitter lessons, had long been anxious to make peace with the Iroquois, not only for the protection of their colonies on the St. Lawrence, but in the interest of discoveries to the south and the vast fur trade with the nations. Long and incessant warfare, too, had told upon the power of the Five Nations. They had received some heavy blows from the French troops, inducing a more pacific state of mind. A sort of truce was at last patched up between them and the French, and the latter ventured to make some explorations south of the Lakes. It was about this time that Robert Cavalier La Salle—incomparable among the early pioneer explorers of the West—began his American career. Through his inspiring genius and tireless energy, civilized men first began to learn the vast extent and future possibilities of the Mississippi Valley.

In the year 1670, he discovered the Ohio river, and was among the first Europeans who trod Ohio soil. Two of his associates, Fathers Gallinee and Dolliers, on a canoe trip to the outlet of Lake Superior in the same year, passed up Lake Erie, stopping one night on Pt. Pelee island. They were the pioneer white men who traveled along the west end of Lake Erie and through the straits of Detroit, so far as is known. This was sixty-two years after settlement was made on the St. Lawrence.

In 1671, at the Sault ("Soo"), the French, in the presence of a large concourse of Indians, and with much pomp and display, took formal possession of all the Northwest, both discovered and undiscovered, in the name of the King of France. In the following year (1672) the old soldier, Count Frontenac, came out to Canada as

\* Opposite Bayfield, Wisconsin.



Governor. In enterprise and ability, and in the support he commanded from the King, he far exceeded any of his predecessors. His vigorous administration of colonial affairs, and his soldierly skill, combined with the genius of La Salle, advanced the French scheme of empire as it had never been before. Under adventurous and fearless leaders, the Mississippi, with many of its eastern tributaries, including the Ohio, was explored. Seven years later, 1679, at Niagara, La Salle launched the "Griffin," of forty-five tons burthen, mounting a small armament of light cannon. This pioneer sailing craft on the Great Lakes, with her gaudy pennants, flapping sails and booming cannon, was the wonder of all Indian beholders; the trip of the great "canoe" up Lakes Erie and Huron, her passage of the straits of Detroit and Mackinac, and on to the south end of Lake Michigan, was in the nature of a triumphal voyage. But the career of the "Griffin" was short. La Salle sent her on the return trip loaded with furs, but she never reached her destination, having possibly foundered in a storm.

In this same year (1679) Frontenac sent out a number of trading and exploring parties, to different parts of the West. It was doubtless one of these that discovered the canoe route from Lake Erie to the Ohio, by way of the Maumee and Wabash rivers, which in an ordinary stage of water could be traversed with a canoe by a "portage," or land carry, of only about nine miles between the sources of the two rivers. This, in a country where there were neither horses nor mules, was an important discovery, and this route was much used in both war and peace in after years. Outside of this discovery, however, there are existing proofs that the French were on the Maumee in 1679 and 1680, but there is no evidence that white men had been here before that time. In his interesting volume, "History of the Maumee Valley," Knapp states, on the authority of A. T. Goodman, at one time secretary of the Western Reserve and Northern Ohio Historical Society, based on data from records at Montreal, Quebec and elsewhere, that the French, in 1680, built a stockade, and for several years kept a trading post on the north bank of the Maumee, at a point nearly opposite where Perrysburg now is. This post, it is claimed, was afterward abandoned for the more desirable location at Ft. Wayne. There is room, however, for well-founded doubt as to there having been a fort on the Maumee as early as 1680. The French at that time felt no security, anywhere south of Lake Erie, from the roving murderous bands of Iroquois. This is shown in the fact that they

had no permanent military post at the more important location on the Detroit, until subsequent to the great Montreal treaty, twenty-one years later, 1701. The further fact that there were no Indians at the time on the Lower Maumee, worth mentioning, takes away the probability or need of a trading post. There was nobody here to trade with, unless the Miamis should make an occasional visit from the Fort Wayne country. That a French exploring and trading party was on the Maumee at or about the time mentioned seems certain; that such party had a fortified winter encampment here, 1679-80, waiting for the breaking up of the ice, is more than possible, but that there was an established trading post here prior to the one at Detroit, hardly seems probable.

At a grand council held at Montreal in 1701, at which were present representatives of the Iroquois and nearly all the tribes north of the Ohio, including those about the Great Lakes, the French made a treaty which greatly facilitated their schemes of aggrandizement and trade. Though she had been compelled to take third choice in America, none will deny, in the light of later revelations, that France had put her pre-emption squarely down on the cream of the Continent. From the mouth of the St. Lawrence to the mouth of the Mississippi, four thousand miles, she claimed sway. Her great concern now was to make her claim good. In this interest her ministers and resident officials were aggressive and zealous. In 1701, the same year of the great Montreal council, a military and trading post, called Fort Ponchartrain, was established at Detroit. From this date and place Wood county catches the first shadowy rays of the slowly approaching civilization. Detroit, by its central and favorable location on the great water route between the east and northwest, became at once the most important post in the western country, and continued so until the close of the war of 1812. Beside being the chief center of military and governmental authority for a large extent of country, it was a great fur-trading emporium. No city west of the Alleghanies has filled so important a place in the history of the North and West as Detroit. It has been the scene of two surrenders, twelve massacres, two scores of battles, and has changed flags five times. Detroit was one hundred years old when Cleveland was laid off in town lots. Naturally the Maumee Country lying so near by, and the river which was the traveled route to the Ohio, became tributary to Detroit.

The scarcely hunted fur-bearing animals,

beaver, otter, coon, mink and muskrat, swarmed through all the region, and only waited the hunter and trader to develop a profitable business, sure of a quick return and not dependent, like husbandry, upon the slow process of clearing the forest, or affected by drouth, freshets, or frosts. Detroit, in addition to being a principal official and military station, continued to be the great trading center, for the forest rangers and forest products, of the Maumee Country for more than a hundred years after its founding.

The French, as soon as they were established, commenced their usual policy of conciliating the tribes—allaying feuds and jealousies and protecting the weak against the strong. They encouraged the Indians to settle about the posts and engage in hunting and trapping instead of following the warpath. Among the tribes who thus settled about Detroit were the Ottawas and Wyandots, whom we first located near Mackinaw. A little later some of the Pottawatamie bands came from Lake Michigan. By the middle of the century (1750) the Ottawas had taken possession of the Maumee hunting grounds, and about the time the English displaced the French, from 1760 to 1765, had their principal villages on the Maumee river, mostly on the north bank, because of the drier and more healthful conditions to be found there at that time. Wood county soil was never the permanent abode of the Indians so far as known—only a temporary resort for hunting. The Ottawas were our immediate predecessors, but shared their hunting grounds with their old friends, the Wyandots, who had their principal seat on the Sandusky river. Mingled with these, were bands of other tribes, who had become broken and dispersed, and either were not strong enough to seek another location, or for other causes, preferred to remain here.

This settlement here of these Indians, as just noticed, is termed by some writers, "the second occupation," as distinguished from the people, evicted or destroyed by the Iroquois, about one hundred years before. Many persons, even among the better informed, have fallen into the common error of supposing that there was a numerous Indian population here, or indeed all over Ohio, when the first white men came, or that the Indians that we displaced later had been here from a remote time. This was not the case. When the French founded Detroit, 1701, this part of the Maumee Country was virtually unpeopled. The French were the means of bringing the Indians here, to procure furs, and Wood county became a sort of game preserve for Ottawa and Wyandot hunters, who had scarcely

been here long enough, when the English-speaking race came, to give eligibility to membership in a pioneer society.

Let us now refer to the last map made by the French. It is dated about 1760. It will be remembered that on the map of 1680 only the Miamis were located on Ohio soil—at the Indiana-State line. Now we find, by this later map, the best part of the Ottawas on the Maumee; at Sandusky, the Wyandots; at the head of the Maumee, the Miamis; on the Ohio river, above the Muskingum, the Delawares, late vassals of the Iroquois, from eastern Pennsylvania; between the Scioto and Muskingum, the Shawnees, and near them a band of Wyandots.

To secure their territorial claims, keep peace among the tribes, and to protect the fur trade, which had become a source of vast revenue, the French had scattered forts and trading posts around quite liberally. Those nearest to the present boundaries of Wood county were at Sandusky, Detroit and Fort Wayne, but there were fortifications at Mackinaw, Green Bay, the lower end of Lake Michigan, and on the Wabash and Illinois rivers. There were forts at the confluence of the Allegheny and Monongahela rivers, and on Lake Erie, at Presque Isle, now Erie, and posts at La Boeuf and Venango, on the head waters of the Allegheny river. These were the outward signs of her supremacy, and by these France made her claim of ownership. Discovery and occupancy were considered valid claims in those days of vast and easy colonial aggrandizement.

The French plan of colonization in North America was faulty, and its realization fell far short of the expectations of its projectors; but it had some elements of strength which their English neighbors had neglected, or had not the means of employing. The French assiduously cultivated the friendship of the Indian tribes with whom they became associated, and notwithstanding the charges of fickleness and, treachery, made by many writers against the red men, they were singularly constant to the French, both in power and adversity. The French maintained close social relations with their red allies; made them handsome gifts; hunted with them, traded with them, and frequently inter-married with them. The *coureur des bois* had much in common with his Indian companion. He was restless and brave; pliant in disposition; caring nothing for land or work; wanting only an empire for France and a good time for himself.

Another, and perhaps the greatest, factor wielded by the French, was the zeal and self-

sacrificing labor of the untiring missionaries—such as Mesnard, Marquette, and others. “Religious enthusiasm,” says Bancroft, “colonized New England, and religious enthusiasm founded Montreal, made a conquest of the wilderness about the upper lakes and explored the Mississippi.” But there was a great gulf between the facile temperament of the proselyting Jesuit and the stern, unyielding one of the Puritan. The former patiently moulded all adverse circumstances to his purpose, and followed the Apostle Paul’s doctrine of conformity to the various phases of human character. The latter, long taught to look only for direction and assistance from God, was cold, formal and arbitrary in his teachings. The gorgeous rites and ceremonies of the Catholic Church were well suited to the imaginative forest neophytes, whose simple minds could but illy understand the written creed and catechism of the white race.

The creed of the Puritan was dogmatic and appealed more to the reasoning faculties, in which latter attributes the red men were deficient. In these divergent methods of dealing with the native races we must look chiefly for the marked ascendancy which the French obtained over the original occupants of the country.

We will now turn, briefly, to the English whom we left along the Atlantic coast. Their settlement was about contemporaneous with the French at Quebec. They had not been idle. They had increased rapidly in population, and extended their settlements far into the interior. Their plan of colonization differed radically from the French, and hardly considered commercial intercourse with the Indians as one of its factors. They were toilers rather than traders; farmers, who sought out the best lands they could find, for agricultural purposes. They formed compact settlements for religious and social convenience, and for protection against the savages. The Indians did not always look with favor upon the land-grasping encroachments of their English neighbors; and to these differences was soon to be added an embroglio with their French rivals. In their eagerness to occupy the rich valleys to the west, some daring speculators, from London and Virginia, known as the Ohio Company, obtained a grant from the Crown of six million acres of land southeast of the Ohio river, in what is now West Virginia and Pennsylvania, on which they intended to settle a large colony. Survey-

ors, among them George Washington, and land agents were at work, extending the bounds of English domain westward very rapidly. Already they were within the limits claimed by the French, and the jealousy of the latter was raised to fire heat. The most bitter feelings of rivalry were engendered, and each sought to checkmate the movements of the other. The English claimed by purchase from the Iroquois and their charter from the English king, which document, in the parlance of the time, modestly read from “sea to sea.” The French based their claim upon discovery and possession. Neither would back down. Diplomacy was vainly resorted to; raids and murders were rife. Colonial officials, Gaul and Anglo-Saxon, vowed to stand for their respective rights, and the savages, watching the portentous clouds of war, stood in the background, painted and ready for the carnival of blood.

The storm broke, in 1756, at the head of the Ohio, and what is known as the French and Indian war, the bloodiest in Colonial history, was inaugurated. Each of the great rivals put forth their best efforts to secure the aid of their savage allies, but the French were by far the most successful in the diabolic and infamous scheme. The western tribes were nearly all under their influence. The nations of the Iroquois League remained neutral, or joined the English; the Cherokees and some other bands on their southwestern border also joined them. Soon the whole line of settlements was startled by the appalling whoop of the swarthy warriors. The tomahawk and torch answered the tearful plea for mercy; old age and helpless infancy shared the same horrible fate. In details of savage atrocity that war has few, if any, parallels in war’s dread annals. The contest raged with varying fortune until the fall of 1759, when the roar of cannon on the rocky heights of Quebec made proclamation that the supremacy of race, in North America, was at final issue. The Anglo-Saxon was triumphant, and the future destiny of this country was irrevocably fixed in that line. Some desultory fighting, the surrender of Montreal, and the peace treaty of 1763 followed. France ceded all her possessions east of the Mississippi river to England. Thus passed away the rule of France. Wood county, for almost a century under her dominion as a part of the Diocese of Quebec, now passed under the control of England.

## CHAPTER III.

TWENTY YEARS' OCCUPATION BY THE ENGLISH—1768 TO 1788—PONTIAC'S WAR—PONTIAC'S RETIREMENT TO THE MAUMEE—ANGRY INTERVIEWS WITH CAPTAIN MORRIS—"THE ENGLISH ARE LIARS"—INTERESTING DESCRIPTION OF THE MAUMEE COUNTRY AT THAT EARLY DATE BY THE ENGLISH SUB-COMMISSIONER, GEORGE CROGHAN—ENGLAND DISPLACED IN AUTHORITY BY THE UNITED STATES, 1788.

THE downfall of the French was a sad disappointment to their Indian allies in the West. They did not exactly understand why, because the French had been beaten, the English had any right to come and take possession of the Indian's territory, and become his master in authority and occupy all the forts and posts. The unfavorable turn events had taken might well have caused the tribes to reflect a little, and see that they had made a great mistake in joining in a fight and decimating their ranks in a contest between two nations, both of which fought for the same object, namely, to possess the country, not to help the Indian to retain it. The French colonists, too, in the settlements about the posts, were illy suited with the new order of things. They were loyal to the obnoxious flag of Britain only in appearance, and no doubt prejudiced the Indians against their masters, the English. About Detroit the Indians had become numerous. Toward the English they kept up an exterior appearance of friendship, but underneath was a discontented, sullen, revengeful feeling. In this temper, and at this time (1763), almost before peace had been concluded between the English and French, in Paris, a most dangerous, remarkable and widespread conspiracy was formed and partly carried into execution by the savages. It was as diabolical in its scope as it was original and bold in conception. It was planned and headed by the Ottawa chief, Pontiac, whose tribe was about Detroit or on the Maumee. This unlettered savage combined in his make-up the cunning, far-reaching diplomacy of a Talleyrand, with the courage and skill in leadership of a Hannibal. His design was nothing less than the capture by stratagem and treachery of all the English posts from Niagara to Mackinac. The garrisons and the English settlers on the border were to be massacred, and the whole frontier made as desolate as the torch and scalping knife could make it.

Pontiac had, by his eloquence and astute

knowledge of Indian character, so worked upon the superstitions, prejudices and fears of the Indians as to bring most of the tribes heartily into his deep-laid plot. He had picked his warriors and planned all the details. When the blow came, which was arranged to be made simultaneously along the border, nine posts, including Mackinac, fell. Detroit escaped only by a hair's breadth. An Indian woman betrayed the danger to the commandant, and he had the wisdom to profit by the warning in time. The crack of doom or the flash of a meteor could not have come more sudden or unexpected; nor could the dread thunders of an earthquake have caused greater consternation among the frontier people. Again the whole border was thrown into wild panic. The horrors of the French and Indian war, just closed, were held in vivid remembrance by the startled colonists. Men flew to arms, and women and children deserted their homes and hastened to the interior towns and settlements. Thousands of homes on the Virginia and Pennsylvania border were abandoned, and hundreds of settlers were massacred and made captives.

Pontiac's rage knew no bounds when his own part of the programme failed, that of capturing Detroit. He at once laid siege to the fort, doubtless with the expectation of starving out the garrison. What is most remarkable in Indian warfare, he held his warriors to the work, and kept up the siege with more or less vigor for about ten months, when reinforcements arrived for the fort and drove him off. Disappointed and chagrined, he retired to the Ottawa village on the Maumee with his warriors, from which he soon heard of the total collapse of his audacious plans, under the telling blows of the border men and the English soldiers.

While he was here, and a treaty, at Presque Isle (Erie), which he declined to take part in, was in progress (1764), or had been arranged, an incident occurred, illustrative of Pontiac's hostile feeling toward the English. Bradstreet's army

lay encamped on the field near Detroit at the time. Capt. Morris, with a few Iroquois and Canadian attendants had been detailed to go on any embassy to the country of the Illinois in 1764. Ascending the Maumee in a canoe, he soon approached the camp of Pontiac, who had now virtually given up his great contest, and sullenly withdrawn to the banks of this river with his chosen warriors. While yet at some distance, Morris and his party were met by about two hundred Indians, who treated him with great violence and rudeness, while they offered a friendly welcome to the Iroquois and Canadians. Attended by this clamorous escort, they all moved together toward the camp. At its outskirts stood Pontiac himself. He met the ambassador with a scowling brow, and refused to offer his hand. "The English are liars," was his first salutation. He then displayed a letter addressed to himself, and purporting to have been written by the king of France, containing as Morris declares, the grossest calumnies which the most ingenious malice could devise, to incense the Indians against the English. The old falsehood was not forgotten. "Your French father," said the writer, "is neither dead nor asleep; he is already on his way, with sixty great ships, to revenge himself on the English, and drive them out of America." The letter was written by a French officer, or, more probably, a French fur trader, who, for his own profit, wished to inflame the passions of the Indians, and thus bar the way against English competitors. Pontiac's warriors plundered the whole party of everything except their arms, their clothing and their canoes, and then suffered them to depart. This war is known in history as "Pontiac's Conspiracy," and may properly be said to be the termination of the French and Indian war. In startling, tragic details, it surpassed the most ingeniously contrived, harrowing tales of fiction.

Pontiac's name stands among the first in the history of the Indian race in genius and leadership. His proud spirit would not become fully reconciled to English rule. With a few followers he finally left the Maumee and went to the Illinois Country where, in the year 1769, he was assassinated by a drunken Indian of the Kaskaskia tribe. A French officer at Fort St. Louis, who had known the great chief, sent across the Mississippi for the body, which was buried where the great city of St. Louis now stands. "Neither mound nor tablet," says Parkman, "marks the burial place of Pontiac. For a mausoleum, a city has risen above the forest hero, and the race whom he hated with such burning rancor tram-

ple with unceasing footsteps over his forgotten grave."

We have felt it due to the story of the Maumee Country to say this much of the part Pontiac and his followers took in this savage drama of the border, as this was his home at that time. Misguided savage that he was, Pontiac, though not an actor here, may safely be ranked, in history, the equal of any of the great chiefs, white or red, whose genius in war made the Maumee historic.

The peace treaty following this uprising—the closing chapter of the French and Indian war—was held at Presque Isle (Erie), in August of 1764, and was followed by the repair and garrisoning of all the posts. Gradually confidence became restored in the stability of the peace, and at once, with redoubled energy, the settlers began the work of rebuilding their blasted homes on the frontier. New life and enterprise, long restrained, was noticeable everywhere. Shrewd agents and surveyors were busy hunting out the best lands. Adventurous explorers, like Boone, McBride, Findlay and others, had penetrated to the wilds of Kentucky. In Western Virginia and Pennsylvania the settlers, no longer menaced by the French, had advanced beyond the mountains, and the smoke of their cabins was seen far out on the waters of the Ohio. In the meantime, while this great advance was being made south-east of the Ohio, the country northwest of it, and about the Great Lakes, the late domain occupied by the French and Indians, showed but little gain. A few English traders and their employes were gathered about the posts to profit by the fur trade; that told it all.

The exact situation in the Maumee Country and at Detroit at that time, 1765, is given in the journal notes of the English Sub-Commissioner, George Croghan, who made an official trip to the West that year, down the Ohio from Fort Pitt to the mouth of the Wabash, thence up that river and by the usual route to Detroit, stopping at Post Miami, now Fort Wayne, to visit a band of the Miami tribe there, which he speaks of as the Twightwees, a name they sometimes went by. On August 1, he says: "Within a mile of the Twightwee Village, I was met by the Chiefs of that nation (Miamis), who received us very kindly. The most part of these Indians knew me, and conducted me to their village, where they immediately hoisted an English flag that I had formerly given them at Fort Pitt. The next day they held a council, after which they gave me up the English prisoners they had, then made several speeches, in all of which they expressed the great

pleasure it gave them, to see the unhappy differences which embroiled the several nations in a war with their brethren (the English) were now so near a happy conclusion, and that peace was established in their country. The Twightwee Village is situated on both sides of a river, called St. Joseph. This river, where it falls into the Miami (Maumee) river, about a quarter of a mile from this place, is one hundred yards wide, on the east side of which stands a stockade fort, somewhat ruinous. The Indian village consists of about forty or fifty cabins, besides nine or ten French houses—a runaway colony from Detroit. During the late Indian war, they were concerned in it, and being afraid of punishment, came to this post, where ever since they have spirited up the Indians against the English. All the French residing here are a lazy, indolent people, fond of breeding mischief, and spiring up the Indians against the English, and should by no means be suffered to remain here. The country is pleasant, the soil rich and well watered. After several conferences with the Indians, and their delivering me up all the English prisoners they had, on the 6th of August, we set out for Detroit, down the Miami (Maumee) river in a canoe. This river heads about ten miles from hence. The river is not navigable till you come to the place where the St. Joseph joins it, and makes a considerably large stream. Nevertheless we found a great deal of difficulty in getting our canoes over shoals, as the water at this season was very low. The banks of the river are high, and the country overgrown with lofty timber of various kinds; and the land is level and the woods clear. About nine miles from the Miamis of Twightwee, we came to where the large river, that heads in a large lick, falls into the Miami river. This they call the forks. The Ottawas claim this country, and hunt here, where game is very plenty. From hence we proceeded to the Ottawa Village [Providence, Lucas County.] This nation formerly lived at Detroit, but is now settled here, on account of the richness of the country, where game is always found to be in plenty. Here we were obliged to get out of our canoes and drag them eighteen miles, on account of the rifts which interrupted the navigation. At the end of these rifts, we came to a village of the Wyandots, who received us very kindly, and thence we proceeded to the mouth of this river, where it falls into Lake Erie. From the Miamis to the lake it is computed one hundred and eighty miles, and from the entrance of the river into the lake, to Detroit, is sixty miles—that is forty-two miles up the lake, and eight-

een miles up the Detroit river to the garrison of that name.

“On the 17th, in the morning, we arrived at the fort, which is a large stockade, inclosing about eighty houses. It stands on the west side of the river, on a high bank, commands a very pleasant prospect for nine miles above and nine miles below the fort. The country is thickly settled with French. Their plantations are generally laid out about three or four acres in breadth on the river, and eighty acres in depth. The soil is good, producing plenty of grain. All the people here are generally poor wretches, and consist of three or four hundred French families, a lazy, idle people, depending chiefly on the savages for subsistence. Though the land, with little labor, produces plenty of grain, they scarcely raise as much as will supply their wants, in imitation of the Indians, whose manners and customs they have entirely adopted, and cannot subsist without them.”

“Before the late war, there were three Indian nations at this place: The Pottawatamies, whose village was on the west side of the river, about one mile below the fort; the Ottawas, on the east side, about three miles above the fort; the Wyandots, whose village lays on the east side, about two miles below the fort. The former two nations have removed to a considerable distance, and the latter still remain where they were, and are remarkable for their good sense and hospitality.” This extract taken from Butler’s History of Kentucky, doubtless gives the earliest contemporaneous account of the Maumee Country in English print; at least it affords data from which to make more definite investigation. The writer, though slightly in error in the matter of distances, gives a good general description of the Maumee and of Detroit, as he saw it at that time. He tells who our predecessors in occupation were then, 1765, and aids somewhat in fixing the dates of their coming. He locates the chief seat of the Ottawas at the head of the Maumee Rapids, where it was yet, in part, when the settlement of Wood county began, fifty years later; also that there was a Wyandot village at the lower end of the Rapids, probably at old Fort Miami. The Wyandots, however, as noted in Chapter II, never became other than temporary residents here.

The English of Detroit, as well as the other posts, found, like the French had, that it was greatly to their interest to maintain peace among the tribes. War was troublesome, dangerous and expensive; besides it interfered greatly with the profits of the fur traders, which were

very heavy. Peace seemed desirable to all interests on the frontier.

Vain hope! War came. It was scarcely ten years from the close of the Indian war when mutterings of discontent came from the far East. England's Colonies grew tired of the burdensome exactions of the parental government, and rebelled. Soon the rattle of musketry from Concord and Lexington told that the tide of battle was up, 1775. Those same brave Colonists, who learned the trade of soldiers, fighting French and Indians, now had to turn their guns against the Mother Country. And, shame to her great name, England followed the infamous practice she had but so recently condemned in the French, and employed the savages to aid her in attempting to subjugate her former subjects. They helped her, especially her old friends, the Iroquois, but she failed ingloriously. In 1783, England surrendered up all her possessions south of Canada to her late Colonists, who had established a new government, styled, "The United States of America." The destiny of the Maumee Country is henceforth linked with the fortunes of the New Government.

When England succeeded France in 1763, the British flag was hung out at Detroit; the French traders were ousted, and the Maumee coon and beaver skins were sold in the English language for English goods, instead of French. That was all the change the English made in behalf of the Maumee Country. But a beginning had been made. France had marked out the way. She had demonstrated, too, that this country was not without some commercial importance, both in its products and location. Indeed so valuable and desirable did it prove to England that she violated her treaty of 1783 and held possession of Detroit, and this part of the Northwest Territory, until 1796, thirteen years after the treaty. This she did on a pretext that some Virginia debtors of England, or her subjects, had refused to pay their obligations. [Virginia, and perhaps one or two other States, refused to abide by that part of the treaty relating to the payment of debts, because the British had, on their retirement, carried away a number of Negro slaves belonging to Americans. This, England made the pretext for holding Mackinaw, Detroit, etc.]

This is not the worst she did in the meantime. She fostered and harbored agents and fur traders who, for their own selfish gain, conspired with the savages, lately in the employ of the British army, to keep up a predatory warfare on American settlers, to drive them back and forever

prevent them from coming north of the Ohio. In furtherance of this purpose, the English advanced their outposts in 1794 to the banks of the Maumee, where they constructed and garrisoned Fort Miami, on the old site of the French stockade. The evil effect of this incendiary action of the British, on the Indians, cannot be measured. It encouraged them to continued hostility against the Americans, or "thirteen fires," as they called the Thirteen Colonies. Detroit, more than before, became headquarters for all the Northwestern tribes. Here they came to trade—to buy whisky, guns and blankets, and to nurse all their grievances, real or imaginary, against the whites, ever since England displaced the French; or, we might add, of nearly two hundred years against the white race. Now all these long slumbering animosities burned anew, and, under the artful machinations of the English traders and agents, the Indians were made to believe that all their sorrows were caused by the people of the "thirteen fires," and revenge was called for. In this work of vengeance and repression they were taught to believe their "Great Father," the King of England, would help them.

The pell-mell rush of settlers, across the mountains and down the Ohio, to the attractive soil of western Virginia and Kentucky, only added fuel to the burning jealousy of the savages, and confirmed and aided the mischievous stories of the traders. Here then began to assemble, in council, all the dissatisfied, hostile elements of the various tribes; even bands of the Six Nations from New York, under the lead of the Mohawk, Brant, came. They had sold out most of their lands there, and were now panting to take the warpath, or to again get a scarlet blanket each, for signing a new treaty, ceding something they probably never owned. This incongruous fusion embraced some of the most warlike tribes and greatest chiefs of that warlike period. They had laid aside for the while their petty tribal feuds, and made common cause against the "thirteen fires." There were the proud Miamis of the Wabash with their associates, the Piank-a-shaws, and Weeas, all great fighters, led by Little Turtle; the fierce, implacable Shawnees, the Gypsies of the wilderness, headed by their savage chief, Blue Jacket; Roundhead and King Crane, with the irrepressible Wyandots, whose warriors often died in battle, but never surrendered. From the far-off Mississippi came bands of Sauks and Winnebagoes; the stoical Delawares, with the migratory, treacherous Pottawatamies, and the Chippewas, the Menominees, and bands and fragments of other broken tribes, were there. The heartless rene-



gade, Simon Girty, with Capt. Pipe, Buckongehelas, Top-in-e-Bay, De-un-quot, Wen-no-way, Moluntha, Not-e-no, Lolloway, Cik-a-tom-i-co, Stoneater, Turkey-foot, Oquenox, Charloe, Whiteyes, Pukeshaw, Wawatam, Myera, or Walk-in-the-Water, Standingstone, Bright Horn, Tecumseh (then a young warrior), Ottokee, Blackhoof, Winnemac, and other chiefs of less prowess in battle, were leaders. They all had wrongs of long standing against the white race. The vials of their long-slumbering hatred—all their grievances against the intruding Europeans for generations past—were now goading them into madness. The Maumee Country, from the source of the river to Lake Erie, became the rendezvous and hotbed of secret plotters in hostile intrigue against the Americans. The dense forests and agree-breeding swamps afforded secure refuge from pursuit. From these shadowy wastes issued forth stealthy war parties, with murderous design,

to glut their fury on the defenseless border settlers, until the very name, Maumee, like the fabled Styx, was dreaded, even by the hardy frontiersmen. No such combination of savage elements for a desperate purpose, led by experienced, sagacious chiefs, had ever before confronted the white men in America.

Men high in authority in the New Government believed that British officials were covertly conniving at and approving this action of the tribes, in the hope that opportunity would offer to reclaim to England a large slice of the lost territory. Many circumstances justified this belief. Whatever England's motive was, her action was very unjust, and fettered the progress of the Maumee Country by the continued hostility of the Indian tribes, and no language is strong enough to condemn the infamous course pursued by her agents and traders.

## CHAPTER IV.

TRoubles of the New Government—INDIANS DISPUTE ITS RIGHT TO SETTLE ON LANDS NORTH OF THE OHIO—TREATY WITH THE IROQUOIS, OR SIX NATIONS, 1784, AT FORT STANWIX, N. Y.—SAVAGE AGGREGATION OF DISCONTENTED TRIBES AND NOTED WARRIORS ABOUT DETROIT—ENGLISH TRADERS HELP TO FAN THE DISCONTENT—UNITED STATES MAKES A SECOND TREATY AT FT. MCINTOSH, 1785, AND A THIRD AT FT. FINNEY, 1786—U. S. GOVERNMENT PLANTS ITS FIRST SETTLEMENT IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY AT MARIETTA, 1788—RAPID INFLUX OF SETTLERS—INDIANS STILL OBJECT—FOURTH TREATY, FT. HARMAR, 1789—MASSACRE AT BIG BOTTOM, 1791—DEFEAT OF GEN. HARMAR—GEN. ST. CLAIR LEADS A NEW ARMY TOWARD THE MAUMEE, AND IS ROUTED WITH GREAT LOSS—GEN. ANTHONY WAYNE DEFEATS THE TRIBES ON THE MAUMEE, 1794—TREATY OF GREENVILLE, 1795.

THESE were some of the vexatious problems that confronted the New Government at the very outset. In the meantime persevering efforts had been going on to clear up the claims of some of the tribes.

The first and most greedy of the claimants were the Iroquois. They had, as previously mentioned, been practically at one time masters of the country to Lake Michigan on the west, and south into Tennessee. In fact they went on war expeditions wherever they could hear of any tribe to fight with, and nearly all the tribes in the territory mentioned held title at one time or another by Iroquois sufferance. They had latterly, however, probably under old treaties with

the French, confined themselves mostly to New York, Pennsylvania and that part of Ohio south of Lake Erie, but east of the Cuyahoga (Cleveland). Hardly a treaty was made, or sale of land, but they were on hand to claim some spoils. Hardly a battle was fought but some of their tribes were represented among the hostiles. They were not, however, in high favor with the Americans because of their joining the British in the Revolution, and under Brant, Cornplanter and Butler (not Richard) committing some horrible atrocities in the Mohawk and Cherry Valleys. The Americans finally got after them before the war closed, and inflicted savage punishment, devastating their villages and decimating their



tribes fearfully. So enraged were the New York people at the close of the Revolution that they proposed driving them out, and did drive off the Mohawks to Canada; but Gen. Washington and others urged more liberal treatment. At the final wind up of the Indian wars the Senecas, and some other bands of the Six Nations, were allotted lands on the Sandusky river, not far from where Tiffin is. Others remained in New York and in Canada, and some went west.

*First Treaty.*—At a treaty at Fort Stanwix (now Rome, N. Y.), October, 1784, the Six Nations (Iroquois) ceded to the Americans all their claims to land west of Pennsylvania. This was the first Indian treaty made by the United States. It would seem to have disposed of the claims of the Iroquois to lands in the West; but not so. There is scarcely a subsequent battle, or treaty, that has not had representatives of some tribe of the Six Nations in it.

The United States thus early adopted the just policy of procuring the Indian title to land before offering it for sale, or encouraging settlers to go upon it. This, notwithstanding they had already acquired the title of both England and France. Two of the chief causes of all the trouble the government has had with the Indians are, first, the lawless intrusion of some of the border settlers on lands claimed by the Indians before the government authorized settlement there. Second, the nomadic tenure of some of the tribes and the consequent indefiniteness of boundaries; notably the Shawnees, which made it difficult to fix their claims to any certain territory, for they were in one location one year and somewhere else the next. Again, if a tribe were fixed on a location by treaty, it would sometimes occur that another tribe would find, at a later day, that they had prior squatter rights on the lands. This was the case, for instance, with the Delawares and Wyandots against the Shawnees. The latter claimed title to lands previously ceded to the government by the former tribes. When we add to this the mischief-making efforts of renegade white men, living among the tribes, and the evil influence of English traders and agents, whose selfish interests it was to keep back settlements, we can readily see why the Kentucky and Virginia border, and the territory now embraced in Ohio, was a bloody battle ground for years, in spite of the humane efforts of Washington and other leading men in the government.

*Second Treaty.*—Below Pittsburg, on the Ohio, opposite the mouth of the Beaver, was Ft. McIntosh; there, in 1785, the United States made its second treaty, and for the same land it had

just got by treaty from the Iroquois. There the Delawares, Chippewas, Ottawas and Wyandots, ceded their claims to all lands east and south of the Cuyahoga river, defined in the treaty line as beginning at the mouth of said river (now Cleveland), up said river (south) to the Portage path, across on said path to the head waters of the Muskingum to Ft. Laurens (now Bolivar, Tuscarawas county), thence west to Loramie's ford (Shelby county), on the Miami; thence, by the Portage path, to the head waters of the Maumee (St. Mary's branch), and down the Maumee to Lake Erie, and along its south shore, back to the mouth of the Cuyahoga. All north and west of this line should belong to the Indians, except some reservations made by the government. All east and south of that line, about two-thirds of the present State of Ohio, the government was to have peaceable possession of. It will be noticed that no treaty mention is made, thus far, with the quarrelsome Shawnees. They held squatter rights on a fine location along the Scioto, about old Chillicothe, and north to Mad river, which the Delaware and Wyandots refused to recognize, and claimed the right to sell the land, and did cede it to the United States. Here was an opening for trouble.

*Third Treaty.*—The government met the Shawnees, in treaty, at Ft. Finney, at the mouth of the Miami, January, 1786, and besides money and presents given, they were allotted, and agreed to accept, land at the head of the Mad river (Little Miami), and north, between the Delawares and Miamis, central in what is now Auglaize county. This was the third Indian treaty the United States had made in as many years: First, with the Iroquois at Ft. Stanwix for their claim on lands north of the Ohio, 1784; second, the treaty with the western tribes at Ft. McIntosh, 1785; and third, at Ft. Finney, with the Shawnees, in 1786. It is well to be thus particular, respecting these treaties, for two reasons: It is of interest to the owners and occupants of the soil to-day, and in all subsequent years, to know just how the title to our homes was acquired. We hold our title deeds from the President of the United States, the head officer of our government, and seldom stop to inquire how the government acquired the title. Again it is a satisfaction to know that, instead of resorting to force to expel the Indians, pacific measures were invariably taken by the government and treaties held, from time to time, with these native claimants, to secure title to land, for which the government had already waged an eight-years' war with another claimant. It should also be noted

that the Indians always received a consideration for their lands from the United States.

We may, as a Christian people, feel a pricking conscience, at times, when we glance over those old land patents, bearing the President's name and the great seal of the United States, and reflect that the title was, really, only made clear and perfect when the native chieftians, and their warriors, borne down amid the roar of cannon and clash of arms, were forced to throw down their bloody hatchets and put their mark on the treaty deed. That was the court of last resort. It was the decree of—well, call it Fate. There was no appeal. Still it is well for us to know and feel that humane endeavor was exhausted in trying to do what at last was wrought by force. This is not offered as a justification of all that has been done, but mentioned rather in mitigation of some of the things that were done.

After this treaty with the Shawnees, in January, the government, with the understanding that a peaceful conclusion with the Indian claimants had been reached, began active work to plant settlements north of the Ohio. Hitherto it had not only discouraged, but had forbidden, settlers from locating there, and those who had done so did it at their own peril, and usually paid the penalty with their lives, unless lucky enough to get out in time.

Here we will leave our old guardians, France and England, for a time, as well as the savage tribes who hold the Maumee Country, and turn to the New Government, just starting into life. With it is involved the future of this wilderness. From its new energies, new agencies of growth, progress and strength, must come deliverance. There are many critical stages to pass; many obstructions to be cleared away; long marches made; battles fought; treaties negotiated; and the patience and wisdom of statesmanship exhausted before the hardy band of pioneers who came later with axe, plow and spade, to reclaim and subdue this waste place, could begin with a clear title deed and an assurance of protection to life and property. It is not designed to give here a history of Ohio, or of the Northwest, but only to present, in chronological order, an account of such events as have affected the history of Wood county. An inspiration of pride swells in every American bosom when contemplating the herculean work of those sturdy, devoted patriots and statesmen, who stood at the front, in the long struggle for a new nation. Now that it was born and christened, they were, for a time, to take charge of its destiny. Out of chaos and confusion they brought order and system. Out of

thirteen colonies, with diverse claims and interests, they established the Union, and that Greater Charter, the Constitution. Out of poverty and distress they brought prosperity and contentment. Out of the wilderness they carved and founded great States, where communities and cities sprung up as if by magic. When England gave up the contest, she simply made a quit-claim deed; that is, the new nation took possession, subject to all claims and encumbrances.

Included in the treaty, and which more directly concerns this story, was the vast stretch of country from the Ohio to the Canada border, on the north, and from Pennsylvania west to the Mississippi, since cut up into the States of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, and that part of Minnesota east of the Mississippi. When the United States took possession, this was a nameless waste, the greater part under the general term, Province of Quebec, and the smaller part of it, Louisiana, and occupied by about twenty-two tribes and clans of Indians, and a sparse population of whites about the military posts, mostly French. Besides being poor, the government was heavily in debt, and had in addition many soldiers who had been promised bounty in land. This public territory, or domain, seemed to be about the only resource she had. It was known to be the finest body of land in the world; adapted to all the wants of man. Its vast inland fresh-water seas were the wonder of all travelers. Its great rivers and broad fertile valleys were unexcelled in any country, and its fame was known in all the great centers of Europe. That it could readily be disposed of and would sustain a vast population there was not a doubt. It was in the light of all these facts that Congress set to work to clear up the title and open the land to settlement. First to be dealt with was four members of the Confederate sisterhood: Virginia, Massachusetts, New York and Connecticut. Each claimed a slice of the New Territory. All claimed under their original Colonial charters from the King of England, and Virginia made the additional claim of conquest, and New York of purchase from the Iroquois.

No reader of history but has admired the feats of the redoubtable Virginian, Col. George Rogers Clark, who, during the Revolutionary war, when he saw that Congress was neglecting the Illinois Country, next the Mississippi, sallied forth from Kentucky with a small force and captured the British garrisons at Kaskaskia, Cahokia and Vincennes, freed the country from British rule, drove away Lieut. Henry Hamilton, and held it in spite of all efforts of the enemy to drive him off. Kentucky

was at that time a part of Virginia, and the latter State at her own expense equipped Clark for the expedition. But for the enterprise and success of that gallant officer Illinois and Indiana might, to-day, belong to Canada, possibly all the country north of the Ohio.

Virginia compromised her claim by taking 3,800,000 acres of land bordering the Ohio on the north, between the Scioto and Miami, known since as the Virginia Military Tract. New York and Massachusetts conflicted somewhat with each other in jurisdiction, and finally relinquished their claims. Connecticut was more stubborn and reluctant. She claimed a belt of land clear to the Pacific, but finally, after much vexatious delay, compromised, in 1786, by taking a strip of land about fifty miles average width, on the south side of Lake Erie, and extending west from Pennsylvania, 120 miles, containing 3,700,000 acres, known, sometimes, as "New Connecticut, or "Connecticut Reserve," but usually as the "Western Reserve." Five hundred thousand acres of this land at the west end, now comprising Huron and Erie counties, known as the "Fire Lands," were given by Connecticut to those of her citizens, whose property, at New London, Stonington and other coast towns, was destroyed by fire in the Revolutionary war. This peaceable settlement of those claims required patient and careful statesmanship. The Union of the States had not yet been perfected, and the least bit of friction might have done great mischief at such a critical time. All breathed easier when it was finally consummated.

This brings us to the most interesting period in the early history of our country—the laying of the foundations of five of the great States in the Union. The fate of the Maumee Country is so directly linked and connected with the history of that period, and the country was itself the arena of so many historic events, that a brief outline of the story, though national in its scope, will not only be of interest, but necessary to the ground-work of our local history.

Among the most urgent agencies in hastening the efforts of the government to plant settlements north of the Ohio, were the bounty claims for land, of the Revolutionary soldiers. Many of these men had served eight years for but little pay, and that in depreciated currency. The promise to them of land in the different grades of the service was as follows: Major-general, 1,100 acres; brigadier-general, 850 acres; colonel, 550 acres; major, 400 acres; captain, 300 acres; lieutenant, 200 acres; ensign, 150 acres; non-commissioned officers and privates, 100 acres each.

The survey of this vast public domain, and the manner in which it should be done, had already been arranged for by Congress, and the surveyors began work in July, 1786, following the treaty with the Shawnees in January of the same year. The first stake was driven on the north bank of the Ohio, at the Pennsylvania line. The surveys were under the direction of Capt. Thomas Hutchins, United States Geographer. This was the beginning of a work so important then, and to all future generations, that a sketch of it in this volume, based on official authority, is given a separate chapter.

The best statesmen in the land had, meantime, been laboring to perfect a plan of provisional civil government for the new territory, which resulted in the enactment by Congress, July 13, of the celebrated Ordinance of 1787, the Magna Charta of the Northwest—a document more talked about, and which has received more encomiums from statesmen, past and present, at home and abroad, than any other, the Constitution only excepted. It is the fundamental law of five great States. Salmon P. Chase said of it: "Never probably in the history of the world did a measure of legislation so accurately fulfill, yet so mightily exceed, the anticipations of legislators. When the settlers went into the wilderness they found the law already there. It was impressed upon the soil itself, while it yet bore up nothing but the forest. \* \* \* This remarkable document," he says again, "was the last gift of the old Confederation to the country, and was a fit consummation of their glorious labors." At the time of its promulgation the Federal constitution was under discussion in the convention, and in a few months—upon the organization of the new national government—that Congress was dissolved never again to re-assemble. Its essential propositions were: (1) Freedom of conscience and right of worship. (2) Free people and no slavery. (3) Free schools and encouragement of education and religion. (4) Inviolability of private contracts and the greatest personal liberty. What a debt of gratitude later generations have acknowledged to the wise statesmen of that day for the single provision in the Ordinance of 1785, of a section of land, in each township, for school purposes. That alone immortalized their legislation. That Ordinance organized the whole domain north of the Ohio into a single division, called the Territory northwest of the Ohio, but which will be referred to for greater convenience in the succeeding pages as the Northwest Territory. A governor, secretary and three judges constituted

the corps of officials, who were to go on the ground and put the Ordinance into operation. All that seemed necessary now to make a great State was people. These were soon forthcoming. On the 7th of April, 1788, Gen. Rufus Putnam, superintendent of the Ohio Company, with a party of forty-seven New England colonists, crossed the Alleghany mountains, and by boat passed down the Ohio, landing at a point where the Muskingum unites with it, and there planted the first settlement, which they named Marietta. In June another installment of New England pioneers arrived, and afterward they came faster than shelter could be provided for them. By the 15th of July the government officials had arrived: Arthur St. Clair, governor; Winthrop Sargent, secretary; John Cleves Symmes, James M. Varnum and Samuel H. Parsons, judges. These officials, appointed by Congress and the Ordinance of 1787, were the Government. A day was appointed for a public meeting; addresses were made; the commissions of the new officials were read; the governor duly inaugurated; three rousing cheers given, and the people dispersed in a happy mood. In this summary way the Northwest Territory was organized, Marietta was its temporary capital, and the wheels of government were in motion; the proceedings had occupied no more time in those wild woods than the opening of a country school lyceum by the reading of its constitution and by-laws.

That was a unique sort of government those first settlers had. The governor was the executive branch; the three judges the judicial, and the governor and judges together, the legislative. They adopted from the statutes of the different States, subject to the approval of Congress, such laws as were deemed necessary to their condition. These were mostly derived from Pennsylvania, Virginia and Massachusetts. This government, in the scope of its legislative authority, greatly resembled the municipal corporations of to-day. The judiciary had more extended powers—original, appellate and final—but as they confined themselves closely to the well-established precedents of the older States, the pioneers, too busy to indulge in law, the luxury of more wealthy societies, had little cause of complaint in that direction.

Gov. St. Clair issued a proclamation establishing and defining the limits of Washington county, the first county of the Northwest Territory, and the oldest, of course, in Ohio. In extent of territory that county was a vast one. It took in all eastern Ohio, from the point where the boundary line of Pennsylvania crosses the Ohio

river, west by south, following the river, to the mouth of the Scioto, thence thirty miles north of Columbus, then east to a point on the Tuscarawas river, then north to Lake Erie, where Cleveland now is. If a man living on the shore of Lake Erie had wished to have a deed recorded, or procure a marriage license, he would have to go to Marietta, the county seat, on the Ohio. There were no mail routes to send letters by, nor roads either, for that matter. But it was unavoidable, for people were scarce and territory abundant. In the fall of the same year (1788), a settlement was started near where Cincinnati now is, in what is known as the Symmes Purchase. Judge Symmes and his chief associates in the colony enterprise, were Jerseymen, and this settlement was composed largely of people from New Jersey, mingled with others from various parts. As the settlements grew and prospered, others took courage to make a beginning. In the winter of 1790–91 Gen. Nathaniel Massie located a colony of Virginians on the river, above Symmes Colony, at Manchester (now Adams county), which was in the tract reserved and known as the Virginia Military Tract. Great inducements were offered by Massie, and this settlement soon had a permanent foothold.

There were now three centers of settlement on the Ohio river, besides the "Seven Range" settlement, next to Pennsylvania, and a pretty fair start had been made for future growth. In these three, or we may say four central settlements, were four almost distinct types of civilization which then began to exert their influence on the future of the land occupied. Most prominent were the two leading colonies, one from Virginia, the other from Massachusetts; the first, descendants of the proud Cavaliers, and their aristocratic associates back to Sir Walter Raleigh; the other the descendants of the Puritans, whose faith, devotion and religious zeal had made them, for freedom's sake, content to live on the bleak, rocky shores of New England. To-day we find, in a degree, the impress and characteristics of those early settlers in the Scioto valley, about Chillicothe; in the valley of the Muskingum around Zanesville, between the two Miamis, north to Hamilton, Dayton and Troy, and in the cosmopolitan, but energetic, inhabitants of the seven ranges. And if we anticipate dates a little, and go over to the south shore of Lake Erie, where the Connecticut Reserve is dotted over with towns and settlements, churches and schools of the enterprising thrifty New Englanders, we shall find the characteristics of their late homes still more strongly impressed there.

We have passed now, in chronological order, to the third year, 1791, in the life of the new Territorial Government; its settlements have expanded; the original one, at Marietta, had multiplied into eight minor communities.

But while this extension north of the Ohio was going on gradually, portentous clouds had been gathering. The powerful tribes of Indians to the northwest, whose fine hunting grounds the whites were approaching, had been showing much uneasiness. They hovered about the settlements, and regarded the whites with restless, jealous looks and menacing gestures. The aspect was too threatening to longer admit of doubt. They claimed they had been cheated in the purchase; that some tribe, or tribes, got better bargains than others; they wanted a new treaty; they wanted to sell over again.

*Fourth Treaty.*—To meet this disaffection a meeting of the tribes was called, at Ft. Harmar, opposite Marietta, January 9, 1789, and, as usual, the Iroquois were on hand to sell again; also the Delawares, Chippewas, Ottawas, Wyandots, Sauks and Pottawatamies were there, though it is noticeable that the Shawanees were not present. A new peace talk was had, presents made, and the former treaty at Ft. McIntosh confirmed with the assent of all present. This was the fourth Indian treaty the United States had made. It was hoped this would end the dissatisfaction, but it did not. There were some implacable chiefs, with bad advisers, who claimed the treaty had been made without authority, and further that the whites had no right north of the Ohio. With all this effort of the government to pacify the savages, it was still evident that there was trouble coming. Those Indians who came about the settlements were sullen and uncommunicative, and their actions were so significant that the old border men knew what it meant, and took the precaution to put the forts and block-houses in a state of security from surprise. This state of suspense was ended one winter night, in 1791, when fourteen settlers were found, inhumanly butchered, at a place called Big Bottom, on the Muskingum. One of the murderers was a Mohawk warrior, so it was known that the Iroquois were mixed in the massacre.

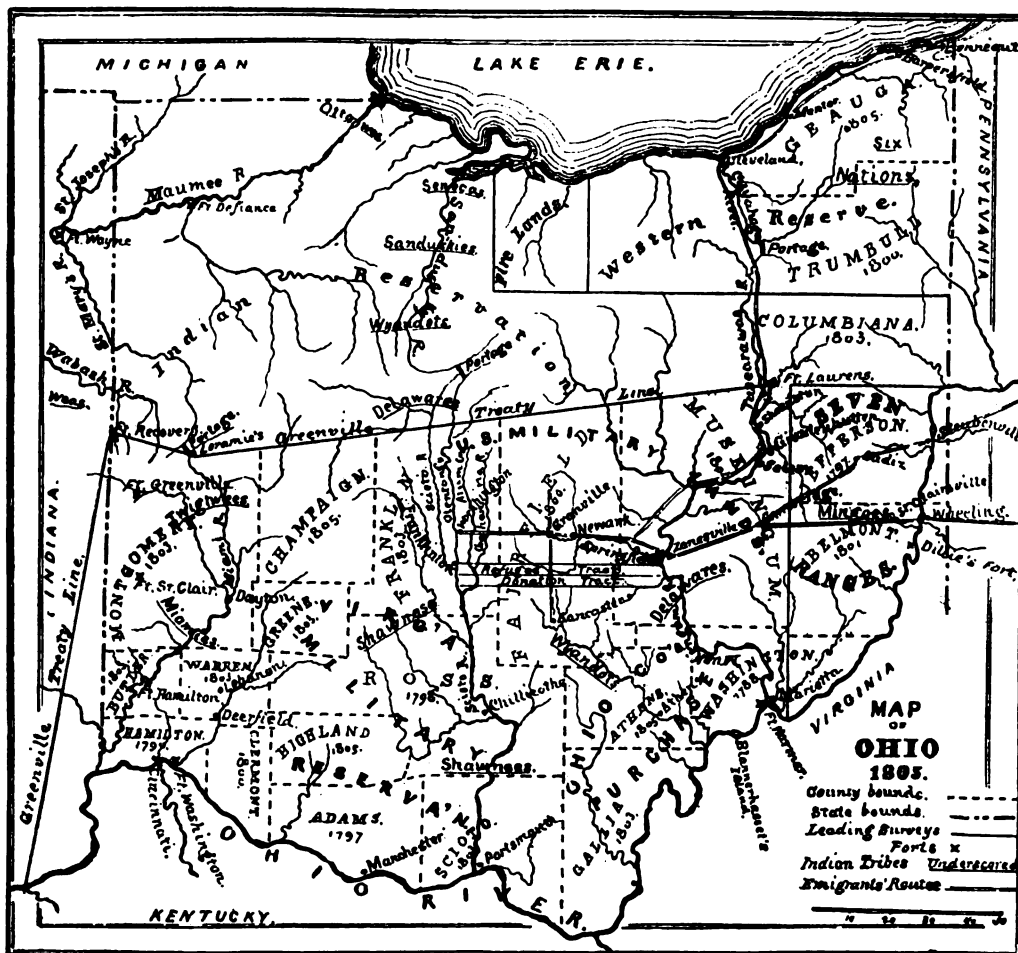
The whites then saw they were in for a war, and hurried to their forts for safety. Gen. Harmar, who had conducted the last treaty, took his regulars and such volunteer troops as were at hand, and marched to the head of the Maumee, where the Miami villages were. Here he was outgeneraled and defeated; showing that he had

become too old to successfully make either peace or war. This victory gave the Indians great encouragement, and there was, of course, no use trying to treat with them. Gov. St. Clair now took the field and, as soon as he had an army organized, led his column in the direction of the Maumee Country, whither the Indians were retreating in force. Much hope was centered in that army. The whole frontier—the nation—was looking for St. Clair to strike a blow that would humble the savages. But it was not to be so. Soon the messengers from the wilderness, northward, brought the startling news of an overwhelming, appalling disaster to St. Clair's army. One morning at daylight, near the line of Darke and Mercer counties, at what has since been Ft. Recovery, the Indians, under the lead of Blue Jacket and Little Turtle, made a savage attack, in which they cut the American army to pieces, inflicting a loss of six hundred men, and taking all its baggage and cannon. The wounded and prisoners were treated with unexampled barbarity. Even the mouths of the dead were filled with earth, as if in derision of the whites' desire for more land.

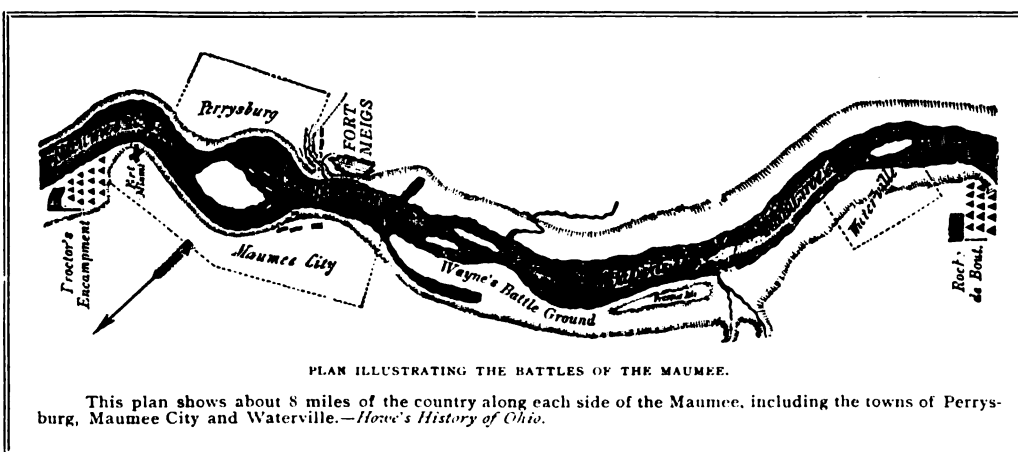
The Indians were now "insolent with triumph," and demanded that the whites must go south of the Ohio. All efforts to make peace on any other basis failed. All immigration had ceased north of the Ohio, in fact on either side, and the settlers were cooped up in forts and block-houses. Many felt doubts as to what the final result would be. Even the government authorities seemed, for the moment, paralyzed. The settlers were clamorous for vigorous measures and a war of extermination. Four treaties had been made with the savages, and yet peace seemed further off than at any time since the New Government had come into power. Gen. Washington, who was now President, sent an army associate of his, Gen. Anthony Wayne, the "Mad Anthony" of the Revolution, west to organize a new army. Wayne was a man of audacious courage, yet prudent and skillful in generalship. He was rough and sententious in speech, and, with his well-known reckless fighting record, was just such a man as would draw about him the best class of border fighters.

When at last, in the spring of 1794, he turned the head of his column in the direction of the dreaded Maumee Country, the prayers of the Nation followed him. Night and day the savages hung on his flanks, laid ambuscades and planned surprises for "Mad Anthony" and his gallant followers; but this time they were the only ones who met with surprises. At last, in the sul-





Constructed by Rev. Henry Bushnell, A. M., for his *History of Granville*.



try days of August, the suspense was broken by the arrival of a messenger at Ft. Washington, on the Ohio, that Wayne had met and overwhelmed the combined tribes, in battle, on the banks of the Maumee, under the very guns of the British Fort Miami; and later, that he had destroyed every shanty, wigwam, cornfield, and truck patch, from the source of the Maumee to the lake, and built and garrisoned Forts Defiance and Wayne. A glad shout went up, and benedictions and thanks followed from the whole people. The border settlers were fairly mad with joy. "Mad Anthony" had overcome the ague, the swamps, the British and Indians.

This battle, known in history, as "Wayne's Battle," or battle of the "Fallen Timbers," because of the down timber from the effects of a recent tornado, began on the north side of the river, about three miles above Maumee, near a sharp hill, known as Presque Isle hill, and ended just below Maumee, at Ft. Miami. In the language of the missionary, J. B. Finley, this was "the last united effort of barbarism to check the swelling tide of civilization." Like many other decisive battles, the importance of this one is not to be measured so much by the numbers killed as by the results, or the vital issues involved and decided. While the tribes lost heavily in this battle, the Wyandot nation losing eleven chiefs, this was not its most decisive feature. Gen. Wayne, in his campaign and fight, had demonstrated to the tribes that a white chief had come among them whom they could not surprise or whip, and fully impressed the savages with the hollowness of the promises of the lying, hypocritical British agents and traders, "that their Great Father, the King of England, would help the Indians when the time of need came." The warriors in their flight, to escape from Wayne's victorious soldiers, had seen the King's officers skulk into the fort like ground hogs, and close the gates against the Indians, while the Americans continued the slaughter, even under the very muzzles of the British cannon. [This was a critical juncture. The relations of England and the United States had been on a strain for some time. Ft. Miami with its British garrison was on American soil, and while Gen. Wayne, at the time was acting under very guarded instructions from President Washington, there was no doubt that had the English officers shown the least disposition to shelter or protect the savages on that day, that Wayne would have stormed the fort. He was an impetuous, fiery man in battle, and this the English knew, and doubtless the officers in command, in the fort, had a wholesome respect for

him. It was well it was so, for had the flame of war been started there, it might, at that time, have led to serious complications. No doubt President Washington had more anxiety on this point than he had as to the outcome of Wayne's campaign against the Indians.]

Again Wayne had destroyed all their cornfields and truck patches, and all manner of shelter for winter protection. The pinching hunger and cold could not be quieted with British promises. All these things were arguments that appealed stronger to the savages than the logic of words. It is recorded, too, that the superstitious Indians got an idea that Gen. Wayne was a great medicine man, as well as a warrior, and that through some charm, or conjury, he was endowed with supernatural power that made him invincible in war. They thought the British were afraid of him, or they would have turned their cannon upon him when they saw his men destroying the shanties and out-buildings about the fort. It had, too, in some way, become impressed upon them that Wayne loved to drink firewater, fight, kill and destroy, and that he was only held in check, from day to day, by the commands of his Great Father at Washington. All these stories were afloat years afterward; but this much is known certainly of Indian character, and it is true to a great extent among whites, too, that an Indian has great respect for a fellow who he knows can whip him.

*Fifth Treaty.*—In the summer of 1795 the Indians assembled at Ft. Greenville, in what is now Darke county, and after many talks and speeches, and where, in skillful diplomacy, Gen. Wayne found a pretty good match in some of the unlettered chieftains, a treaty, which is famous in history as the Greenville Treaty, was signed by twelve tribes, as follows: Delawares, Wyandots, Ottawas, Pottawatamies, Chippewas, Miamis, Piankashaws, Eel Rivers, Weeas, Kickapoos, Shawnees and Kaskaskias. The boundary lines, as defined by this treaty, are best illustrated, so far as Ohio is affected, by the accompanying map, but are nearly the same as those made at Ft. McIntosh, beginning at the mouth of the Cuyahoga; thence up that river to the present north line of Tuscarawas county; thence west, by a little south, to the southwest corner of Mercer county, and thence south to the Ohio. All north and west of this line was given over to the savages, under certain conditions, except sixteen blocks, or reservations, and connecting roadways, reserved by the United States. Of these blocks six were on the Maumee river and its tributaries; one at Fort Wayne; one at Defiance; one on



the Auglaize; and one at the mouth of the Maumee river, each six miles square; one on the St. Mary's, two miles square; and one at the Maumee Rapids, twelve miles square. There were also reservations at Sandusky, Fremont, Detroit, Chicago, Mackinaw and other points. The one at the Rapids of the Maumee, of about 92,160 acres of land, was about half on the south, or Wood county, side of the river, and was the first land to which the government acquired unencumbered title in what is now Wood county. Further, the Indians stipulated that in case they sold all, or any portion, of this land, they would sell to no one except the United States, and that no one should

come among them to trade unless such person had a license from the United States. This clause shut out the mischievous English agents and traders. This treaty, the fifth one the United States had made for the same territory with the Indians, annulled any other treaty that conflicted with its stipulations. Thus virtually closed the Indian war, which had desolated the Pennsylvania and Virginia border, and, latterly, the land between the Ohio and Lake Erie, more or less, for over forty years, and in which more than five thousand whites had been murdered or taken captive. This does not include the loss in war, or the various military expeditions and skirmishes.

## CHAPTER V.

THE GREENVILLE TREATY—OPENS THE FLOOD-GATES OF IMMIGRATION—BRITISH EVACUATE ALL FORTS IN THE UNITED STATES TERRITORY, INCLUDING FT. MIAMI—WAYNE COUNTY ORGANIZED, 1796, WITH DETROIT AS COUNTY SEAT—WOOD A PART OF WAYNE—OHIO ADMITTED AS A STATE, 1803.

**B**Y the Treaty of Fort Greenville, negotiated in 1795, about two-thirds of what is now Ohio was freed from the ownership of the Indians, and the remaining northwestern portion, as well as all the rest of the Northwest Territory, was consigned, indefinitely, to the rule of the savages. But if the outlook was gloomy for the Maumee Country, there was glad sunshine and joy along the Ohio. For four years immigration had been at a standstill, and painful anxiety had reigned in the little settlements, where the inhabitants were shut up in the block-houses, or ventured forth in peril of the tomahawk and knife. The report of Wayne's treaty came like a streak of light in a cloudy sky to them—a joyful messenger of glad tidings. Peace opened the gates of the forts and started the flow of immigration anew. Virginia again sent her best families into the rich lands between the Miami and the Scioto, and soon the settlements had advanced to Chillicothe, which now became the center of a large population, and later the temporary capital of the Northwest. The Jersey men of Symmes' Purchase had advanced far up the valley of the beautiful Miami. The New Englanders were pushing their

settlements up the Muskingum and spreading out all over the Ohio Purchase, while the Pennsylvanians were sending some strong settlements into the Seven Range Country, adjoining the Keystone State. This was not all. Far up north, on the shore of Lake Erie, next to Pennsylvania, came another invasion of New Englanders, like the advance guard of a strong army corps. They were from Connecticut, looking up their fine possessions in the Western Reserve. They came across "York State" to the lake at points since known as Buffalo, Erie, Black Rock, Lockport, etc., and came down the lake in boats. The first installment, under the direction of Gen. Moses Cleveland, landed at the mouth of Conneaut creek, July 4, 1796, and began to lay the foundations of that grand civilization which has, in later years, distinguished the Western Reserve. In September and October the surveying corps had advanced to the Cuyahoga, the Indian border line, and laid out the city of Cleveland; and from that time on the settlement was pushed with New England vigor and perseverance.

In this same year (1796), under the provisions of what is called the Jay Treaty, between the

United States and England, the latter surrendered up all the posts she had been unjustly holding in United States territory, and, among the rest, Detroit. Gen. Wayne was sent out to take possession and garrison the forts. There was quite a settlement at Detroit and vicinity, and at the mouth of the river, largely French, and so Gov. St. Clair proclaimed a new county and named it Wayne, in honor of the old hero, "Mad Anthony." Wayne was the sixth county in the Northwest Territory, and the third in what is now Ohio. Hamilton county was second, formed January, 1790. If Washington and Hamilton were large, they were yet children in comparison with Wayne. Wayne took in all northwestern Ohio to Cleveland, and northwest to Ft. Wayne, Ind.; thence on a line to Lake Michigan, taking in northern Indiana and a part of Illinois, including the site of Chicago; thence north along Lake Michigan, including all the land on the rivers flowing into the lake, which would include about half of Wisconsin; thence by a due north line to the Canadian boundary, following the same back by Lake Huron and Detroit river to Lake Erie, and so on to the place of beginning at Cleveland, including all the present State of Michigan. Of this vast territory Detroit was made the county seat. The land in the present bounds of Wood county was included in that great county of Wayne.

If some unfortunate white man had lived here then, his post office address would have been Detroit, Wayne county, Northwest Territory; or if he had been summoned to attend court at the county seat he would have possibly met at the court house in Detroit, some other jurymen, from the head of Green bay (Wisconsin now), who had been on the road ten days or two weeks getting there, and whose mileage bill would cover five or six hundred miles of travel. Wayne was a vast county, and in the improbable court incident we have drawn, the school boy, or girl, will find a ready answer for the mental question which often occurs: "Why was the country cut up into so many States and counties?" Namely, for the convenience of the people in transacting their business affairs. This same rule follows us down to townships, school districts, and city wards.

As the Maumee Country at the date of which we are speaking (1796) is in peaceable possession of the Indians, and there is nothing passing here to record in its history, now in its third stage, let us go back a little while to the Ohio river. We note a most extraordinary spectacle; the settlement of a new domain; the sudden transition from its wilderness state; and under the forms of popular government, by an enlightened people.

Such energy, such zeal and peaceful rivalry had never before been seen. Cabins and new settlements on every side heralded the coming of civilization; and the valleys and hill-tops were noisy with the bustle and marvelous activity of the joyful pioneers. In the language of one enthusiastic chronicler, people came across the Alleghanies like spray flung from the ocean.

In the year 1798, Gov. St. Clair announced that the population of voters was over 5,000, and that under the Ordinance, the Territorial Government could pass to the second stage, that of choosing for itself a legislative body, and a delegate to Congress. This action was taken, and the first legislature of the Northwest Territory met in Cincinnati in 1799, and elected a delegate to Congress, and a number of new counties were established.

The following year, 1800, Congress cut the Northwest Territory north and south, about on the line of the Great Miami river, and named the west part Indiana Territory, with its capital at Vincennes. William H. Harrison was governor. At the same time Chillicothe was made the temporary capital of the east division. [The capital remained at Chillicothe until 1810, when it was changed to Zanesville until 1812, then back to Chillicothe until 1816, when it was permanently located at Columbus.] Trumbull county was formed, including, in its bounds, all the Connecticut Reserve east of the Cuyahoga river, with county seat at Warren. This indicates that the settlements were also growing in that quarter. So great, indeed, had been the increase in the east division that Congress, believing the population sufficient to entitle the people of the east part to the honors of statehood, passed an Enabling Act, April, 1802, allowing the voters to choose delegates and form a constitution, all of which was completed on the 29th of November, same year, and the proposed new State named Ohio [There never was a Territory of that name. Until her admission as a State, or rather, at the time of her admission, Ohio was simply the eastern division of the Northwest Territory], after the great river which forms its southern border, with metes and bounds, substantially, as they are to-day, except the strip on the north taken later on from Michigan. This constitution, with the name of the State, boundary lines and other proceedings of the convention, was submitted to Congress, and by that body approved, and on February 19, 1803, an Act was passed admitting Ohio to the sisterhood of States. [There has been considerable discussion as to when Ohio was admitted as a State; whether in 1802, or 1803. Inves-

tigation of the facts leaves little room for doubt on this point. The constitution was completed, and all the requirements of the Enabling Act complied with by the people, in November, 1802. Then Congress scrutinized this proceeding, accepted and approved it, and passed an Act in February, 1803, admitting Ohio into the Union, and on March 3, 1803, the Territorial officials stepped out and the State officials took charge.]

This was a long and rapid stride forward in our history. In March, 1788, there was not a permanent settlement or town in Ohio; just a wilderness terrorized over by savages. In 1803, fifteen years later, a State is carved out, with 60,000 prosperous people, and a fully equipped government, with nine organized counties or subordinate governments.

About the first thing the new State did, through its legislature, was to create seven new counties, March, 1803, as follows: Greene, Montgomery, Gallia, Butler, Warren, Geauga, and Scioto, and in April some others, including Franklin. These counties are named because two of them will be again alluded to presently. In the meantime the great changes going on had caused a sort of mishap to Wood county, or to the place where she now is. We remember that we were a short while ago nearly lost in the great county of Wayne, Northwest Territory, to which it had been attached in 1796. Our county seat was then at Detroit. Congress had since chopped us off, so to speak, and, like a chip from a great log, we were now lying over in the State of Ohio, and our late county seat, Detroit, was in Wayne county still, but in Indiana Territory. The Maumee Country had been divorced. We were in that fragment of Ohio that had been Wayne county, Northwest Territory; but now we were in a new State, without a seat of justice or county government, not even a county name.\* It is true that the hordes of Indians and few white traders and half-breeds here had but little use for a county seat, but still it was the fashion to preserve the semblance of civil government, by attaching all territory to some organized county for such purposes. It had been the rule, too, on the Ohio, where the settlements began, to extend the limits of the new counties to the northern boundary of the Territory. So it happened, when Greene and Franklin counties were organized on the northern borders of the settlements, they were extended north to the State line, pos-

sibly to include the Twelve Mile Reserve, and took in the present territory of Wood. The present tier of eastern townships of Wood were in Franklin, with county seat at Franklinton (now Columbus) and the remainder of Wood was attached to Greene county, with the seat of justice at Xenia. But the fact that this Territory had two county seats caused but little inconvenience; except the U. S. Reserve it was all Indian territory; there were no taxes to pay or deeds to record. Settlements, however, were extending up the Mad river very fast, and two years later, 1805, Champaign county was formed of parts of Greene and Franklin, with county seat temporarily at Springfield (now Clark county), but soon after changed to Urbana. In this new county the settlers had reached their northern limit. There stood the Greenville Treaty line, the border mark between whites and Indians. North of that was the Indians' territory, into which the whites dare not carry their settlements. That line stood like a Chinese wall until the year 1817, separating civilization from barbarism. On one side were fruitful fields, towns, roads, churches, schools, and a well-fed, well-clothed people, enjoying the rewards of peace, industry and thrift which good soil, good climate and a beneficent Providence assures to every citizen of Ohio. On the other side was the wilderness and squalid poverty—the Indian in his worst estate. The uncertain and irregular provision of the chase made him hungry and a beggar; the smoky, comfortless wigwam, with his idle, monotonous life, made him crave the delirium of fire-water. His forest pride and independent spirit forsook him, and he became an abject being, with gloomy forebodings of the future. The transition was too sudden, even had the fiber of his nature been less unyielding. Nowhere has the contrast between the two modes of existence been more clearly shown than on this line, before the worst vices of civilization had time to contaminate and degrade the savage from his natural state. How appropriate the lines of Paulding seem to this situation:

Extremes of habits, manners, time and space,  
Brought close together, here stood face to face,  
And gave at once a contrast to the view,  
That other lands and ages never knew.

But it was impossible that this condition should continue long. The land could not be separated on such a line. It must be all one or the other. Call it fate, or whatever name we choose, the Indian was doomed to be swept aside by the new and superior race. He either must fall in with

\*A part of the Territory in the new State still retained the name: Wooster is the county seat; Detroit, too, is the county seat of Wayne county, Mich. Both counties date their organization from 1796.

the marching procession or be left to his fate, by the way side.

Important events in the development of the country were now coming in such rapid succe-

sion that it is nearly impossible to keep trace of them in regular order. In this year (1805) Michigan Territory was formed, with William Hull as governor, capital at Detroit.

## CHAPTER VI.

### OUR INDIAN PREDECESSORS—THEIR NUMBERS—SOMEWHAT OF HABITS, CUSTOMS AND MANNERS, AS DESCRIBED BY MISSIONARIES AND OTHERS AMONG THEM.

THIS brings us, in the progress of this account of the Maumee Country, to what may be called the formative period of white settlement. Such descriptions of the actual conditions existing here at that time, as we get from men who were on the ground and spoke from personal observation, afford the best information obtainable. It is, moreover, deemed best, where practicable, to give the story in the relator's own words. Before the white people get here, then, let us glance at the resident Indian population, which it is believed then numbered not less than eight thousand. In the year 1802, the Connecticut Missionary Society sent out an agent to establish a station among these Indians. A letter or report of that year, sent in by the society's agent, Rev. David Bacon, contains the following references:

"I set out (from Detroit) April 20th for the Miami (Maumee) in a canoe, with Beaumont and a man I had hired; but, by reason of unfavorable winds, we did not arrive at the mouth of the river until the 4th of May. We were very much fatigued with hard rowing, and were several times in danger by the violence of the waves. I was obliged to go without the public interpreter, as he could not be spared. But when I came to the Miami I found an excellent interpreter in whom the Indians placed the utmost confidence, and who served me faithfully for a much less sum than what either of the others would have asked. His name is William Dragoo. When I arrived at the mouth of the river, the most of the chiefs were drunk at the traders' above. After remaining there two days, and finding it uncertain when they would be down, we went up and stored my provisions and farming tools at Ft. Miami, eighteen miles above. Hearing there that most of them had gone down, we returned the next day to the mouth. The day after I found that

Little Otter, the head chief, and one other were all that remained in the main village where we were, and that the rest all lay drunk at the neighboring village. In the afternoon I spent several hours with these two explaining to them the origin and designs of the Missionary Society, and the benefits, temporal and spiritual, that they might expect to receive by having me among them. They appeared to pay good attention, and when I had concluded, Little Otter observed, in reply, that the Great Spirit had been listening, and that they and their young men had been listening to all I had said; that he believed it was true; that the air appeared clear and no clouds in the way, and that he would assemble his chiefs and hear me again as soon as possible, but that till then he could give me no further answer.

"This was Saturday, the 8th. Through the Sabbath following we enjoyed peace and quietness among them. Hitherto, the most of them had remained sober. But the following night we were disturbed by the rattles and drums of a number of individuals who spent the night in conjuring over a poor sick child in order to save its life, but it died within a day or two after.

"Next day we started for the trading post. As we had a strong head wind, it was with difficulty that we got but five miles up the river that afternoon. We encamped about a quarter of a mile above their dancing ground. My interpreter advised me to go with him to see them that evening; and I had a desire to be present, as I supposed I might acquire some information that might be useful; but I thought it would not be prudent to be among them that night as I knew some of them were intoxicated and that such would be apt to be jealous of me at that time; and that nothing would be too absurd for their imaginations to conceive, or too cruel for their hands to perform. But as a son of the head

chief was sent early next morning to invite me down, I went to see them. I had the greater desire to go, as this is their annual conjuration-dance, which is celebrated every spring, on their return from hunting, and at no other time in the year. \* \* \*

"Mr. Anderson, a respectable trader at Fort Miami, told me that they had been growing worse every year since he had been acquainted with them, which is six or seven years; and that they have gone much greater lengths this year than he has ever known them before. He assured me that it was a fact, that they had lain drunk this spring, as much as ten or fifteen days, at several different traders above him; and that some of them had gone fifteen days without tasting a mouthful of victuals while they were in that situation." Mr. Anderson disapproved of the practice, and, by not complying with it, has lost the trade, and has turned his attention to his farm. He treated me very kindly, and seemed friendly to my designs, and very desirous to have me come out there."

Rev. James B. Finley, in his autobiography, says that in the fall of the year 1800, in company with others, he purchased a drove of fat cattle near Chilicothe and drove them through to Detroit, by the way of the Sandusky Plains, Lower Sandusky and the Maumee Rapids where they found a large Indian village.

"The Indians of this town had just finished their great fall dance and frolic, and were making preparations for starting for their hunting grounds. Being hungry and half starved, they demanded of us a steer for the privilege of driving through their country. I told them no, they could not have it, as the cattle were for the soldiers at Detroit. At this one of the Indians raised his rifle to shoot a steer, but riding instantly between him and the animal, I told him if he shot I would send a force of soldiers after him from Detroit, and he should be taken there to answer for his conduct. This had the desired effect, and we passed on unmolested. \* \* \* Soon after the sale (of the cattle to a government contractor), we left for home, with provisions sufficient to last till we reached the Maumee Rapids, where, our stock being exhausted, we found it impossible to purchase any; and taking a string of corn, on which, with some hazel nuts, we subsisted for two days, we arrived at Lower Sandusky. At this place we purchased, of Whitaker, a few quarts of flour and the half of a small deer."

Peter Navarre's reminiscences, written by H. L. Hosmer as a historical sketch, contains much that relates directly to the Maumee tribes. "At

that time, 1807," says the narrator, "the Indians of the Ottawa nation lived in a village on the Maumee, nearly opposite Manhattan. It was a grassy plat; the houses, of logs, about sixty in number, were built in two rows, whitewashed, and presented a cheerful and pleasant appearance. The village had been in existence since the days of Pontiac, and marked the site of his encampment on the Maumee at the time he left Detroit in 1764. The head chief of the nation, Fish-quagun, was a descendant from Pontiac. The character generally given to him, by those who knew him, was that of a kind-hearted, peaceable old man. At this time, also, the widow of Pontiac, Kan-tuck-ee-gun, and his son Otusso dwelt at the mouth of the river. The old woman was held in great reverence, always the first one applied to by the nation for advice, and the first to sign all treaties. Otusso was a man of excellent sense, free from the vices of his tribe, and, with none of the ferocity, inherited all the bravery of his father. He was a proud man, and held intercourse with those only of the whites who, like himself, were distinguished by station or power. Mesh-ka-mau, a cousin of Otusso, was a chief on the opposite side of the river. He was the finest orator in the nation, and the foremost speaker at all treaties. There were eight thousand of the Ottawas, at this time, living on the Maumee. Once a year they had a sacrifice of the best of everything they owned. On such occasions, which generally lasted three days, they would eat what they could, and burn the remnant of their food so that the dogs could not get it. About ten days before this annual sacrifice they would blacken their faces, and eat and drink only in the afternoon. Thousands of them would finally assemble, and erect a shanty where they held their feast. They would make religious speeches, and with upraised hand, and by every outward demonstration, testify their reverence for the Great Spirit. Feasts were frequent among them and upon various occasions. Sometimes sickness, often hunting, and, oftener still, to enjoy the pleasure of a protracted season of ball playing, they would have feasts of several days' continuance. At this period they drank but little liquor, were proud and vain, and many of them rich. Their robes were of fine cloths, bedizened with silver and gold coins, which jingled and glittered as they walked. Often chiefs would have several hundred dollars fastened to their dresses. A variety of dances were incident to the feasts. One, called Ki-a-wa, indicated their expectation of, or desire for, war, and was almost invariably introduced at every feast

during the two years preceding the war (1812). The English visited the Indians in great numbers during the years 1810 and 1811, for the purpose of interesting them in the coming war against the United States. Navarre saw them frequently, heard their counsels, and witnessed their effect upon the nation."

Rev. Joseph Badger, one of the earliest Protestant missionaries in this part of Ohio, and later a resident of Wood county, says:

"In June, 1805, having agreed to spend two months at the River Raisin, Michigan Territory, and among the Wyandot Indians, I set out from Cleveland on the 10th in company with Capt. Parish, of Canandaigua, and Mr. Knaggs, of Detroit, interpreters, going to attend the treaty at Swan Creek. We traveled on horseback, and lodged the first night on the sand beach near the mouth of Black river.

"Just as we were about to start in the morning, we looked up the lake toward Detroit, and saw the smoke of the burning town, which was that morning consumed by fire. We crossed the river in a canoe, and swam our horses; also at Vermillion. \* \* \* Friday morning we crossed the Sandusky river; swam our horses by a canoe; found the chiefs had arrived from the upper town on the way to the treaty about selling their land. Here I met the Rev. James Hughes. We spoke to Tarhe, or Crane, and Walk-in-the-water, about time for preaching, and went to Barnet's, or De-un-quot's, house and took dinner, and then returned to Mr. Whitaker's. Barnet appears with the meekness of a Christian, and is really an amiable man. \* \* \* Tuesday, the 25th, we rode through the Maumee swamp, about thirty-six miles, and lodged in the woods. Wednesday we forded the Maumee; got breakfast at a French house and rode down to the outlet of Swan creek, Fort Industry, where the Indian agent, Mr. Jouet, with the commissioners of the Connecticut Fire Land Company, and the chiefs of eight different tribes of Indians, were in council about selling and buying land."

Here, Mr. Badger gave the Wyandots a long temperance talk, after which Crane, their head chief, made a short speech, and told them to make up their minds what they would do. In about half an hour the old chief replied: "Father, you have told us the truth; we thank you. Father, we have all agreed to use no more ardent spirits." Mr. Badger adds: "I lived with them about four years after this, and I saw or knew of but one man drunk in that time. It broke up the traders so that they left them."

Judge Jacob Burnet, of Cincinnati, who was

a practicing lawyer under the old Territorial Government, and came out to Detroit once a year to attend court, after Wayne county was established in 1796, says: "On one of the journeys of the court and bar to Detroit, we arrived at the Ottawa town, on the Auglaize, about the middle of the day, and accepted an invitation to remain there until the next morning. Blue Jacket, the Shawnee chief, resided at that village, but was then absent. The party, however, were received very kindly by the venerable Delaware chief, Bukongehelas, who, in the course of the afternoon, got up a game of foot ball, in the true aboriginal style, for the amusement of his guests.

"The contending parties arranged themselves in the center of the lawn, the men on one side and the women on the other, each party facing the goal of their opponents. The side which should succeed in driving the ball through the stakes at the goal of their adversaries were to receive a purse, to be divided among them. The contest continued about an hour, with great animation and with various prospects of success, but was finally decided in favor of the fair sex, by the herculean strength of a mammoth squaw, who got the ball and held it in spite of the efforts of the men to shake it from the grasp of her uplifted hand, till she approached the goal to throw it through the stakes."

The party spent the night very pleasantly in the village, and in the morning resumed their journey. On their outward trip they took the route by Dayton, Piqua, Loramies, St. Mary's and the Ottawa town on the Auglaize, and from thence down that river to Defiance; thence to the Foot of the Rapids, and thence by River Raisin (the old name of Monroe, Mich.), to Detroit. But on their return from Detroit they crossed the Maumee river at Roche de Boeuf, by the advice of Black Beard, who lived in that neighborhood, and with whom the party breakfasted. As a matter of precaution, they hired his son to accompany them in the capacity of a guide. He led them through a succession of wet prairies, over some of which it was impossible to ride, and it was with great difficulty they were able to lead or drive their horses through the deep mud which surrounded them on all sides. After two days and a half of incessant toil and difficulty, they arrived at the same village in which they had been so kindly treated, and so much amused on their outward trip.

To their great mortification and disappointment they were informed that Blue Jacket had returned from Cincinnati a day or two before with a large quantity of whiskey, and that his

people were on a high frolic. This information was soon confirmed by the discovery that the whole village, male and female, was drunk. The party, however, were received with great kindness, but it was manifestly impossible to remain in the village, and the only alternative was to proceed on their journey.

From these statements of cotemporary witnesses, among the Indians, the reader can form an estimate of the general condition, circumstances, location and numbers of our Indian predecessors, just prior to, and at the time of, the coming of, the whites. The great body of these were Ottawas,\* though individuals and bands of other tribes were mingled with them, and the Wyandots shared in the use of their hunting grounds. They were scattered along the Maumee; mostly on the north side, along the rapids, because the country was drier and more open, from the bay to De-

\* The Chippewas, the Pottawatamies and Ottawas were originally one nation. [Speech of Ottawa chief at treaty at Chicago, 1821—Drake, Book V, p. 120.]

fiance, and on the Auglaize and Blanchard. Their corn and truck patches were frequent, too, on Bean creek, Swan creek, and the smaller tributaries. Occasionally camps for hunting and sugar-making were found on the Portage and its branches, and at other isolated points favorable to the Indian mode of life.

The greatest blight on the race, according to the testimony of the missionaries of that time, was whiskey and the conjurors. The latter were cunning charlatans, who pretended to have communication and influence with both good and evil spirits. By this means these impostors gained great influence among their superstitious, ignorant brethren. This power they used for their own selfish ends, and nearly always to the detriment and injury of the tribes. They were not unlike their congeners, the "Messiahs" and ghost dancers, of a later day, among the Dakota tribes in the Northwest, and no less potential for mischief.

## CHAPTER VII.

TREATY OF FT. INDUSTRY (TOLEDO NOW)—TRADERS ATTRACTED TO THE MAUMEE—FIRST SURVEY, 1805—MAJOR AMOS SPAFFORD, WOOD COUNTY'S FIRST PERMANENT SETTLER—PIONEER CIVIL OFFICER IN MAUMEE COUNTRY—TREATIES OF DETROIT AND BROWNSTOWN

THE rapid advancement of civilization in the new country now warranted the United States Government in making fresh acquisitions, especially as the State of Connecticut desired to secure possession of that part of her lands lying west of the Cuyahoga river. Accordingly, on July 11, 1805, a treaty, the sixth relating to Ohio,\* was made at Ft. Industry (now Toledo), with the Wyandot, Ottawa, Chippewa, Munsee, Delaware, Shawnee and Pottawatamie tribes, for the purchase of the remainder of the Connecticut Reserve. It will be remembered that this tract extended west 120 miles from the Pennsylvania line to what is now the west line of Huron and Erie counties, but the Indian title, by the Greenville Treaty, had only been acquired as far west as the Cuyahoga river (Cleveland). Beyond that river the Connecticut people could not go. That State had bargained away some of this fine tract, and was very anxious to buy out the Indian's rights. So

the United States made the treaty, and Connecticut and her land companies furnished the money to pay the Indians, and had the proceeds arising from the subsequent sales, but no jurisdiction over the territory. There was considerable opposition among the Indians as there would naturally be where there are so many partners in a large transaction. But after much wrangling, many talks, much persuasion, many promises and presents, the deal was made and the treaty duly signed up.

The treaty, while it did not directly affect it, was of great advantage to the Maumee Country, which, with some superior advantages along with its drawbacks, was being held back while other parts of the State were being settled; still these gradual advances of the lines of settlement gave hope for the future.

Renewed life sprung up now in the Western Reserve, and emigrants began to pour in along the lake, west of Cleveland. Ship builders began to find occupation in constructing boats, at the

\*This treaty is known as the Treaty of Ft. Industry.



different towns, for the increasing lake commerce. Lockport, Erie, Black Rock and Buffalo, soon had boats visiting Detroit, Cleveland, Huron, Sandusky Bay, Maumee Bay, Conneaut and other lake points. The Maumee Bay, or the country about the Rapids of the Maumee, was one of the most attractive points because of its large fur trade. The Maumee was at this time occupied, especially in winter, by Indians from its head-waters to the lake. The Foot of the Rapids was the head of navigation. To this point the traders shipped their goods. From here they were hauled, or packed, to the head of the Rapids and thence by pirogues or canoes taken to Ft. Wayne.

That was a great distributing point for a large scope of country, even to the Wabash and White rivers. The Fort was, as late as 1822, in charge of an army officer, with a small garrison; and collected about it were the log huts of the traders, and a motley population of Indians and Canadians, half-breeds or "Canucks." These Canucks, who could speak the Indian tongue, were employed by the traders to transport goods on pack-ponies to distant points. Two boxes, or parcels, of goods, about equally balanced, were placed on the pack-saddle, like a sack with a jug in each end. In the center between the two packs was a keg of whiskey, some bags of shot, pigs of lead for making bullets, or a batch of steel traps. When this stuff was traded out the Canadian voyageur would return to the trader with a load of furs, which in turn found its way down the Maumee in the returning boats. The goods supplied by these traders consisted of red cloth and blankets, guns, hatchets, tobacco, whiskey, paint, hawk's bells, powder, lead, shot, beads, ribbons, rings, brooches, kettles, leather, blades, etc.

The subordinate traders and Canucks who conducted these pack trains from the post were generally a rough, uncouth, intractable lot, sometimes but little in advance of the savages. A coat made of a blanket, or smoked deer-skin, a skin cap, if they wore any head covering, with deer leather leggings and moccasins, comprised their dress, and a rifle, hatchet and knife, their equipment for guarding the goods and getting their meat in the forest, as they traveled from place to place. While wholly unschooled in the politer forms of civilized society or customs, these rough, swarthy men were brave and nearly always trustworthy. The per cent of peculation was less than under the more polished surroundings of later years.

The demands of this extensive traffic and the provisions, and other supplies of the traders, and

their clerks, required a transportation line along the Maumee, long before the land came into market or the axe of the pioneer was heard in the bordering forests and fertile valleys.

Another thing occurred this same year, 1805, which we should, in speaking of the actual first coming of the white men to the present territory of Wood county, make a note of. In that year Elias Glover, United States Deputy Surveyor, arrived with his corps of assistants, and run out and marked the exterior subdivision and meander lines of the U. S. Reserve of twelve miles square. [Resurveyed between 1816 and 1824 by Joseph Wampler and William Brookfield, as is more fully explained in the chapter on Public Lands, Surveys, etc.] It will be remembered that among the blocks or reservations of land, kept for the United States, by Gen. Wayne, when he made the Greenville Treaty with the Indians, there was one large one, twelve miles square, at the Rapids of the Maumee; also the proviso was made that when the United States got ready to survey the boundary lines of any of these reservations, that the chiefs and head-men of the tribes should be notified so that they could be present and see that it was properly done, etc. The northeast corner of this reserve, as surveyed by Glover, stands in the city of Toledo; the southeast corner is identical with the present southeast corner of Perrysburg township; thence west on the section line, passing a little north of the village of Hull Prairie, and crossing the lower half of Station Island, in the Maumee, the southwest corner is a few rods west of the river, in Lucas county. Twelve miles north of that is the northwest corner, thence east to the place of beginning in the city of Toledo, completes the boundary. Of this tract of 92,160 acres, a trifle less than half is within the present bounds of Wood. It was, as previously noticed, the first land the United States acquired title to here, and one of the direct results of Wayne's battle and treaty. The title to this reserve was one of the conditions of that treaty, and the size of the reserve, and the tenacity with which Wayne insisted on having this block of land, shows the important views he had concerning the Maumee Rapids and vicinity. The field notes of these surveys are interesting in two ways; first, in showing the important mill sites, and the estimate the surveyors gave of the country, its forests, soil, water, etc.; second, in being the first official, undeniable evidence left on record of a white man making in what is now Wood county any permanent improvement. In fact there is no evidence that, previous to that date, a white man had even camped on Wood county



soil. When the surveyors began to drive stakes and blaze lines there was an actual beginning.

This was not nearly all. Among those who came in that pioneer work was a man to whose memory belongs the honor of being the first permanent settler of what is now Wood county; who acquired the first title to land and built his cabin on it. In the party of New Englanders who came down the south shore of Lake Erie, in 1796, and landed at Conneaut, was Amos Spafford. Later we hear of his being at Cleveland, when the survey was made. In 1805 he came with the surveyors to the Maumee Rapids. He did not become a resident at that time, but was favorably impressed with the country, and doubtless then chose the location where he afterward settled with his family. [For account of the Spafford Farm, refer to Index.]

On the north side of the river, above the site of old Fort Miami, Col. John Anderson, a Scotch trader, had a small establishment, and there were two or three transient French traders along the Rapids. At Fort Industry, Toledo, there was a trader, or a sort of garrison sutler at the fort. It will be remembered that, under the treaty, no one could establish themselves in trade, among the Indians, without a license, or permit, from the United States.

The British traders at Detroit, when Wayne came to take possession, in 1796, very adroitly shifted their establishments to Malden, on the Canada side of the river, and, by every possible inducement, tried to get the Indians to bring their furs across the river to trade. In this way they held a good share of the trade for a long time; but the American traders were pretty enterprising, and kept sub-agents and traders traveling among the Indians, during the buying season, or, as was often the case, located in their midst, and who lived almost as the savages did.

Before we make note of the little column of white settlers, now timidly advancing in the distance, let us make note, in their order, of two other events that brought a rift of light in the dark cloud so long hanging heavily over the Maumee Country.

*Detroit Treaty.*—At Detroit, in 1807, Gov. William Hull, of Michigan Territory, acting for the United States, made a treaty with the Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottawatamies and Wyandots, for a large tract of land, which fortunately included the territory in Ohio, lying north of the Maumee, as far west as the mouth of the Auglaize. This was not much, to be sure, but it began to let daylight into the long benighted Maumee Country.

*Treaty of Brownstown.*—One year later, on November 25, 1808, another treaty, at Brownstown, with the same tribes, and the Shawnees in addition, laid the basis for the Maumee and Western Reserve road, for years the most important, most traveled, and, we might add, the worst highway in this part of Ohio, if not in the world. This cession from the tribes gave a roadway 120 feet wide, direct from the Foot of the Rapids, through what is now Fremont, to the east side of Sandusky county (the west line of the Connecticut Reserve), and one mile of land, each side of the roadway, to help pay for building the road. This route is nearly in the same course of the old trail, formerly used by the French, and afterward by the English, in their expeditions, by land, between Detroit and the Ohio; only their trail kept on the higher ground along the route, thus often deviating from a straight course. This liberal provision assured a public highway, virtually, from Detroit to the growing settlements of the Reserve, and farther east, by the south shore of Lake Erie; also a path for the eastern emigrants to the fine lands of southern Michigan, northern Indiana, and to the southern end of Lake Michigan, where Chicago has since grown up.

The Foot of the Rapids, then recognized as the head of navigation on the Maumee, stood in high estimation as a point of future commercial importance. It gave most promise of all locations in the wilderness at the head of Lake Erie.

Following the treaties just mentioned, occasional white squatters began to locate at the Foot of the Rapids. And now arises the troublesome query of who was the first white settler on the Maumee? There are no records by which to answer this question, and all who could tell have long since passed off the stage of life. Furthermore, it is difficult to determine what constitutes a settler in this sense. If building a cabin, cultivating the soil and trafficking with the Indians made a man a settler, some of the traders might be entitled to the honor. When Wayne swooped down on the Maumee Indians, in 1794, Col. John Anderson, British-Indian agent, at the time, had a little trading establishment, and a garden and corn field above Fort Miami. Wayne's followers devoured the Colonel's roasting ears, and destroyed everything outside the fort. Old Andy Race, with the victorious army, and later a settler, and who believed that "Mad Anthony" could do anything, not actually forbidden by Omnipotent Power, used to say that Wayne would have stormed the fort, and destroyed that, too, only that he ran out of whiskey that morning. However this may have been, Anderson seems, for

some reason, not to have been seriously interfered with when the United States took possession. The Missionary, David Bacon, says (year 1802): "Mr. Anderson, a respectable trader, was at Fort Miami, and was opposed to selling whiskey to the Indians." This would indicate that Anderson, who was at Miami at the time of the battle, 1794, and was yet there in 1802, had been a permanent resident for at least eight years. Mr. Anderson afterward lived at Monroe, Mich. J. B. Beaugrand, Gabriel Godfrey, and one or two other Frenchmen, were traders on the north side, in 1805, when the United States surveyors were at the Rapids. But the French settlement proper was down opposite Manhattan. Another early trader, by the name of Calvermanche, made transient trips through the valley.

It looks as though Col. Anderson, with his corn-field, garden and store, was best entitled to the honor of being the first settler. The first comers were in fact all squatters, and in a sense transient occupants. The title to the honor, however, is not so clear as to bar other claimants. Among the first Americans was James Carlin, Government blacksmith to the Indians, who came from the River Raisin in November, 1807. He moved first from Auburn, N. Y., to Erie, Penn.; then came up the lake to Detroit. The Ewings, Races, Carters, David Hull, Daniel Purdy, and some others came in the year 1807. Several French families, the Mominees, Peltiers, La Points and others were there in 1807. The years 1808 and 1809 brought a number more families, Americans and French, the latter mostly from Detroit and the Raisin. They were the avant-couriers of the great population which has since taken possession of every acre of this vast domain. Like the scouts and skirmishers in the advance of a great army, they cautiously felt their way ahead, and the main army followed and took up the burden of the battle. Gradually the settlement increased.

In 1810, Amos Spafford, previously mentioned, with his family, settled on the south side of the river. He held a commission as collector of the Port of Miami, Erie District. In June, of the same year, he was appointed postmaster, and the settlement had the convenience of mail every two weeks. Benoni Adams was carrier from Cleveland to the Rapids, the round trip, made usually on foot, because there was no road through the swamp, occupying sometimes two weeks. Miami was the only post office on the route, between Cleveland and Chicago, then Fort Dearborn, except River Raisin (Monroe). Major Spafford's first quarterly report, as collect-

or, showed the export value of goods, furs, skins and bear's oil, to be \$5,640.85. Here was the beginning of civil government on the Maumee. Amos Spafford was the pioneer officer, in the exercise of civil authority; date 1810. He was, too, the first pioneer to build his cabin, and begin a permanent abode, in what is now Wood county. The land he first squatted upon, and made improvements on, he afterward paid for, and there he died in 1817. He was the first man who possessed title, from the United States Government, to Wood county soil, his patent being signed by James Monroe, as related in the chapter on Land Titles.

In this same year, 1810, some New Yorkers and Pennsylvanians came from Buffalo, and a party of them landed from the schooner, where Port Clinton is, to take a look at the country. Andrew Race, who was with them, on his return to the Maumee, with his brothers Bob and Dave, piloted the party through. Beside the Races were Jesse Skinner, Cyrus Hitchcock, Daniel Murray, Samuel Merritt, and some others. Most of the party selected locations, and then some went back east. Skinner selected what is since River Tract 50,\* at and below the south end of the present Waterville bridge. One of the Ewings had previously located three miles below, on the same side of the river, and a Frenchman, a sort of trader, named Peter Lumbar, had a squatter's shanty near the mouth of Tontogany creek, nearly opposite the Ottawa Indian village. By these gradual accretions the settlement grew, numbering in the spring of 1812 about seventy families. All were along the river on both sides, except one of the Ewings, Samuel H., Daniel Murray, and one other family, who located at Monclova, where Ewing built a dam on Swan creek, and had commenced constructing a saw-mill.

The settlers had already begun to test the productiveness of the soil by planting islands, and rich bottoms, in grain and vegetables. After the first crop, there were no longer doubts as to the quality of the soil. The yield was enormous; none had ever seen better. Another great yield, not so gratifying, came in the fall season—the Maumee fever and ague. This misery came right from the start, but was not considered dangerous after the first year and a season of acclimation. Still, with hardships, exposure and the prevailing fever, a number of those first settlers lost their lives.

The spring of 1812 was an eventful one, not

\* The river tracts were not surveyed as such by Glover in 1805, but at the re-survey, in 1810, by Wampler.

only on the Maumee, but in the world's history. Europe was trembling beneath the tread of the gigantic armies of Napoleon, marching to the Russian frontier. Ominous war clouds darkened the horizon of all Europe, and lowered threateningly over the United States. The hopeful,

embryo settlement at the Maumee had planted their crops, and the islands and bottoms were verdant with the promise of a bountiful harvest, when all their hopes were blasted by events, which will be described in the next succeeding chapters.

## CHAPTER VIII.

WAR OF 1812—ARRIVAL OF GEN. HULL'S ARMY AT THE MAUMEE RAPIDS—HULL'S "TRACE"—SURRENDER AT DETROIT—THE PIONEER MAUMEE SETTLEMENT ABANDONED TO THE SAVAGES.

**S**AID Montesquieu, "Happy are the people whose annals are a blank." Fortunate, indeed, would the first Maumee Pioneers have been could this part of our story have been a blank in their history.

About the middle of June, 1812, the settlement about the Lower Maumee Rapids was set astir by the arrival of Gen. William Hull, with about two thousand troops, on his way to Detroit. This column consisted of three volunteer regiments, under Cols. Duncan McArthur, James Finley, and Lewis Cass, that had been recruited in southern Ohio, mostly about Dayton, Springfield and Urbana, also a battalion of regulars under Col. Boyd. They marched from Urbana, directly northward, and cleft their way through the heavy forests from Champaign county to the Maumee.

Congress had appointed Gov. Hull brigadier general, and authorized the enlistment of this force for two causes: First, Gov. W. H. Harrison, in the Indiana Territory, had been having serious trouble with the Indians. Tecumseh, with a band of restless Shawnees, had settled on the Wabash, with the Miamis, and with his twin brother, Elkswatawa, better known as the "Prophet," a brawling, fanatical conjurer and medicine man, was "pow-wow"ing the dissatisfied elements, in all the tribes, into an aggressive league against the whites, similar in some respects to that of Pontiac. Some of the half-crazed Indians had already commenced depredations on the settlers, and Indians who disbelieved in the "Prophet" were driven off, and in some instances put to death for witchcraft by their over-zealous ignorant brethren.

Gov. Harrison, with the purpose of breaking up the pow-wow and restoring order, gathered

up what troops he could and marched over to the "Prophet's" village, near the mouth of the Tippecanoe. The cunning Indian came out to meet him, and professed great friendship and wanted no war. A parley was arranged for the next day. Harrison then went into camp about a mile from the Indian village. The next morning, before daylight, his camp was assailed, with unexampled fury, by the "Prophet's" warriors, and one of the most stubborn battles in Indian warfare followed, the whites losing nearly two hundred men, and some of their best officers. The savages were beaten off finally, and their village burned; but it was evident, from this act of treachery, that when Tecumseh, who was absent, returned from his pilgrimage among other tribes, he and his fanatical brother would stir up a general war, if possible. Hence, the Governors of both Michigan and Indiana Territories, where a large portion of the tribes were, began active preparations to defend the settlements. This action, fought November 7, 1811, is known in history as the battle of Tippecanoe, taking its name from the creek near where the fight took place. The second cause, for an armed force at Detroit, was the strained relations between Great Britain and the United States. Because of the impressment of American seamen, and unredressed acts of injustice and overbearing insolence, the United States was on the eve of formally declaring war on England; in fact, had done so, when Hull was camped at the Rapids, but there were no telegraphs or railroads in 1812, so news went slow, and this army was still ignorant of the true situation.

To guard their line of communications, Hull's forces, as they came north, constructed Forts McArthur in Hardin county, Findlay on the Blanchard, and a small stockade on the north

branch of the Portage, or Carrying river, called Fort Portage. These were temporary defenses, and were garrisoned with the necessary complement of men under subaltern officers. The presence of this military force was a great relief to the little settlement at the Rapids, as there had been a feeling of insecurity since the affair of Tippecanoe the previous fall. This was increased by the expected trouble with Great Britain, and the settlers prevailed on Gen. Hull to also leave them a small detail of soldiers for their better protection.

Hull's army, after their toilsome march through the swamp, in which the water in places reached the saddle girths of the horses, enjoyed three days rest and refreshment, in their camp on the river, as only soldiers on the march know how to do. While they are encamped there, let us take a hasty look over the route they came. It was Wood county's pioneer road, and from north to south, the only one for many years after. It was such a miserable excuse for a road, however, that the early settlers did not respect it with the name of road, but called it "Hull's Trace."

No professional engineering skill was expended either in its location or construction. Gen. Hull was at Dayton with his little army, and wanted to get to Detroit, so they decided to advance to Urbana, and thence take a straight northerly course. Instead of engineers, they employed three expert woodsmen, Isaac Zane, Robert Armstrong and James McPherson, as guides to pilot the army through the woods and keep it from getting lost. Zane and Armstrong had been raised among the Indians from boyhood, and McPherson was a fur trader, familiar with the country between Cincinnati and Detroit. Looking over the ground now, since it is stripped of the forest and exposed to view, we must own that the most skillful topographical engineer could scarcely have improved on the route selected by those unlettered woodsmen without compass or chain.

After seeing the route marked out on a sectional map under the careful guidance of some of the earliest settlers, as Gen. John E. Hunt, Judge William Ewing, Jacob Eberly, Thomas Cox, Collister Haskins and others, who were familiar with and had traveled it, the "Trace" may be described in general terms as follows: It entered the county from the south, on the east part of Section 35, in Henry township, not far east of Rocky Ford creek, which it followed north to the center of Section 19, Bloom township, where it crossed to the west side of the creek, near the present bridge, and continued north between the

creek and the Perrysburg and Findlay pike, to the southeast corner of Section 1, Henry township, where it bore west gradually, about to the half-section line, when it continued nearly due north, through the chain of beech ridges and swails, to the north branch of the Portage, or Ditch 12, near which point was established the stockade post, sometimes called Fort Portage. Here the trail turned down stream, northeast, until about eighty rods east of the pike, where it crossed the Portage, and from there lay nearly parallel with the railroad to Bowling Green, a part of the way on the railroad's right of way. The railroad track is on top of the old trace at the Wooster street crossing, Bowling Green. Passing north near the old cemetery ground, the route was almost direct to the point of ridge across the prairie, on the west side of the stone pike, in the northeast corner of Section 13, Plain. Here, on the dry ground that is sometimes called Terry's Corners, was a favorite camping place, with prairie grass convenient for grazing the oxen and beef cattle. From this point the trace bore away from the pike, passing just west of Union Hill cemetery, Plain township, thence to the corner of Section 23, Middleton township, which it crossed diagonally, also Fractional Sections 15 and 34, and River Tracts 46, 47 and 48, striking the Maumee near the ravine, opposite the lower end of Dodd's island, at River Tract 49, thence down the river, on the most eligible ground, to the "Big flats," where the army camped and crossed the river at that point, when the march was resumed.

This route is thus somewhat minutely described for future reference, not only because of its relation to one of the unfortunate historic events of the war of 1812, but because it was for some years a path for the pioneers to their county seat (Urbana, and, afterward, Bellefontaine), and also, in part, a United States mail route.

For some of the incidents of the march, and the inglorious end of the expedition, and career of Gen. Hull, an extract from the "Reminiscences of Gen. John E. Hunt," read before the Maumee Valley Pioneer Association, in Perrysburg, February 22, 1876, will prove instructive and of interest. Hunt, who went with the troops, was at that time in his fifteenth year, and in later years was a commissioner of Wood county. "In 1812," he says, "I was living with my brother-in-law, Dr. Abraham Edwards, at Dayton. He became surgeon-general of Hull's army. Going out with him, I messed with the staff officers and dined at Gen. Hull's table. The army left Dayton in the forepart of June.

We struck the Maumee river about the 15th of that month. In passing through Hull's Prairie the water was up to my saddle skirts. It was a clear summer day when the army struck the river, at the head of the "Big flats," about two miles above Fort Meigs. There were three regiments of volunteer militia, and the Fourth U. S. Infantry, who had joined Hull at Urbana, and were just come from the victory of Tippecanoe, in all 2,500 men. After coming through the wilderness so many days, it was beautiful to look upon the broad, open channel of the river, expanding among the islands and sweeping off into the blue distance in graceful curves. The high banks were clothed with the primeval forest, and the level bottom land and islands were covered with grass. It was not half an hour before the whole army was in the water. When we left Dayton, a regiment went forward at a time. Col. McArthur went first and built Fort McArthur, and Col. Findlay followed and built Fort Findlay. We camped at the "Big flats" three days, the General expecting every day to hear news from Washington of the declaration of war against Great Britain. The first day they moved they marched four miles down the left bank of the river, having forded at Presque Isle, and camped on the bottom land below Miami. There they found a small vessel, 'The Cuyahoga,' which was chartered and sent ahead for Detroit, loaded with the officers' wives and baggage. On the way she was captured by the British at Malden. [As Hull's men marched through the settlement where Maumee is, a Capt. Bond, a sort of clerk or deputy collector for Maj. Spafford, brought out his militia company and paraded them in honor of the occasion. Each man, in the absence of a feather, had a deer tail stuck in his hat.—Way's Memoirs.]

"On the march from Miami to Monroe, when about half way, news reached us of the declaration of war. The British got the news before we did, through a fur company's agent, who took it by express direct to Canada. The Canadians might have taken Detroit, by surprise, before we got there. Hull stopped two days at Monroe to make a display of his troops. Thence he marched to the river Huron; there we camped on an open prairie. We could see from our camp the masts of the 20-gun brig, 'Queen Charlotte,' which lay in the lake, off Malden. Some Indians were observed in the distance. During the night we were aroused by a false alarm. Hull's apprehension of an attack by a force which might be landed from the 'Queen Charlotte,' gave color to the alarm. It was afterward learned that the

Indians were Wyandots, who offered themselves as allies at Detroit. Their services were not accepted, as our government's orders were to have nothing to do with them. At that time there were no British troops on board the 'Queen Charlotte.' On the occasion of this false alarm it was whispered in the camp that the old man Hull was a good deal frightened. The next day we went into camp at the River Rouge, seven miles from Detroit. We marched in great disorder, strung along five or six miles. Hull halted there eight or ten days to prepare his men to make a display in the streets of Detroit. Detroit was then a town of ten or twelve hundred people. Then he marched his men through Detroit and back again to camp on the River Rouge. After some days he moved up and crossed the Detroit river, in batteaux, below Belle Isle. One beautiful morning they crossed the river without opposition, and made a fine display marching down opposite Detroit, with colors flying and music playing. There they made a fortified camp and remained. A two-story brick house in the center of the camp was the General's headquarters. There I first saw Gen. Cass, then a colonel.

"It was a warm July morning, and I was taking my breakfast at a boarding house, kept by a man whose name was Deputy. At the table sat Maj. Munson, of Zanesville, Ohio. A red-faced young man, with a morning gown on, came in, and as he took a seat alongside of Maj. Munson, he said something severe against Gen. Hull. Maj. Munson said: 'Col. Cass, what is the matter with you?' Cass replied that he had been two hours with that old fool, and could not get him to make a push toward Malden, all he could do. 'He has agreed to let me go down with my regiment and two companies of the Fourth United States Infantry, and if God lets me live I'll have Malden before I get back.'

"The British had a 2-gun battery at the River Canard, four miles above Malden, so posted as to rake the causeway and bridge at that point. A day or two before, a regiment of our militia had been driven from there. Cass sent two companies of the U. S. Fourth Infantry under Snelling to ford the stream above the battery. When Snelling made his appearance, approaching the British on their flank, Cass moved forward with his main force upon this bridge. The enemy opened fire upon him, but when they discovered Snelling on their flank they retreated. Cass followed them to within a mile and a half of Malden, when it became so dark he thought it prudent to retreat to the battery at the bridge.

Thence he sent an express to Hull for re-inforcements, so as to attack Malden the next morning. Instead of doing so, Hull sent his aid, Col. Wallace, of Cincinnati, and ordered Cass back.

"Cass has frequently told me he has always regretted he did not disobey orders, and march on Malden. He afterward learned that the British had all their valuables ready to leave, and loaded on board the 'Queen Charlotte.' If he had made his appearance in the morning the British would have blown up their fort and sailed away to Niagara. This would have prevented an Indian war, and saved Detroit. Cass returned to camp, and a few days after, Hull, on hearing of the advance of Gen. Brock, retreated across the river to Detroit, where he occupied Fort Shelby. This fort was situated right about the center of the present city of Detroit, about the fourth street from the river.

"Gen. Brock, at Niagara, had overreached Gen. Dearborn, another superannuated Revolutionary officer, who was in command of that frontier, and concluded with him an armistice of thirty days. This gave time for the 'Queen Charlotte' to sail from Malden to the lower end of Lake Erie, and returned with himself and the force which captured Detroit. Soon after Hull crossed back, Brock moved the 'Queen Charlotte' up the river, and anchored off Sandwich, covering with her guns the crossing to Detroit. While the ship was stationed there, Capt. Shellington asked Gen. Hull, in my presence, for liberty to take two 12-pound guns down to Spring Wells, and sink her or start her from her position.

"Hull said, 'No, sir; you can't do it.' Brock had built a battery on the Canada side, opposite Fort Shelby; as soon as it was finished, when the sun was about an hour high, he opened fire on us. During the night, shells were thrown at intervals. At the dawn of day a heavy fire of bombs and solid shot was opened. I was taking a drink of water at the door of one of the officers' quarters, in company with a boy of my age, who afterward became Maj. Washington Whistler, U. S. A. At the next door to us, and about twelve feet away, four of our officers were standing together. They were Capt. Hanks, Lieut. Sibley, Dr. Blood and Dr. Reynolds, of Columbus. A 32-pound shot came from the enemy's battery, killing Hanks, Sibley and Reynolds, and wounding Dr. Blood. They were knocked into a heap in a little narrow entryway—a narrow, confined space. Their mangled remains were a terrible sight. Capt. Hanks was lying on top, his eyes rolling in his head. Directly came along Gen. Hull, who looked in upon them and turned

very pale, the tobacco-juice running from the corners of his mouth to the frills of his shirt. In a short time after, the white flag was hoisted; that ball seeming to unman him.

"After these men were killed, I left the fort to reconnoitre. On the street in front of Maj. Whipple's house, one-fourth of a mile in front of Fort Shelby, I found two 32-pound guns in position. Capt. Bryson, of the artillery, had placed them there to rake the British column of 1,500 men who had made a landing and were approaching the city by way of Judge May's long lane to reach a ravine which crossed it, and through which they could file and be protected from any battery we had. They were marching in close column, in full dress uniform, of bright scarlet, in perfect order, at a steady regular pace, without music. As they came on, followed by their Indian allies and some twenty whites dressed as Indians, my boyish fancy was struck with their appearance, as I expected every moment to see them torn to pieces by those 32-pounders, double charged with canister and grape. My brother Thomas stood ready at the guns. In his hand a lighted match was held up in the air. He was in the very act of firing when Col. Wallace, the aide of Gen. Hull, came up and said: 'Don't fire, the white flag is up.' At that instant Capt. Hull, who had been across the river with a flag of truce, fell in with us on his return. Col. Wallace said to him: 'It's all up, your father has surrendered.' Capt. Hull exclaimed: 'My God! Is it possible?'"

The disgraceful conduct of Gen. Hull came from treason or cowardice. He was a native of Connecticut, only sixty years of age, and had done gallant service in the Revolution; but strong drink had so blighted his mental and physical manhood that he was totally unfitted for the place he held. There was, too, delay and lack of energy at the War Department in Washington, in not more promptly advising Hull of events there. The war resolution passed the House June 4, the Senate June 17; the President proclaimed it publicly on the 19th, and Hull got no word until July 2, one day after the enemy had the news, by a longer route. Such news as this, where the possession of an empire, or the fate of an army, was at stake, ought to have reached Hull from Washington in seven days. With an enterprising commander in Hull's stead, early news of the war declaration would have been invaluable, but with Hull it could make but little difference.

Under the findings of a court-martial he was sentenced to be shot, but because of his former services the President commuted the death part

of the sentence. Thus ingloriously ended Hull's campaign. Humiliation and defeat were the bitter fruits of the first efforts of the Americans in the war of 1812. Misfortunes did not come singly either. Mackinaw and Fort Dearborn (now Chicago) fell, through the same laggard policy at Washington, and Hull's incapacity. The whole Northwest was in the enemy's control.

But how fared the infant settlement on the Maumee? If they were electrified when they saw Hull's army arrive, and felt security to some degree, the first time for months, they were depressed, paralyzed, when, a few weeks later, word came of the surrender of that army, and that the British had adopted their former infamous plan in warfare, of employing the savages as allies.

Here was this little, scattered settlement of whites, in the very midst of the Ottawa tribe—at their mercy, in fact. All north of the Maumee was, practically, in the hands of the enemy. No settlement south of them to the Greenville Treaty line; west of them the turbulent followers of Tecumseh and his brother on the Wabash, and the Pottawatamies on the St. Joseph; east of them the nearest white neighbors were the weak settlements at the mouth of Huron river, now Erie county; north of them was Detroit and adjacent settlements, now headquarters for the British, who were active in their efforts to stir up the Indians, by bribery, and promises the most extravagant, to take up the tomahawk against the Americans. Tecumseh was there and had sworn allegiance to the King, and was effectively rallying the disaffected warriors to his standard. Even the lakes were under control of the enemy, who had several armed vessels patrolling their shores.

Gloomy, indeed, was the outlook for the isolated settlement at the Maumee Rapids. To make matters worse, the small detail of soldiers, left for their protection, abandoned their temporary fort, told the settlers to help themselves to the stores, which had to be left, and retreated to the interior. There was no choice left these pioneers; they had to go. They left their crops ungathered; took such of their worldly effects as they could, and started, they scarcely knew whither. The Indians and British soon came, and the torch obliterated nearly all the homely habitations of the people on the Maumee. The settlement was wiped out of existence. In its stead came hostile armies, and soon the roar and din of the deadly conflict proclaimed that new issues hung in the balance, to be decided in this court of last resort; or, rather, old issues were to be fought over again.

It will be instructive, before passing to the stirring national events within the arena about the Maumee Rapids, now in order, to learn something more of the little band of settlers just passing from view, many of them never to return. Their story forms an important part of our Pioneer record. It would be interesting if we had it complete. Unfortunately, the details are very meager; but we introduce, in the chapter on Perrysburg, that (next to records) best of authority in histories of this kind, the testimony of truthful, intelligent, contemporary witnesses—those who saw and knew the things of which they speak—Mrs. Perrin, Mrs. Hester Green, Mrs. Philothé Clark and others, some of whose recollections are given in the history of Perrysburg township.

## CHAPTER IX.

WAR OF 1812 AS FAR AS CONCERNS WOOD COUNTY—GEN. HARRISON'S CAMPAIGN—GEN. PROCTOR'S ADVANCE—FIRST SIEGE OF FORT MEIGS—DUDLEY'S DEFEAT.

**I**T is designed to treat of the events of the war of 1812 only as such events are connected with the local history of Wood county, though at times the chain of connections carries the story beyond local bounds. It was just about eighteen years before Hull's arrival at the Rapids, and the disgraceful termination of his campaign

at Detroit, that Gen. Wayne, and his gallant little army, won martial renown on the Maumee, by a victory which terminated an Indian war, began almost a half century before, when the Colonial troops fought under the English flag. Wayne's campaign turned all eyes to the Maumee river, and his victory filled the Nation with



joy. Hull's surrender startled the Nation, and filled the land with sorrow and humiliation. Wayne's battle gave the country an empire and peace; Hull's cowardice lost the Northwest, and turned the frontier settlers over to the mercy of the Indians and British. When the Nation rejoiced over Wayne's success in 1794, there were only five thousand people, north of the Ohio, to shout their gladness; when Hull surrendered (1812), and uncovered her whole northern frontier, Ohio alone had 250,000 people to tell him of their indignation, and come to the rescue of the Flag.

The whole country, east and west, was aroused to the gravity of the situation. Fortunately the martial spirit, the heroism of '76, had not gone to decay. England did not have a long season of rejoicing. Her pride was soon touched in a tender place. On the Atlantic, three days after the surrender of Detroit, the frigate "Constitution" ("Old Ironsides") came up with the British man of war, "Guerriere," and engaged her in battle. The English captain, Dacres, though a boastful fellow who had been sending challenges to the Americans, fought desperately, but "Old Ironsides" knocked his ship to pieces within thirty minutes after the first broadside. As if by a singular coincidence, the commander of the "Constitution" was Capt. Isaac Hull, nephew of the man who disgraced the Flag at Detroit. This victory of the sailors, for whose rights the war was started, created great enthusiasm. In Kentucky, Isaac Shelby, the old hero of King's Mountain, was governor. His proud spirit was stirred at the perfidious course of the English, and the humiliation of the Americans, at Detroit. Military camps were at once established, and soon Kentucky troops were marching to the northern frontier. In Tennessee, too, the volunteers, under the lead of Andrew Jackson, were marching to subdue the hostile Creeks, stirred to war by the advice and example of Tecumseh. Thence Jackson marched to the Gulf to expel the British. William Henry Harrison, governor of Indiana Territory, was now appointed commander of the Northwestern forces. He was in the prime of manhood, had learned war under Wayne, been on the frontier nearly twenty years, and but recently had won a victory at Tippecanoe, in which he showed the courage and fighting qualities of a general, and gained great favor with his soldiers, especially the Kentuckians who were with him. The new commander had a great task before him. It was to keep the Indians in subjection, recover Detroit and the Northwest, and invade Upper Canada.

His soldiers were raw recruits, scantily equipped. When he took command, even cannon were being made at Pittsburg to replace those lost by Hull. The enemy had command of Lake Erie, so that the only route to Detroit lay through some portion of the wilderness and by way of the Maumee Rapids, over which troops, munitions and supplies had to go. The whole country south of the Maumee to the Greenville Treaty line belonged to the Indians, and was unsettled.

There were already two routes open: First, Hull's trace; second, Wayne's old trail, by way of the Auglaize and Maumee. Gen. Harrison established a third, by way of Upper Sandusky, thence down the banks of the Sandusky river by way of Fort Ball (Tiffin) and Lower Sandusky (Fremont) to the lake, or, from Lower Sandusky across the swamp to the Maumee Rapids, as might suit.

Though Gen. Harrison made every possible exertion, he found it impossible to get his force equipped and ready for a campaign before winter set in. Gen. Edward W. Tupper, with a light Ohio brigade of nine-months' men, from Gallia, Lawrence and Jackson counties, had advanced to Fort McArthur, from which place a detachment of his men advanced, and drove off the British and Indians who were at the Maumee, gathering the corn in the deserted fields of the late settlers.

At the opening of the year 1813, Gen. Winchester occupied the left of the army, at Defiance; the Ohio brigade (Tupper's), the center, at Fort McArthur, and Gen. Harrison with the Virginia and Pennsylvania troops and some regulars, was with the right, at Upper Sandusky. The troops were from Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania and some from Virginia; also a regiment of regulars—the total amounting to less than five thousand men. The point of concentration, for a move on Detroit, was the Maumee Rapids. Gen. Winchester, whose command consisted of Kentuckians and some regulars, under Col. Welles, advanced along the north bank of the Maumee from Defiance, and reached the Rapids January 10, 1813. Here he made some temporary camp defenses for his supplies, and remained until the 17th, when he imprudently acceded to a petition from the people at Frenchtown on the river Raisin, asking for protection from the Indians and British. Cols. Lewis and Allen, with about six hundred men, were dispatched thither, and, after a sharp fight, drove the enemy out, and sent word back to the Maumee for reinforcements, as they were only eighteen miles from Malden, where Proctor lay with his whole force.



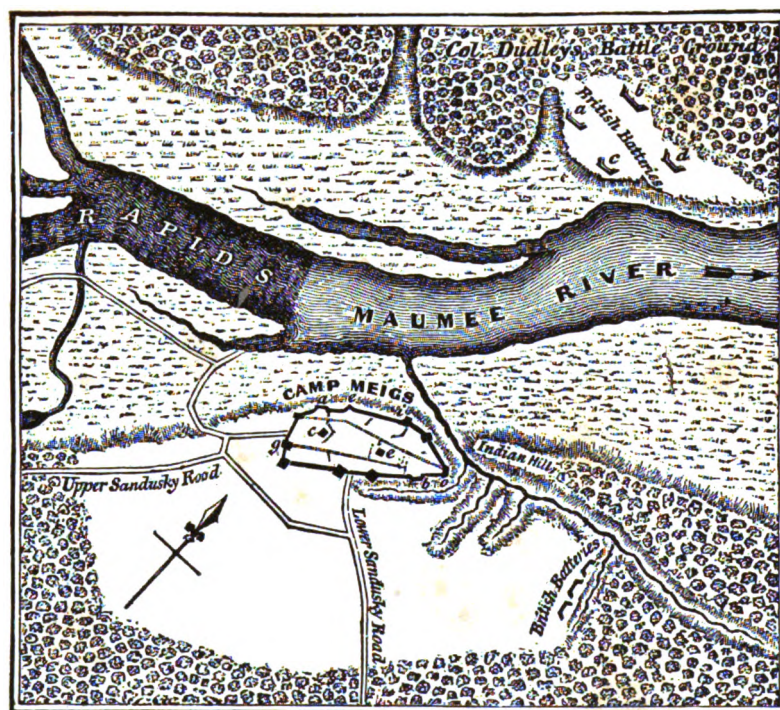
Winchester now committed a second grave error. Instead of immediately withdrawing his troops from their perilous position at the Raisin, he took all the forces he dare spare at the Rapids, 250 men, and marched to Frenchtown to join his victorious soldiers, where he made his third fatal blunder. He allowed his men to go into open camp, without regard to position, or any sort of defensive lines. During the night, Proctor approached with his main force, and planted his artillery within 300 paces of Winchester's camp. The dawn of light on the morning of the 22nd of January was ushered in by the loud peals of Proctor's cannon, and a shower of canister, grape and shell, accompanied by the savage war-whoop of the Indians. The raw volunteers, taken by surprise, soon became demoralized, and were cut down like grass. Col. Lewis' men, who had been posted behind a heavy picket fence, held their ground, and would have made the enemy purchase a costly victory, but for Gen. Winchester, who had fallen a prisoner, and now sent him word to surrender, under Proctor's promise of protection from the savages. The result was that many of the Americans, including the wounded, were mercilessly butchered by the Indians, and those of the wounded, who had been taken to houses, were burned. The American loss, including prisoners, was 934. Of these, 397 were killed or missing. Less than fifty men escaped from the field. The shocking deeds of murder and torture which followed on that night, and the succeeding day, were such as to cause a thrill of horror, at hearing even the partial details. [Among the sad incidents was that related of Capt. Hart, a brother of the wife of Henry Clay, who offered a Pottawatamie one hundred dollars to take him safely to Malden, but they met a Wyandot who claimed the prisoner. A quarrel followed, and was settled by an agreement to kill the prisoner and divide his clothes and money.] The massacre at the River Raisin did more to embitter Americans and create a deep-seated, unforgiving spirit toward the Indians, than any other occurrence, up to that time, in the history of the young nation. Yet the butchery was committed under the English flag, and under the eyes of the British commander, in whose employ the Indians were. The savages were less blamable in this case than the infamous Proctor.

Gen. Harrison, who was at Upper Sandusky, got word on the 16th that Winchester had arrived at the Rapids, and that he had in view an expedition of some kind against the enemy. This made the Commander uneasy, and he at

once set out for Lower Sandusky, where Gen. Perkins, who had come from Wooster, was in command with a regiment and a battalion, leaving word for Maj. Orr to follow with the artillery, which had just arrived from Pittsburg, by way of Wooster, as fast as possible. At Lower Sandusky the General sent forward a battalion under Maj. Cosgrove, and learning there, from a courier, what Winchester was doing, he ordered Gen. Perkins to put the rest of his troops in motion across the swamp. Harrison started out in a sled and reached the Rapids, on horseback, on the 20th, leaving his sled at the Portage river. Perkins and Cosgrove lost a day in trying to cross, and with their best efforts, floundering in ice and water, only reached the Rapids on the night of January 21. Impatiently the Commander waited at the Rapids for these men. Early next morning, the Commander hurried forward his forces, but it was too late. That very morning, as they were filing out of their camp, on the Maumee, their overmatched comrades were being slaughtered at Frenchtown, and they soon met the few flying fugitives from the battlefield, and learned that the day was lost—the little army destroyed. The troops turned back to the Rapids, and next morning destroyed their temporary fortifications, and Harrison retired behind the Portage, camping below the forks of the river, near where Pemberville is, in the northwest corner of Section 11, Freedom township.

The unfortunate loss of the left wing of his army so disabled Gen. Harrison that he was forced to wage defensive, instead of aggressive, warfare for a time. It was through no fault of his own. He had counted on the frosts of winter to give him a solid road across the Black Swamp. A January thaw, at the critical time, prevented a rapid march from Lower Sandusky to Winchester's rescue. Had the stone pike now connecting Fremont and Perrysburg been in existence, the soldiers could have made the march in one day instead of three. Winchester's mistake could have been rectified, and doubtless Proctor would have been routed. Fort Meigs would not have been built, and more than likely the Americans would have invaded and held Upper Canada. Bad roads have more than once played an important part in deciding the fate of armies and destinies of nations, and for very bad roads, the Black Swamp, in an early day, could have drawn the prize in most any contest. At his camp, on the Portage, Gen. Harrison was joined by Gen. Leftraech, of Virginia, with his brigade and most of the artillery train, which, on account of heavy rains, and the almost impassable roads, did not ar-





PLAN OF FORT MEIGS AND ENVIRONS.

EXPLANATIONS.—*a*, grand battery, commanded by Capt. Daniel Cushing; *b*, mortar battery; *e, i, o*, minor batteries; *g*, battery commanded at the second siege by Col. (afterward Gen.) Gaines; *c*, magazines. The black squares on the lines of the fort represent the position of the block-houses. The dotted lines show the traverses, or walls of earth, thrown up. The longest, the grand traverse, had a base of 20 feet, was 12 in height, and about 900 in length. The British batteries on the north side of the river were named as follows: *a*, queen's; *b*, sailor's; *d*, king's; *c*, mortar. The fort stood upon high ground, on the margin of a bank, elevated about 60 feet above the Maumee. The works originally covered about ten acres, but was reduced in area between the two sieges, to accommodate a smaller number of troops.—*Howe's History of Ohio.*

rive until the 30th of January. On the 1st of February he again advanced to the Maumee, and built Fort Meigs, and from this position decided to make aggressive, or defensive, warfare as best suited his purpose. Now, while the soldiers are working on the fortifications, let us take a brief survey of the old military route, known to the early settlers, who made use of portions of it later on for a road, as Harrison's trail. Take a pencil and sectional map of Wood county; put the pencil point at the county line on the east side of Section 13, Freedom township, a few rods south of the center; mark due west most across the section, then turn and go northwest through the corner of Section 11, near the center of the south line, thence directly to Harrison's old camp ground, below the forks of the river, about half a mile. Here the troops, in trying to march to Winchester's aid, in January, 1813, spent a day in fruitless attempts to cross the river, and finally turned up the river to the northwest corner of Section 23, where they crossed and went to the north branch, in Section 10, about midway between the railroad bridge and section line, not far from the cemetery. From here push the pencil, in a northwesterly course, to a point about forty rods north of the southwest corner of Section 27, Perrysburg township. Northwest of this point, about eighty rods, the McCutchenville road is crossed; then bear to the west and cross the northeast corner of Section 29, the southwest corner of 20; the northwest corner of 19, and pass out of the northwest corner of 18, into River Tract No. 65, on which the fort was built. The trail deviated from a direct line in places, but preserved the general course, nearly on the line we have indicated. As was said of Hull's Trace, it would be hard to select a better route under the conditions that then existed.

The site chosen for the fort, on the south bank of the Maumee, has a commanding view of the surrounding country and of the river above and below, and is a point of great natural strength for defensive warfare. It was named Fort Meigs, in honor of Return J. Meigs, whose zeal and patriotic efforts were in the highest degree commendable. The military situation there at the time will be best given by an extract from a letter written by Gen. Harrison himself, from the Rapids, to John Armstrong, Secretary of War, dated February 11, 1813:

SIR:—Having been joined by Gen. Lefraech, with his brigade, and a regiment of the Pennsylvania quota, at Portage river, on the 30th ultimo, I marched from thence on the 1st instant, and reached this place on the morning of the 2d, with an effective force of about sixteen hundred men. I have been since joined by a Kentucky regiment, and Gen.

Tupper's Ohio brigade, which has increased our numbers to two thousand non-commissioned officers and privates. I accordingly ordered the whole of the troops of the left wing, excepting one company for each of the six forts in that quarter—the balance of the Pennsylvania brigade, and the Ohio brigade, under Gen. Tupper, and a detachment of regular troops and twelve-months' volunteers, under the command of Lieut.-Col. Campbell, to march to this place as soon as possible, believing I should be able to advance from hence by this day or to-morrow; and if it were not in my power to take heavy artillery for the siege of Malden, I should be enabled to scour the whole country—disperse the Indians—destroy all the shipping of the enemy and the greater part of their provisions, and leave a portion at, or near, Brownstown until a further supply of cannon and stores could be brought up. Such was my plan when I marched from Portage river on the 1st instant, and my situation was such as to authorize the strongest hopes of success. Although the aggregate amount of all the effective men, in all the corps above mentioned, was only a number that will greatly surprise you to be furnished with so many nominal brigades, and the period of service of the Kentucky and Ohio troops was rapidly terminating—some of them expiring about the middle of the month, and all before the last of it—I had established with them the principle that I had a right to march them to any point before the day which would complete their fourteen-months' tour; and I know them too well to believe that they would abandon me in the country of the enemy. Provisions and ammunition were also on the road from the Sanduskys and McArthur's block-house, in considerable quantities, and measures taken to supply the means of transportation for the advance from this place. These fair prospects have been entirely destroyed by circumstances which no human being could control. The present is precisely the season, in common years, when the most intense frosts prevail in this country, giving the most perfect security and facility in passing the lakes, rivers and swamps with which it abounds. For the last twelve or fifteen days, however, it has been so warm that the roads have become entirely broken up, and for a considerable distance in our rear absolutely impassable for wagons or sleds, and can with great difficulty be traversed with single horses. A number of wagons and sleds, loaded with ammunition and other munitions of war, have been eighteen days coming from Upper Sandusky, and are yet twenty-five miles off. Eight days they were stopped by an uncommon freshet in the Tymoeta, and have been two more in getting twenty-five miles. The weather has even affected the ice of the lake. On the evening before last, I went with a detachment in pursuit of a body of Indians, who were driving off the cattle from a small French settlement about fourteen miles from this place. We pursued them for about twenty-six miles upon the ice, which was so weak in many places that a 6-pounder, which was taken with us, broke through, and was nearly lost, as did several of the officers who were mounted. I have waited with an anxiety which I cannot describe for a change in the weather; and until this day I never abandoned the hope of being able to execute the plan which I had formed. I can no longer indulge such hopes. Indeed, I fear I shall be censured for having cherished them too long, and that I have sacrificed the public interests in a vain pursuit. I have no hesitation, however, in asserting that I have it in my power to satisfy the government that their wishes would have been accomplished but for the unfortunate event of the River Raisin, and others over which I could have no control; and that, until a few days since, my calculations of succeeding were supported by the opinion of every general and field officer in the army.

It remains for me to inform you of the disposition I shall make of the troops for the remaining part of the winter. A battalion of the militia, lately called out from this State, with the company of regular troops now at Fort Winchester, will garrison the posts upon the waters of the Auglaize and St. Mary's. The small block-houses upon Hull's trace, will have a subaltern's command in each. A company will be placed at Upper Sandusky, and another at Lower Sandusky. All the rest of the troops will be brought to this place, amounting to from fifteen to eighteen hundred men. I am

erecting here a pretty strong fort—capable of resisting field artillery at least. The troops will be placed in a fortified camp, covered on one flank by the fort. This position is the best that can be taken to cover the frontiers, and the small posts in the rear of it, and those above it on the Miami and its waters. The force placed here ought, however, to be strong enough to encounter any that the enemy may detach against the forts above. Twenty-five hundred would not be too many. But, anxious to reduce the expenses during the winter within as narrow bounds as possible, I have desired the governor of Kentucky not to call out, but to hold in readiness to march, the fifteen hundred men lately required of him. All the teams which have been hired for the public service will be immediately discharged, and those belonging to the public, which are principally oxen, disposed of in the settlements, where forage is cheaper, and every other arrangement made which can lessen the expenses during the winter. Attention will still, however, be paid to the deposit of supplies for the ensuing campaign. Little remains to complete these. Immense supplies of provisions have been accumulating upon the Auglaize river, and boats and pirogues prepared to bring them down as soon as the river opens. I shall have the honor to give you a more particular account of these in a few days.

It was Gen. Harrison's design to make this advance post not only a central depot of army supplies, but to concentrate force enough here to hold the enemy at bay until a fleet might be constructed on the lakes to operate with the land forces for the recapture of Detroit and the invasion of Canada. They had scarcely got to work on the fort when the spies brought word of a large encampment of Indians down the bay about twenty miles. Harrison at once took 600 men, and made a night march down the river on the ice. Lieut. Joseph H. Larwill, who had charge of the only cannon with the command, had the misfortune to break through the ice with both horses and gun, which, in the darkness and cold weather, were saved with much difficulty. The troops arrived at their destination only to find deserted camp fires, the Indians having left for Malden the day before. The command returned to the fort, which they reached about sunset, making a march of over forty miles on the ice in less than twenty-four hours.

On the 26th of February, Capt. Langham, of the regulars, led a force of 250 men, who volunteered for the occasion, on a desperate expedition, the purpose of which was to be disclosed when they got a sufficient distance from the fort. It was nothing less than to march to the lake, by way of Lower Sandusky and Sandusky river, from the mouth of which they were to cross on the ice to Malden, where under cover of darkness they were, with combustibles, to destroy the British fleet and public stores at the river bank. This done, they were to make a rapid retreat on twenty-four sleds sent along for the purpose, to the point of Maumee Bay, where Harrison was to meet them with a strong force, and cover their retreat. It was a hazardous enterprise, for be-

sides the British garrison, there was a large body of the Indians camped at Malden.

Capt. Langham's force, after leaving the lake shore, marched to Middle Bass island on the ice in a storm of wind and snow. Here the weather began to moderate, and the ice north of them seemed to be broken up. The weather was softening all the time, and the guides believed it unsafe to venture across, lest the ice should break up and imprison them on the Canada shore, or on one of the islands. So, after a council of officers and guides, the expedition was abandoned, and the corps returned by way of the Bay point, where they met Gen. Harrison with a body of troops, and all returned to Fort Meigs.

One of those singular illusions which arise from natural causes, but which, unexplained, sometimes create consternation among soldiers and sailors, as well as other people, is related as an incident of that expedition. When the soldiers struck the lake at Sandusky, some of them soon came into camp, in great alarm, at what appeared to be a considerable body of men in the distance, advancing on the ice. More careful investigation proved it to be the sun's rays reflecting on the ridges of ice thrown up in places.

These bold, enterprising dashes of the Americans, while accomplishing no direct results, were a useful school to the raw volunteers, and put a restraint upon the marauding expeditions of the enemy. The work of constructing the fort went on steadily meantime. Early in March Gen. Harrison left for the interior of the State to arouse the authorities to the needs of his army, and to hurry forward reinforcements. He especially appealed to the governors of Ohio and Kentucky. Both States responded, Kentucky more than generously. Under the lead of the old veteran Shelby, she voted three thousand men, though only fifteen hundred were asked for by Harrison. This latter quota, organized into four light regiments under Cols. Dudley, Caldwell, Cox and Boswell, which formed a brigade under Gen. Green Clay, was on the march, early in April, fully equipped for war. Harrison already had information that Proctor was planning an expedition against the fort at Maumee Rapids, and, gathering up what few troops could be spared at the outposts and on detached duty, hurried to Defiance where, with about four hundred men, he embarked in boats and descended the Maumee to Fort Meigs, April 12th. All energies were now bent to putting the fortifications in a good state of defence.

On the morning of April 28, sure enough, one of Harrison's spies, Peter Navarre, brought word that Proctor, with an army of two thousand men,

was sailing up Maumee Bay, convoyed by two gun-boats. Soon this mongrel crowd of British and savages landed at old Fort Miami, about a mile below and across the river from Fort Meigs, went into camp and began to plant batteries. Their heavier guns consisted of 24-pounders. In the night a battery of twelve guns also was planted across the river nearly opposite Fort Meigs. Rain fell incessantly, but for all this Proctor pushed on his preparations for the siege. Meantime, Harrison had not been idle; his men were busy throwing up a traverse, or earthen wall, twelve feet high, across the fort, for their better protection. This performance had been screened from the British by the tents of the Americans. Couriers had previously been dispatched to the posts in the rear to apprise them of what was going on. Harrison knew, however, that his little force was insufficient, and that his antagonist was daily augmenting his numbers by recruits arriving, especially of savages. He knew that Gen. Clay, with his Kentuckians, was on the march, and he was anxious to get word to him of the peril the fort was in. To dispatch a courier to him now was difficult, for the woods about the fort was swarming with Indians. At this critical time, however, a gallant young Virginian, connected with the commissary department, Capt. William Oliver, volunteered to carry a message to Gen. Clay. Oliver, who was of slender form and but little over twenty-one years of age, was one of the most courageous men in the army, and few have equalled him in successfully carrying out dare-devil enterprises in war. He had, the year before, saved the little garrison at Fort Wayne by breaking through a cordon of 600 savages, who, under the old chief, Winnemac, were besieging the post, and delivering a dispatch to the commandant. Speaking of this incident at Fort Meigs, Gen. John E. Hunt says:

Oliver asked the commander to let two men go with him, and the three left the Fort about two o'clock at night. While they were crossing a ravine near the fort, the Indians heard them and gave the alarm. Soon swarms of red skins were on the move. Oliver's party reined up their horses; their safety now depended on keeping perfectly still. The dumb animals, as if realizing the danger, stood as mute as stones until the savages had passed, when the horsemen dashed on, but soon after found out they were pursued by half a score of mounted warriors. The pursuit was kept up until Oliver was within one mile of the stockade at Portage, eighteen miles from the fort, where the weary riders rested, after which they resumed their journey, and reached Gen. Clay at Defiance. Just before Oliver arrived at Defiance, a gallant young Kentuckian, Capt. Leslie Combs, had volunteered to carry a dispatch to Harrison telling him that help was coming.

Combs, in his make-up for dangerous enter-

prises, was a good counterpart of Capt. Oliver, and his adventure down the Maumee is best told in his own story delivered before the Wood County Pioneers at Bowling Green, July 4, 1877:

It was decided that some one should be sent at once to Gen. Harrison that we were on the road to relieve him. I was captain of the spies, and I thought it my duty to go. I asked for a good canoe, and took four of my men, two brothers named Walker, Paxton and Johnson and a young Shawnee, named Blackfish. After getting down the river about fifty miles all right, our progress over the rapids was more difficult. It was like catching a man by the heels and pulling him down stairs. Blackfish was in the stern with a steering oar, while I was at the bow, looking out our course and watching for surprises, and the other four men took turns at the oars. When we got to Rush-de-boo Joe Paxton said, "Captain, let us land and take it afoot. I would rather be scalped by Indians than be drowned in this d—d river;" we went on, however, in the boat, but it was morning before we reached the last bend in the river and, as we turned the point and saw the old flag at the fort, we gave a great cheer. At first we saw only a solitary Indian, and our Shawnee thought it was one of his own tribe or, possibly, at least, a friendly Indian, but a moment later the woods swarmed with them, when he suddenly exclaimed, "Pottawatamie, hy ——" They opened fire on us at once, and we fired back. Johnson was soon shot through the body and mortally wounded, and Paxton was wounded. At last when we saw all hope of our getting to the fort cut off, we landed on the British side and took to our heels, those who could, each for himself. When I got back to Gen. Clay, I was pretty badly used up; I started May 1, and got back May 3. Capt. Oliver was there, and ready to start out on the same errand from which I had just returned.

At Fort Meigs there was anxiety and suspense; many a searching glance swept up the river to catch some signal, or sound, of the expected aid. Not only were men needed, but the fort was short of ammunition, of which Gen. Clay was bringing a supply. On the first of May the English batteries opened, in a dismal rainstorm. The cannonade was severe and almost continuous for five days, but not nearly so destructive and deadly as the English had hoped; though, at the start, it was trying to the nerves of the raw volunteers. On the second night, under cover of darkness, the British artillerymen crossed to the south side of the river, with cannon and mortars, and planted two batteries on a knoll in the thicket less than three hundred steps east of the fort. Harrison's engineers had anticipated this danger by throwing up short cross traverses, which prevented the iron hail from doing the deadly work its projectors had planned. This move by Proctor indicated that he knew the weak condition of the fort, or else it showed poor generalship on his part, in exposing a detachment so that the main force could not protect them in case of assault from the garrison.

On the fourth day, Gen. Proctor sent Maj. Chambers with a pompous demand for the immediate surrender of the fort. "Tell your general," said Harrison, "that when he gets this fort, it



will be under circumstances that will do him more honor than a thousand surrenders."

Gen. Harrison had learned that day, from two deserters, that Proctor was discussing the feasibility of a night assault on the fort, and that very night, about midnight, the sentries fired on some approaching men, and the camp was aroused. It was a happy surprise, and nobody hurt. The disturber was the gallant Oliver, accompanied by Maj. Trimble and fifteen men, in a boat, with the glad tidings that Gen. Clay, with his 1,200 Kentuckians, was a few miles above, and desired orders. This was inspiring news to the anxious, mud-bespattered garrison, and none realized the importance of the arrival more than Gen. Harrison. Clay had heard the roar of the cannon at Defiance, and had been hurrying forward as fast as possible, with eighteen large scows, carrying supplies and ammunition. Harrison lost no time, but sent Capt. Hamilton and a guide, in a canoe, to meet Gen. Clay, with orders that he should land 800 men at a designated point on the north bank of the river, march down, capture the batteries opposite the fort, spike the guns and throw them down the river bank; after which they were directed to immediately return to their boats and cross to Fort Meigs. The remainder of the force was to land on the south bank and fight their way into the fort with such help as the garrison could give them. For this purpose Gen. Harrison planned two sorties: one on the upper side of the fort to cover the entrance of Clay's forces; the other on the British battery on the east, near the present Hayes dwelling. These operations were intended to be simultaneous, or so nearly so as to prevent the British from concentrating their fire on any one point. It was a well-conceived plan for the destruction of the two batteries nearest the fort, and the safe landing of the boats with the supplies and ammunition; but it is difficult with inexperienced troops to carry out, under fire, all the details necessary to complete success, and this case was not an exception.

We may, however, picture in our minds one of the most exciting and thrilling scenes of war, in the arena at the Maumee Rapids, that May morning in 1813. The present beautiful panorama—with its time-worn scars, the smooth, grassy slopes, the ruins of the old garrison well, the sunken graves, the well-rounded ridges marking the old line of intrenchments, and the quiet, pretty cities on the opposite sides of the river—is a very striking contrast to the fearful scene of battle on that spring morning.

It was a death struggle disclosing some of the

ugliest features of the war, and the river and both shores were the scene of combat. The lines of blue and scarlet, scarcely discernible in the canopy of smoke and the rattle of musketry, told where the battle raged, and the startling shouts of the savages were heard, blended with the almost continuous and deafening roar of cannon. The Kentuckians were exasperated and desperate because of the butchery of their brethren the previous year, at the River Raisin. The Indians were crazed and blood-thirsty with the promise of Proctor, that the garrison should be turned over to them, including Harrison, who was especially hated by Tecumseh, for a carnival of blood and feast of vengeance.

Col. Dudley, who had command of the detachment on the north bank of the river, charged and captured the batteries as directed, spiked eleven of the guns, and dispersed the enemy. Here a fatal error was committed. Capt. Combs with his scouts pursued the fleeing Indians into the woods, and was soon drawn into a serious fight in which the savages, behind logs and trees, had all the advantage. Col. Dudley naturally felt it his duty to hurry to the relief of his scouts. It was in vain that Gen. Harrison signaled him from the fort, to return. When the victorious Kentuckians followed in hot pursuit, Harrison exclaimed in anguish, "They are lost! They are lost!" Proctor, seeing his opportunity, rallied his forces and placed himself between the Americans and the river, and when Dudley's men turned from a fruitless pursuit of the Indians, the plain, where Maumee now stands, became the scene of a bloody contest, in which the Kentuckians were soon overwhelmed, and all killed or captured. The prisoners were forced to run the gauntlet, and many were butchered after the battle was over. Harrison, at Fort Meigs, was powerless to aid Dudley. He had two separate battles raging on the south side, and the safety of the boats and supplies depended on his success there. Even his artillery was useless to protect Dudley's men, so intermingled were the combatants. This unfortunate affair is known in the war records as the "Capture of Clay's detachment." The gallant Dudley was killed and scalped, and five of his captains and one lieutenant met a similar fate.

On the south side the Americans met with better success. Gen. Clay kept down the south shore, but not finding an officer there, as arranged, to show him where to land, he attempted to cross over and join Dudley, but was prevented by the swift current, and finally made a landing on the south bank, and got into the fort, under a

pretty hot fire, with only fifty men. Col. Boswell, with the remainder of the force, drifted down and attempted to join Dudley; but before he became involved in the fight he was ordered to return to the south side and go into the fort, which he did after a hard contest, in which he was aided by the garrison. The Kentuckians were zealous, and brave to fatal rashness, in their anxiety to visit punishment on the Indians and British. But the severe lesson in discipline here taught was not lost on them in later service.

In the meantime the garrison troops were busy in another direction. Col. John Miller, of the 19th Regulars, with about 400 men, of which two companies were volunteers, led an assault, under a galling fire from the Indians secreted in the woods, on the battery east of the fort, and captured it. This battery was protected by two companies of British grenadiers and infantry, and as many Canadian militia, and a swarm of Indians. As a part of the British were in retreat toward the river, Maj. Todd, with a company of men, sallied out of the fort and captured about fifty prisoners.

There yet remained a very important part of the programme to be completed; that of getting the boat supplies into the fort. This was accomplished, according to a British account of the siege, afterward published, by a bit of strategy, or shrewd diplomacy, on the part of Gen. Harrison. From the English account, it seems that while hostilities had ceased temporarily, under a flag of truce, sent out by Gen. Harrison, to effect an exchange of some prisoners, the Americans were busy in the peaceful occupation of unloading the boats.

This day of exciting war, stirring episodes, deeds of heroism, bloodshed and savage cruelty, practically closed the siege. There was desultory cannonading until the 9th, when Proctor having been deserted by many of his savage allies, who had tired of the siege, embarked that day on his boats and went down the bay. Before they left they gave Fort Meigs a parting volley, which killed and wounded about thirty Americans. "However," says one of the garrison, "we were glad to see them off on any terms. The next morning we could leave the ditches, and walk about with something more of an air of freedom than we had done for the last fourteen days; and here I wish I could present to the reader a picture of the condition we found ourselves in when the withdrawal of the enemy gave us time to look at each other's outward appearance. The scarcity of water had put the washing of hands and faces, much less our clothing, out of the

question. Many had scarcely any clothing left, and that which they wore was so begrimed and torn by our residence in the ditches, and other means, that we presented the appearance of scarecrows."

Many incidents, during the siege, of personal bravery, tragic sadness, and some of grotesque mishaps, that, under less serious circumstances, would have been laughable, took place. Such is, a part of the history of all sieges and of all wars. Lieut. Walker, while out hunting waterfowl some time before the siege began, was killed and scalped, and his is the only grave there now marked by a headstone. The grave of Lieut. McCullough, who was killed during the siege, while talking to Gen. Harrison, was for a time enclosed by a wooden picket, long since fallen into decay.

Being short of cannon balls, Harrison offered a gill of whisky for every ball delivered to the magazine keeper. Over eight thousand were thus gathered in. These, of course, represented only a small *per cent.* of the number fired into the fort, and exclusive of the shells, which usually exploded, but were buried so deep in the mud that they did little harm. For safety against these, the men had holes dug under ground behind the traverse and covered with plank. When the warning signal of the coming of these dangerous visitors was given, each fellow scud into his hole like a prairie dog. When, finally they were driven out of these by rains, and had to stay in their tents, a man was usually kept on guard, and when he would give the alarm, each soldier would rush out and watch the fiery-tailed messenger of death (they were fuse shell), and if it came dangerously near, leave or throw themselves flat on the earth. In this trying experience, the men sometimes got so weary that they fell asleep and could not be aroused by the death-warning signal. Another serious danger menaced them constantly. The savages climbed up and hid themselves in trees, and elevating their range sent leaden messengers into the fort, occasionally disabling or killing a man.

There formerly stood a fine elm tree \* not far from the river bank, in the upper part of Maumee, from the top of which, as told by the soldiers, many a bullet came across the river to the fort. Finally, as the story goes, a particularly audacious Indian "buck" got up into the tree, and after firing into the fort, made the most tantalizing banter, by vulgar gestures and otherwise, for the

\* B. Trombla, writing in 1895, states that the elm was cut down by Charles Croft, prior to erecting a building there, which was used for brewery purposes. The block in the present great elm was placed there by Wm. Russell, of Perryburg, in which to place a flagstaff on fete days,



Americans to shoot him if they could. About this time a marksman in the fort, resting his gun across the parapet, fired, and the Indian fell out of the elm, head first, after which there was no more firing from that tree. The gun with which this feat was said to have been performed, was afterward owned by Peter Manor, and in later years by Jared Cotherell, of the "Mad Anthony Restaurant," Fort Wayne, and is now reported to be in possession of the Indiana State Historical Society, at Indianapolis. The writer once had an opportunity of inspecting the piece. It is an unusual gun of its kind, of the flint-lock pattern, of extraordinary length, weight and caliber, and after seeing it, one cannot doubt that, well charged, it would kill an Indian at a mile range, and, possibly too, the man who had the nerve to fire it. It is a monster of a gun, and was said to have belonged to Harrison's headquarters during the siege, and tradition says that the Commander presented it to Manor, who was one of his trusted scouts.

The visitor now at the old ruins of the fort, will notice the place where there was once a well. That well, sixty feet deep, was dug in great haste and walled with stone. It was about the only resource the garrison had for water, and so sudden was the coming of the besiegers that the well was

uncompleted when they came, and the distance to the river, covered by the enemy's guns, made the water supply from that source very uncertain.

The fort, as originally laid out and constructed, was oblong shaped and embraced nearly eleven acres of land, but was found too large to be properly manned with a small force, and, soon after the besiegers left, was cut down to about half its original dimensions. The walls consisted of palisades, fourteen feet, sunk four feet into the ground, with embankments of earth on each side; a deep outside ditch and a broad, shallow one inside, with bastions, at regular intervals, mounted with cannon. It is thus seen that with a full complement of men and supplies, and ably commanded, Fort Meigs was, for those days, a formidable earth fortification, and could only have been successfully assailed with a large force and at great sacrifice of life.

The estimated force under Proctor was 3,200 men, of which about half were Indians. The Americans had, including that part of Gen. Clay's force which reached the fort, about 1,200 men. The loss of the Americans in the siege, aside from Dudley's losses, were 80 killed and 180 wounded. Of Proctor's losses there have never appeared any official data from which to make an estimate.

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## CHAPTER X.

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WAR OF 1812 CONTINUED—SECOND SIEGE OF FORT MEIGS—CAPT. OLIVER'S PERILOUS MISSION—  
GEN. CLAY IN COMMAND—THRILLING INCIDENTS—TECUMSEH AND PROCTOR—BATTLE OF THE  
THAMES—MEMOIR OF TECUMSEH.

AS soon as Gen. Harrison was sure the enemy had given up his attempt to possess the Maumee Country, and had left, he repaired the damages to his works, left Gen. Clay in command, and started for the interior of the State to organize a more effective force, not only to protect American soil, but to invade Canada, as soon as the naval equipment on Lake Erie could get ready to co-operate with the land forces. In this effort he was quite successful, and by midsummer his prospects for a well-organized, well-equipped army, of respectable size, for the work contemplated, were good. Col. R. M. Johnson had arrived, in May, at Ft. Meigs, with 700 mounted Kentuckians, and did good service in scouting and outpost duty, and restraining the savages

from raids on the interior settlements. Meanwhile the British about Detroit were not idle. While Harrison was getting ready to invade Canada, they were getting ready to come back to the Maumee. Proctor had sent agents among the tribes as far as the Mississippi river and Green Bay, and by great promises had lured them into his services. A thousand or more warriors arrived from the West early in June, and by the middle of July about 2,500 savages were assembled at Detroit to take the warpath against the Americans. With this formidable auxiliary force, Proctor joined his 1,500 British and Canadians, and true to his former threat to make Fort Meigs another visit, he sailed into Maumee bay July 20, and landed his forces for a second attempt to take the fort. [Harrison, in his report to the

Secretary of War, says: "Gen. Proctor left Malden with the determination of storming Fort Meigs. His immense body of troops was divided into three commands (and must have amounted to at least 5,000); Dixon commanded the Mackinaw and other Northern tribes; Tecumseh, those of the Wabash, Illinois and St. Joseph; and Round Head, a Wyandot chief, the warriors of his own nation, and those of the Ottawas, Chippewas and Pottawatomies of the Michigan Territory. Upon seeing the formidable preparations to receive them at Fort Meigs, the idea of storming was abandoned, and the plan adopted of decoying the garrison out, or inducing men to come to its relief with a force inadequate to repel the attack of his immense hordes of savages. Having waited several days for the latter, and practicing, ineffectually, several stratagems to accomplish the former, provisions began to be scarce, and the Indians to be dissatisfied. The attack upon Sandusky was the *dernier resort*. The greater part of the Indians refused to accompany him, and returned to the River Raisin. Tecumseh, with his command, remained in the neighborhood of Fort Meigs, sending parties to all the posts upon Hull's road, and those upon the Auglaize, to search for cattle. Five hundred of the Northern Indians, under Dixon, attended Proctor." There was at that time only a few hundred men in the garrison; but the fort had been reduced in size, and Proctor knew that it would be defended as long as there was a man in it alive. [It afterward became known that if, by any means, the fort had been captured, the survivors of the garrison were to fire the magazine, and let friend and foe perish together, and thus cheat the savages out of the fiendish pastime of a massacre.] He knew that Gen. Harrison was somewhere outside the fort, with probably a pretty fair sized command, and was liable at any time to make his sudden appearance. Gen. Clay, who had been warned, by his spies, that he would receive a hostile visit from Proctor, had sent word to Harrison at Upper Sandusky. On the night of the arrival of the British force, he sent another courier. By this time, and for some days previous, swarms of Indians had appeared in the vicinity, and on the morning of the 21st ten men were surprised by them, and only three escaped.

In this state of affairs, it was no sure thing that a courier could get safely from the fort to Gen. Harrison. Again the reckless rider and fearless soldier, Capt. William Oliver, was called upon, and, with his patriotic sense of duty, did not hesitate to undertake the perilous mission.

He was accompanied by Capt. McCune, of the Ohio volunteers, and a Virginia corporal. As the three emerged from the fort about nine o'clock at night, the British band on the opposite side of the Maumee struck up the tattoo, which in some degree helped to cover the noise of their movements until they got about a quarter of a mile from the fort, when they rode almost into an Indian camp. For a little time their suspense was very great, but the startled Indians luckily passed round them in their search in the darkness, when Oliver's party dashed off in an opposite direction into the forest, pursued by the savages. McCune got separated from the others, and not being used to the woods was a day late in reaching Harrison. At nine o'clock the following night, Oliver reached Upper Sandusky, but found that the General had gone to Lower Sandusky, to which place he at once followed him, making a continuous ride of over one hundred miles through forests and swamps, much of his time without a trail, and two entire nights and a day and a half without sleep. Gen. Harrison, having need of Oliver's services in another direction, sent Capt. McCune back to Gen. Clay, with word that no effort would be spared to relieve the fort, but that, meantime, he must be on his guard against surprises by the enemy. It appears to have been the determination of Gen. Harrison, in case the enemy had laid siege to the fort, to have taken a picked body of men, and, by an unfrequented route, reach the fort in the night, and cut his way in. Gen. Clay was mystified by the enemy's action; they had not begun a siege as if intending to prosecute it to the end. In this dilemma, he again dispatched the faithful McCune to Harrison with word that a force of about 800 Indians had been seen, from the fort, passing up the north bank of the Maumee, for the purpose, as was supposed by Clay, of attacking Fort Winchester, at Defiance. This move puzzled Harrison, but still he thought it was a ruse to cover some other design; the fact of their marching by, in plain sight of the fort, was, to a soldier, suggestive that the move was a blind of some sort. The Commander's judgment was, that Proctor contemplated an attack on Lower Sandusky, Upper Sandusky, or Cleveland, and he kept a force on the lookout for that contingency. On the afternoon of July 25th, McCune was sent back to Fort Meigs, with the views of the Commander on the situation, and saying, that in case Proctor laid siege to the fort, he would come to its help. Again Gen. Clay was enjoined to beware of surprises. This came well nigh being McCune's last ride. He

lost his way in the night, and did not reach the fort until about daylight. When entering the open ground he was discovered by the savages, and only after a most exciting race, and very narrow escape, did he get inside the gates.

Henry Howe's Ohio history gives this spirited account of McCune's adventure: "He arrived near the fort about daybreak on the following morning, having lost his way in the night, accompanied by James Doolan, a French Canadian. They were just upon the point of leaving the forest and entering upon the cleared ground around the fort, when they were intercepted by a party of Indians. They immediately took to the high bank with their horses, and retreated at full gallop up the river for several miles, pursued by the Indians, also mounted, until they came to a deep ravine, putting up from the river in a southerly direction, when they turned upon the river bottom and continued a short distance, until they found their further progress in that direction stopped by an impassable swamp. The Indians foreseeing their dilemma, from their knowledge of the country, and expecting they would naturally follow up the ravine, galloped thither to head them off. McCune guessed their intention, and he and his companion turned back upon their own track for the fort, gaining, by this manoeuvre, several hundred yards upon their pursuers. The Indians gave a yell of chagrin, and followed at their utmost speed. Just as they neared the fort, McCune dashed into a thicket across his course, on the opposite side of which other Indians had huddled, awaiting their prey. When this body of Indians had thought them almost in their possession, again was the presence of mind of McCune signally displayed. He wheeled his horse, followed by Doolan, made his way out of the thicket by the passage he had entered, and galloped around into the open space between them and the river, where the pursuers were checked by the fire from the block-house at the western angle of the fort. In a few minutes after their arrival, their horses dropped from fatigue. The Indians probably had orders to take them alive, as they had not fired until just as they entered the fort; but, in the chase, McCune had great difficulty in persuading Doolan to reserve his fire until the last extremity, and they therefore brought in their pieces loaded."

That episode, one of the most thrilling of the many exciting incidents of that war, would form a lively theme for the pencil of an artist. The artists of Tam O'Shanter's ride drew wholly on their imaginations, while in this case the scene is laid on real facts.

There was more at stake than McCune's life hanging on that terrible race to keep from the clutches of the howling savages. The fate of the garrison was in the balance. The message he carried, no doubt, saved the fort, as will be seen from what followed that afternoon.

About an hour before dark a rapid, heavy musketry fire was heard on the Lower Sandusky road; there were loud Indian yells, and a terrific battle seemed in progress. The savages could be seen attacking a body of troops with great fury; the troops gave way, but rallied again and drove the savages. The belief at once prevailed in the fort that Harrison had sent reinforcements, and that they were in a severe battle with the enemy. With one accord the men demanded to be led to the assistance of their comrades. Gen. Clay was greatly perplexed. He could not account for the fighting, yet he felt sure that it was not Harrison's men, for the message of that morning disproved that theory; "that he would not come with, or send any more troops to Fort Meigs until there seemed further necessity for it," were the words of McCune; still the men were clamorous and almost mutinous in their conduct, because their General refused to send out help. Even the higher officers shared quite generally in the same feeling. That was a critical moment; it required a self-poised, cool, decided mind at the helm to prevent a fatal mistake. Gen. Clay proved equal to the emergency, though a heavy rain storm, just at that time, caused the din of battle to subside, and helped to quiet the frenzied clamor within the fort. The garrison had escaped. A deadly trap had been laid for them; an ingenious, bloody snare, the offspring of a greater brain than Proctor's, had been set for the impulsive, over-brave Kentuckians in the fort. It well nigh succeeded.

Tecumseh and Proctor naturally calculated that, with the large demonstration of forces they were making, Clay would send for help, which, as a matter of fact, he did. They supposed, too, that he was expecting it (here they miscalculated), and by way of the Sandusky road. Now it was easy for Tecumseh to put his scouts on that road, to make sure that troops did not come upon them unawares; then a strong British force, with a swarm of savages, was secreted in the wooded ravine near, and just below the fort, and a cavalry force in the woods just above. To complete the programme, a force of Indians and Canadians were placed on the Sandusky trail. A little before night, these, under the direction of careful leaders, got up a sham battle, planned so as to appear

like a body of Americans trying to cut their way through to the fort. They expected the garrison, or the major portion of it, to sally out to the aid of their comrades. Few, if any, would have ever returned; or even if they did, when the gates were opened to receive them, the British cavalry would have ridden in along with them. Happily the scheme failed. But it was a deep-laid plot, worthy the brain of Pontiac himself. This practically ended the second siege of Fort Meigs. The enemy went aboard their boats the next day, July 28, and dropped down the bay. That was the last time the feet of armed foreign foes desecrated Maumee soil.

A few days after, Proctor's forces, as Gen. Harrison foretold, drew up in line of battle and made an assault on Fort Stephenson, but were successfully repulsed by the garrison, then under the gallant Maj. Croghan. The same night they got on their boats and left for Malden. In a naval battle, on Lake Erie, September 10, Commodore Perry annihilated the British naval power on the lake, and a little later shipped Harrison's army over to Canada, where soon after, at the battle of the Thames, the British were utterly routed. The Indian chief Tecumseh was killed, and Proctor only made his escape by leaving his carriage, taking one of the horses from the team and fleeing on a side trail. He did not care to fall into the hands of the Kentuckians, who were hot on his track. These victories virtually ended the war in the Northwest. Proctor was in disgrace, and, with Tecumseh dead, the Indians no longer had a leader to rally around. At that time there were not so many great war chiefs as at an earlier day, and the tribes were broken into smaller bands than formerly, and their numbers greatly diminished, consequently the chiefs had a smaller following and less prestige and authority than their predecessors.

Of Tecumseh's character and ability, it is difficult to form a correct estimate, at least, from a white man's standpoint. He was a central figure, in the Northwest, in the war of 1812. He was associated in that war with a perfidious, cowardly Englishman, without courage to fight, or the honor and manhood to protect disarmed prisoners from his savage allies. By the side of Proctor, Tecumseh was great and honorable. He had courage and humanity; Proctor had neither. Tecumseh's career, as a war chief, began where Pontiac's left off—at Detroit and on the Maumee. He was in St. Clair's defeat, and Wayne's battle, but not as a chief. He did not become a chief until 1795; neither did he command at Tippecanoe, nor was he present there. He had taken

great offense at Harrison, as Governor of Indiana Territory, because of a treaty the latter made for land; which treaty, Tecumseh claimed, was signed by chiefs who had no authority to sign away lands, and when the war of 1812 began, he went to Canada and Proctor made him a brigadier, and gave him epaulets and a sword, which the Indian had too good sense to wear in service. Gen. Brock gave him a red sash, but Tecumseh politely replied that it did not become him to wear it when there was an older, and greater warrior, like Brock, about. It is, therefore, from that time, and in the skirmishes and battles about Detroit, Frenchtown and at the Maumee Rapids, and later at the Thames, where he was killed, that we see Tecumseh as a chief and commander of his dusky associates. It should be said, in his behalf, that he did not command the Indians at Frenchtown.

As a war chief, schooled in deeds of prowess, and as a commander in battle, Tecumseh's record does not rank with that of Pontiac, Blue Jacket, or Little Turtle, whose war careers ended on the Maumee where his began. Had Tecumseh's lines been cast among civilized, instead of savage, people, he would have excelled as a statesman, possibly, more than as a warrior. He had attributes that made him a natural leader, and was free of many of the vices of his people. Gen. John E. Hunt, who saw him often, gives this personal description of the great chief: "Tecumseh was not a large man, but strong and well made. He usually dressed very plainly, in buckskin Indian costume. He wore three feathers, one given to him by Mrs. Proctor, the other two by wives of other English officers. These were fine ostrich plumes, one white, one red, one black. He wore them tied to his cue behind, hanging down his back. He was generally armed with his pipe-tomahawk and scalping knife in his belt, and his rifle in his hand. He resembled very much Otusso, an Ottawa war chief, who died at the mouth of the Maumee river before the Indians were moved."

Tecumseh was a Shawnee by birth, born not far from Springfield, on Mad river, and at the time of his death was about forty years of age. No doubt, he derived some of his early influence among the Indians, from the wizard performances of his brother, the "Prophet." Both preached and practiced undying opposition to the aggressions of the white man. Lossing says of Tecumseh: "He was crafty, intrepid, unscrupulous and cruel, and possessed the qualities of a great leader, almost equal to those of Pontiac."

## CHAPTER XI.

FROM THE CLOSE OF THE WAR OF 1812-15 TO THE ORGANIZATION OF WOOD COUNTY—FOR WHOM THE COUNTY WAS NAMED—FIRST ELECTION, FIRST MEETING OF COMMISSIONERS, AND FIRST COURTS—A GENERAL RETROSPECT OF THE CONDITIONS EXISTING AT THAT TIME—POPULATION, ETC.

**G**EN. JACKSON'S great victory over the British at New Orleans, January, 1815, closed the war in a blaze of triumph, quite in contrast with the dismal beginning at Detroit, less than three years before. By the spring of 1815, people had gained confidence in the permanence of peace made the previous winter, and the scattered fragments of the Rapids' settlement on the Maumee, began slowly to return. Three years had made a great change. Peace and quiet reigned again, but the scars of desolating war were painfully visible on every side. The waste fields were grown up and choked with weeds and wild sun-flowers. Ashes and charred cinders marked the places where their cabins once stood, and by the same signs the sites of the savages' wigwams were noted. The fresh earth mounds told where the dead, who strove and fell there, slept, and the dreary moan of the rippling waters seemed to breathe, in mournful cadence, for the departed heroes. With measured tread the sentry at the fort paced his beat. The grim cannon frowned from the great bastions, suggestive, perhaps, of further strife; but that had ended; the scalp dance was over; the cannibalistic orgies had ceased; Dudley and his intrepid band, who perished beyond the river, were the last martyrs on the altars of a barbarism that had begun its hideous sacrifices beyond the Alleghanies, three-quarters of a century before. The sword and tomahawk were now to be succeeded by the peaceful implements of husbandry. Civilization had laid firm hold on the Maumee Country.

Among those who came back that summer to begin life anew, and to resume his official functions for the government, was Amos Spafford. John Carter and John Race, who had preceded him a little, had a cabin on the north side of the river, near Turkey Foot Rock, and Spafford moved in with them for a short time. He did not, however, like the threatening behavior of the Indians at the village above, and moved down

between the river and fort, and lived with his family in a tent until he could finish his building.\* A number of abandoned scows, or arks, used in shipping army supplies down from Defiance, lay along the bank, and the plank from these the settlers used in their buildings. Spafford's house, constructed of these plank, stood in the flat, not far from the old orchard, northwestwardly from the fort. During the summer the settlers engaged Carter and Race to go up the river, in a pirogue, after some supplies. Some time after they left, their empty pirogue was noticed floating down the river. Surmising that some accident had happened, Spafford took some help and went up to their cabin, where he found their bodies and the evidences of a desperate fight with the Indians. The men had been shot and tomahawked. Later in the season Levi Hull went to drive in the cattle from the woods, on the present plat of Perrysburg. Some time after he left several guns were heard in that direction, and as he did not return at the usual time, search was made. His body was found on the ground where the Methodist church of Perrysburg stands. He had been shot and scalped. These tragic occurrences were calculated to cause much anxiety among the residents as to their safety. No matter whether they were the result of quarrels between whites and Indians, or an intent of the latter to drive the whites away, it served the purpose of keeping back the settlement. Fortunately for all concerned, there were few of such tragedies to record.

Two vessels came up in the summer of 1815, and took a greater part of the ordnance and government property from the fort to Detroit. The schooner "Black Snake," Capt. Jacob Wilkinson, took off a cargo of guns and stores the same season, and the fort, which had been in

\* The incidents and history of the settlement covering the period from 1815 to 1820, here given, are largely derived from the manuscript notes of W. V. Way, of Perrysburg, in possession of the writer. Way got his data from the Spaffords, Hollisters, Wilkinsons, Joshua Chappel, Gen. Hunt and others.

charge of Lieut. Almon Gibbs and about forty men, was abandoned. For the convenience of the fort, and any stray settlers, Gibbs had, the previous year, May 9, 1814, been appointed postmaster, and the office was named Fort Meigs. When Major Spafford left, in 1813, Miami post office was discontinued. After the fort was abandoned, in 1815-16, Gibbs quit the army, crossed to the other side of the river and went into trade, taking the post office with him. All the lower Maumee Country, for some time after, went under the general name of Fort Meigs. The incoming settlers, many of whom located about the fort, sometimes found the old block-houses very convenient places to live in until they could build, and the palisade and other timber served for many useful purposes as long as they lasted. At length, however, there arose some strife about who had a right to live in the block-houses, and someone set fire to them and burned them up.

It will help the reader to get a better idea of the Maumee settlement prior to the war, if we give the names of those who, afterward, presented claims to the government for loss of property. The list is taken from Knapp's History of the Maumee Valley. A meeting of these claimants was called at the house of Amos Spafford, November 24, 1815, and he was empowered to act as their agent, and authorized to go to Washington and make proper application for indemnification for their losses. Their names were: Daniel Purdy, Oliver Armstrong, James Carlin, William Carter, George Blalock, James Slawson, Amos Spafford, Samuel Ewing, Jesse Skinner, William Skinner, Stacey Stoddard, Jacob Wilkinson, Thomas Dick, Samuel H. Ewing, William Peters, Amos Hicox, Richard Gifford, Samuel Carter, Baptiste Momeny, Thomas McIlrath, Chloe Hicox, David Hull, John Redoad, and others. The property lost consisted of various articles; for instance, James Carlin had his cabin burned, estimated value, \$110; one blacksmith shop, \$55; two-year old colt, taken by Wyandot Indians, valued at \$30. Oliver Armstrong lost a horse, valued at \$60; another man six acres of wheat in barn, burned; four tons of hay; clothing and bedding, burned or stolen, and various other articles are enumerated, including standing corn used by the U. S. troops, aggregating over four thousand dollars, which, with some other sums, the government, after some delay, allowed.

Most of the arrivals now were by way of the lake, from Cleveland and the ports below. The soldiers from the southern part of Ohio, who had made the march across the swamp, or caught the Maumee ague, did not advertise the country very

favorably, nor did many immigrants arrive from that section. Still, all who had seen it were charmed with the Maumee and its scenery, and the glowing accounts they gave of the fish and game are refreshing to read. Wayne's men, especially, who were here in the month of August, while the surface was dry, and the corn and truck patches of the Indians were at their best, grew enthusiastic over the beautiful islands, fish, game, timber, rich soil, etc. But when later in the season they were building Forts Wayne and Defiance, and half of them sick with fever and ague, they were glad to get away; many of them, however, returned in after years.

Seneca Allen, who a little later became the first resident justice of the peace, in what is now Wood county, came with his family, in 1816, from Detroit. On the same vessel came the families of Jacob Wilkinson, Elijah, Charles and Christopher Gunn. The Gunns and Allen located on the north side of the river. The latter opened a trading place with the Indians at Roche de Boeuf, where a man named Isaac Richardson had located a mill site. The Gunns settled between there and Maumee, and became permanent and useful citizens. Many of their descendants are still living there. [On February 20, 1817, Charles Gunn, as justice of the peace, under jurisdiction of Champaign county, solemnized the first marriage in the present limits of Wood county, under the laws of the State. Aurora Spafford, son of Major Amos Spafford, and Mrs. Mary Jones were the pioneer couple who first stepped under the hymeneal yoke. They had been waiting for some weeks for Gunn's commission. If they had a license, which they doubtless had, they sent to Urbana, the county seat, to get it. The nearest road there was by Hull's Trace.]

Two years later Allen moved down to Fort Meigs, and held the office of justice for several years. Jacob Wilkinson's family, who came with Allen, in 1816, but who had been there before the war, settled on the flat, below the fort, and kept tavern. An incident occurred there, which reminded them that their new home was not above high-water mark. One night the water rose in their cabin, and they had to scramble up the ladder to the loft, from which they were rescued by boatmen. In the confusion the baby, in the cradle, had been forgotten. It was found, fast asleep, floating about on the water. Its "crib," as they are called nowadays, was, luckily, the half of a hollow log, with boards nailed on each end, and nearly water-tight.

In the latter part of 1816 came the Vances,

Wilson and Samuel, and in the spring of 1817 opened up a trader's store, for their brother, Joseph Vance, afterward Governor of Ohio. This was the pioneer store in what is now Wood county. The Hollisters opened a store soon after. All the traders, previous to this, had been on the other side of the river. Down on the flats, below the fort, David Hull, in 1816, kept the pioneer tavern of the county. Almira Hull, his daughter, had, according to Judge Way's memoirs, the proud distinction of being the first white child born in Wood county, so far as known. The date was 1817.

Thomas McIlrath settled on the flats in 1815, and Ephraim Leaming and his brother Thomas, carpenters and mill-wrights, settled near the river, in what is now the east part of Perrysburg; but in the spring of 1818 moved over to Monclova, and rebuilt the sawmill begun there, before the war, by Samuel Ewing, on Swan creek. Much of the lumber used by some of the early settlers was sawed there. Samuel H. Ewing, father of the late Judge Ewing, of Wood, lived then on the tract next east of the fort. H. P. Barlow, who afterward married a daughter of Victor Jennison, further down the river, taught school, in the fort settlement, in the winter of 1816-17, and the following summer located on the north side of the river.

In 1816, the United States Government sent out an agent, Alexander Bourne, to locate and lay out a town-site at the foot of the Maumee Rapids. After considerable investigation, the agent chose the present site of Perrysburg, and Deputy U. S. Surveyors Joseph Wampler and William Brookfield laid out a town there. Major Amos Spafford gave the town its name, upon a suggestion from Hon. Josiah Meigs, United States Land Commissioner, at that time. It was named, of course, in memory of Commodore Perry. That selection of a town site by the government's agent was one of vast importance in fixing the destiny of later towns on the lower Maumee.

Below Perrysburg, about two miles, is a ridge or rock across the river channel, called "Rock bar," where vessels, drawing over six feet of water, cannot pass safely in a summer stage of water. The light craft on the lake, in 1816, were not obstructed by the "bar," but the heavy vessels of a later date found it dangerous. "Rock bar" destroyed the hope of any town above it from becoming the commercial emporium of the Maumee Country, and forced the selection of a new site below it. Had the government agent located Perrysburg below the "bar," there

was a possibility that it might, with its early start and prestige of government paternity, have been the great city of the valley, instead of Toledo. [In the summer of 1836, J. D. Cummings, David Ladd, D. W. Deshler, Norman C. Baldwin, John C. Spink, William Neil, Elnathan Cory, Joseph H. Larwill, N. M. Stewart and others bought, of Jesse Stone, River Tracts 17 and 18, about 450 acres, just below "Rock bar," on the north side of the river, for \$40,000, and employed Hiram Davis, surveyor of Wood county, to plat the front part of the tract into lots, and named it Marengo. With the strong backing it had, Marengo gave promise of becoming a city; but the money panic of 1837 struck it as with the deadly blight of an October frost, and in 1838 the sheriff closed out all that was tangible of the town of Marengo, and it is but a memory.]

*Maumee Treaty.*—It will now be in chronological order to note the concluding chapter in the series of important events, by which the United States acquired title deed to the land now within bounds of Wood county, except the part of the United States Reserve which had been previously acquired by Wayne's treaty. In September, 1817, Duncan McArthur and Lewis Cass, as the authorized agents of the United States, met the Wyandot, Ottawa, Chippewa, Pottawatamie, Seneca, Delaware and Shawnee tribes, to the number of about 7,000 Indians, at a treaty council, at the Maumee Rapids, and purchased from them all their remaining lands in Ohio, except some scattered reservations retained as homes by the Indians. Only one of these reserves touched the present limits of Wood county; that of thirty-four square miles on the south side of the Maumee, below where Toledo is, granted to the chiefs of the Ottawa tribe, and the corner of which projected into Sections 1, 2, 3 and 10 of Lake, and Fr. Sections 25, 26, 27, 28, with Sections 33, 34, 35 and 36 of Ross townships, as will be noticed on some of the Wood county maps. This place was known as Tushquegon, or McCarty's, village. A section of land, by request of the Ottawas, was also given Peter Minor, out of a former reservation to that tribe, lying about where Providence, Lucas county, is now. Minor's Indian name was Sawendebans, or the "yellow hair," and he had been adopted as the son of the Chief Tondaganie, or, as it is now written, Tontogany, the Ottawa name for dog. Of all the great treaties, from that made with the Iroquois, at Rome, N. Y., (Fort Stanwix), in 1784, down to 1817, this, at the Maumee Rapids, was, to northwestern Ohio, the most important. Campaigns had been made



and battles fought, sometimes ending in defeat, sometimes in victory. Treaty had followed treaty, but all had left this land under savage sway. Twenty-nine years, almost three decades, had passed since the Marietta colony was planted on the Ohio river, in 1788, until the Federal Government, by this last act, swept away the cloud that shadowed the civilization of the Maumee Country. Now, for the first time, the land stood on an equality with the rest of Ohio, free of ownership and domain by a race, whose instincts, habits, customs and mode of life were entirely opposed to the improvement of the country. It is possible that this land was, in the early time, thought unfit for white occupation; or rather, that it was better suited to the uses of Indians than whites. It was doubtless true that, in some respects this was not the most desirable part of Ohio. This, and the fact that it was held as Indian territory for thirty years after settlements had commenced in other portions of the state, explains why some of the counties, in northwestern Ohio, were so far behind the rest of the State in improvements.

A line drawn from Sandusky Bay, south, along the west end of the Connecticut Reserve, to the Greenville Treaty line, near Mount Gilead, thence westerly, along said line, to the Indiana line, thence north to Michigan, and including all the west part of Ohio, east as far as Defiance, and down the Maumee to its mouth, would about embrace the Ohio land bought at the treaty of 1817, and since cut up into about eighteen counties. Wood county, as she is bounded to-day, lay entirely within this purchase, except half of the twelve-mile-square reserve on the south side of the Maumee, bought at Wayne's treaty, in 1795. The land on the north side of the Maumee, west to Defiance, the reader will remember, was bought at the treaty of Detroit, 1807. This treaty of 1817 was regarded by the people of the State with great interest. The part of Ohio, north of the Greenville line, was a blank space on the map. It was simply the Indian territory, and the "black swamp." Its name caused a shrug of terror to many people; while others believed that, though it was not an earthly paradise, it was a good place to go to and "grow up with the country."

The Indians did not all agree as to the advisability of selling it. There was a division, and some stout opposition was developed at the treaty. Gen. Hunt, before quoted, in his reminiscences says: "There was an Indian present, whose name was Mesh-ke-mau, who was a great warrior, and prided himself on being a British

subject. He had been bribed to oppose the treaty. When he found the Indians giving way to Cass and McArthur, our commissioners, it made him very angry. He said in his speech that the palefaces had cheated the red men, from their first landing on this continent. The first who came said they wanted land enough to put a foot on. They gave the Indians a beef, and were to have so much land as the hide would cover, The palefaces cut that hide into strings, and got land enough for a fort.

"The next time they wanted more land they brought a great pile of goods, which they offered for land. The red men took the goods, and the palefaces were to have for them so much land as a horse would travel round in a day. They cheated the red man again by having a relay of horses to travel at their utmost speed. In that way they succeeded. 'Now, you Cass,' pointing his finger and shaking his tomahawk over Cass' head, 'Now, you Cass, come here to cheat us again;' thus closing, he sat down. Cass replied: 'My friends, I am much pleased to find among you so great a man as Mesh-ke-mau. I am glad to see you have an orator, a man who understands how much you have been cheated by the white people, and who is fully able to cope with them—those scoundrels who have cheated you so outrageously. 'Tis true what he has said, every word true. And the first white man was your French father. The second white man was your English father, you seem to think so much of. Now you have a father, the President, who does not want to cheat you, but wants to give you more land west of the Mississippi than you have here, and to build mills for you, and help you till the soil.'

"At which Mesh-ke-mau raved and frothed at the mouth. He came up to Gen. Cass, struck him on the breast with the back of his hand, raising his tomahawk with the other hand, saying, 'Cass, you lie; you lie.'

"Cass turned to Knaggs, who was one of the interpreters, and said: 'Take that woman away and put a petticoat on her; no man would talk that way in council.'

"Two or three Indians and interpreters took him off out of the council. The treaty resulted in buying from the Indians the northwestern part of Ohio and the southern part of Michigan."

Another warrior and his mother, present at the treaty, are thus spoken of: "Ottuso, son of Kan-tuck-e-gun [Hosmer says Kan-tuck-e-gun was the widow of Pontiac], the most eloquent warrior of the tribe, was a very intelligent Indian; quite the equal of Tecumseh in mental qualities,



though lacking the moral force and vigor which made the latter a leader of his race. Ottuso was a descendant of Pontiac [Parkman says Ottuso was the son of Pontiac], and, at the time of his death, the last of his family, and the last war chief of his nation remaining on the Maumee river. His mother was a sort of Indian queen, and grandniece to Pontiac. She was held in great reverence by the Indians. So much so, that at the treaty of Maumee, in 1817, she then being very old and wrinkled, and bent over with age, her hair perfectly white, no chief would sign the treaty until she had first consented, and made her mark, by touching her fingers to the pen. At that treaty there were 7,000 Indians gathered together. When the treaty was agreed upon, the head chiefs and warriors sat round the inner circle, she had a place among them; the remaining Indians with the women and children forming a crowd outside. The chiefs sat on seats built under the roof of the council house, which was open on all sides. The whole assembly kept silence. The chiefs bowed their heads and cast their eyes to the ground, and waited patiently for the old woman until she rose, went forward, and touched the pen to the treaty, after it had been read to them in her presence.

Following close after this treaty another helpful thing to the settlement occurred. The government in the previous year (1816) had not only platted the town of Perrysburg, but had re-surveyed the Twelve-mile Reserve. It was in this survey that a change was made, and the land along the river subdivided into River Tracts instead of following the usual form of survey by sections. The land office was at Wooster, Ohio, and the Maumee lands were thrown on the market, at auction, in February. This sale proved of great advantage to the settlement. It gave a permanence to the improvements started. Hitherto, when all were squatters without fixed tenure, there was but little incentive to go into extensive improvements. Now the settler could own his lands. The sale was on the installment plan. Some paid the price, and took a patent from the government at once. Others did not get their patents until final payments. When purchasers failed to meet the payments the land was resold. Some assigned their claims to second parties; in such cases the name on the sale book and in the patent does not correspond. These changes and the neglect of purchasers to record their patents, when they received them, or perhaps not at all, have been fruitful of trouble in tracing titles.

Soon after, Dr. J. B. Stewart, of Albany,

N. Y., and J. J. Lovett bought River Tracts 65 and 66, including the old fortifications and the settlement that had sprung up around the fort. A town site was surveyed, below the fort, next the river, and called Orleans, or sometimes, to better distinguish it, "Orleans of the North."

Dr. Stewart was also one of the builders and owners of the pioneer steamboat on the lakes, the "Walk-in-the-water," built at Black Rock, in 1818, and doubtless it was the design of Stewart to make Orleans one of the chief points in the lake trips of his new boat. The prospects of the town, as the leading port at the head of Lake Erie, were bright, and would have been materially aided by steamboat connection with the lower lake ports, but unfortunately "Rock bar" prevented the boat from ever reaching Orleans. She came up as far as Swan creek, and turned back. She drew too much water for Orleans. As a rapid traveler, the "Walk-in-the-water" was not a success. Noah Reed, who came with Uncle Guy Nearing's family to Detroit in 1819, says in his memoirs, that he was a passenger on the new steamboat from Black Rock; she left that port on the 18th day of August, and did not reach Detroit until the 15th day of September. The boat was carried back until within sight of Buffalo, five or six times, after getting to Dunkirk and beyond. After a career of three years, she was beached, in a storm, near Dunkirk, and went to pieces. Thus both of these ventures of the enterprising Albany men, the pioneer steamboat, and the town of Orleans, proved unfortunate.

Not to be outdone, the ambitious dwellers on the north side of the river had staked out a town in 1818, and christened it after the historic river, Maumee. Here were three embryo claimants for city honors. Most that was needed to make them flourish was a thrifty population. Each had ready advocates to proclaim its advantages over the other, but there was little room for argument, as whatever might be said, in praise or derision, applied to all, for the reason that they were so near together. One thing in their favor was that they had no competitors, either above or below, to decry their merits, or to entice away business. The combined efforts of the three claimants, did not cause a great rush of immigrants to either place. There was a vast expanse of country opening in the West then; besides the Maumee did not have a good reputation as a health resort. The increase of population was very gradual. The chief business at that time was the fishing and fur trade, and the rich islands and bottoms were very productive in

grain and vegetables. But nearly all who came were soon discouraged by malarial attacks, in one form or another.

The experience of John T. Baldwin, father of Marquis Baldwin, of Toledo, given in the history of Lucas county, from which we quote, was doubtless similar to that of many others who came there: "He and his sons sailed a little schooner, called the 'Leopard.' Mr. Baldwin and family came to Orleans, April 1, 1818, and rented a small house and staid until July, when they left. In November they returned and lived in a part of Seneca Allen's house. In the following spring (1819), Marquis dropped corn for Gen. Vance, on his farm, just above Orleans. The family, as on their previous stay, suffered so much from fever and ague, that at times there were not well persons enough to take care of the sick. In June, 1819, Mr. Baldwin again became discouraged, and left for his old home, at Palmyra, Portage county, but made two or three trips, with the 'Leopard,' between Cleveland, Detroit and Orleans, during the season, on one of which he took a cargo of corn for Jonathan Gibbs from the Maumee to Detroit. In 1823, Mr. Baldwin and family, a third time, came to the Maumee, stopping at what is now Toledo, then Port Lawrence, where they made their home. Among the residents at the Rapids, in 1818, John Baldwin remembers the following at Orleans:—William Ewing, Elisha Martindale, James Wilkinson, Samuel and Aurora Spafford, the Vances, Hollisters, Amos Pratt and others previously mentioned in these pages. At Maumee:—Robert A. Forsyth, John E. Hunt, Almon Gibbs, Dr. Horatio Conant, James Carlin, and a Frenchman, named Peltier; down toward Miami:—Daniel Hubbell and William Herrick; while up the river were John Pray, Gilbert and Artemus Underwood, James Adams and others. In the woods, at Perysburg, was John and Frank Hollister, John Webb, David M. Hawley and William Wilson.

"Marquis Baldwin gives some of the current prices, for labor and goods, taken from the books kept by his father, which are of interest. The price for half-soling a pair of boots was \$3; Mrs. Baldwin, making fine shirt, \$1; making woolen pantaloons, \$1.50; linen, 50 cents; common laborers got \$25 a month and board; sailors the same; cider brought \$8.50 per barrel; tobacco, 50 cents a pound; chickens, 25 cents apiece; whiskey, 50 cents a pint; tar, \$1.50 per gallon; tin plates, 31 cents; salt, \$8 per barrel; nails, 25 cents a pound; flour, \$4 per 100 pounds; bacon, 20 cents; beefsteak, 10 cents; pork, 18½ cents; butter, 31 cents; castor hats, \$7; shoes, \$2.50 per pair."

The year 1817 was eventful to the settlers on the Maumee, in another thing. Some years before the war of 1812, this territory, we remember, was attached to Champaign county, with the county seat at Urbana, about one hundred miles distant. The Greenville Treaty line, just north of that county, had stood as a wall to stop further settlement in that direction. That barrier was now removed, and March 1, 1817, a new county, north of Champaign, and extending to Michigan, called Logan, with the county seat at Belleville (now Bellefontaine), was organized. This part of the Maumee Country was now a part of Logan, with the county seat still on Hull's Trace, but eighteen miles nearer than before the change. Soon after, the township of Waynesfield, which took in the Maumee settlement, was established, which proved a further convenience to the people in selecting local peace officers, and better regulating their home affairs in various ways.

The years 1818 and 1819 were characterized by a steady, but uneventful, growth on the Maumee. The settlers were, as a class, energetic and ambitious. Their hopes were in the building of a city there, and making it the center of a great population, as well as of a great trade. Their hopes were apparently well founded. It was only unforeseen natural, but insurmountable, obstacles that prevented their realization.

By the close of the year 1819 the Maumee villages, and adjacent settlements, numbered over six hundred people, exclusive of Indians. The increasing population and business of the settlement made it burdensome to the citizens to have to travel seventy-five or eighty miles, across the swamp, with scarcely any road facilities, to get to the seat of justice, and they petitioned for a new county.

On February 12, 1820, the Legislature, by boundaries and names, carved fourteen new counties out of the territory lately purchased of the Indian tribes. Of the fourteen counties thus formed, provision was made in the Act for the organization of only two—Wood and Sandusky. Maumee was named in the law as the temporary county seat of Wood, and the first day of April following was designated as the time when the voters should meet, at their usual place of holding election, to choose county officers. The law also provided that justices and constables, previously elected under the jurisdiction of Logan county, should fill out their unexpired terms of office. It was further provided that the unorganized counties of Hancock, Henry, Putnam, Paulding, and Williams, should be attached to Wood, for civil purposes, until further provision was made by law.

Thus Wood had jurisdiction over territory which now comprises nine counties. The original six counties have since, at different times, been divided and the counties of Lucas, Fulton and Defiance formed, additional.

On April 12, the commissioners, chosen April 1, Daniel Hubbell, of Miami, Samuel H. Ewing, of Orleans, and John Pray, of Waterville, met in the second story of Almon Gibbs' store, in Maumee, and organized by electing Daniel Hubbell clerk of the board. That was the beginning of Wood county's corporate existence. The first act of the commissioners, after electing their clerk, was to appoint William Pratt county treasurer. The next was to buy a record book, which they got on credit, price \$4.50, which shows that the grand old county, rich to-day, was poor at the start; she had not so much as a nickel; this suggests the inquiry as to why they needed a treasurer then. Wood county was organized; she had boundary lines and a name; a board of commissioners; a treasurer and a record book. That book, yet in existence at the auditor's office, in a fair state of preservation, is a medium sized, rawhide-covered volume, of about 300 pages. It was the first property owned by Wood county, and should be treasured as a relic. The county was named in honor of Col. Eleazer D. Wood, a gallant young engineer officer, and graduate of West Point, on Gen. Harrison's staff in the war of 1812. Under his commander's orders, he planned and helped to construct and defend Fort Meigs. Afterward, at the battle of the Thames, he had command of the artillery, and was in the front, with the Kentuckians, in the pursuit of the flying Proctor. After that battle, a part of Harrison's army was sent to the Niagara frontier, and Wood went with it. In a desperate sortie of the Americans, from Fort Erie, the following year (1814), the intrepid Wood, then holding the rank of brevet lieutenant-colonel, lost his life. His commander, Major-Gen. Brown, after the war, and at his own expense, erected a monument in memory of Col. Wood, in the Post cemetery, at West Point, on the Hudson. The county was honored with the name of this gallant officer, as was Perrysburg by the name of the hero of Lake Erie.

The county boundary lines were the same as now, except on the north Wood extended to Michigan. In the year 1835, Wood was dismembered, and Lucas county formed, when the Maumee river became the northern line of Wood, except a short space on the northeast corner. Before the commissioners adjourned their first meeting, they contracted with Gibbs for the use

of his room, for one year, for a court house, for which they agreed to pay him \$40. When they adjourned, the clerk took the record book under his arm, and carried it home for safe keeping. The county, though now organized and in running order, was lacking in many of the essentials of the present day. It had no safes, no fire-proof vaults, no tax duplicate, no money, no jail, no county roads, no ditches, no bridges—hardly anything, except the bright anticipations of her projectors. In this humble plight Wood took her place in the sisterhood of counties—not a very promising one, to be sure, but destined to take an honorable place with them, after overcoming more discouragements than any other county in the State. It is difficult, indeed, for people of to-day to realize the homeliness and poverty of that beginning in the county's history; and yet, the contrast, so much in favor of the present, affords us just cause of pride in those people, our predecessors, and their successors, down to the present, who have worked this wonderful change amid so many disheartening obstacles. But while the hopeful settlers at the seat of justice of the newly-fledged county are waiting for the next event, which completed their county government—namely, the court—it will be interesting to look back, through the mist of years, and catch a glimpse of the landscape surroundings at the Foot of the Rapids. It was not like it is now. Instead of smooth, grassy slopes and cultivated fields, with unobstructed views of the gentle curves and broad sweeps of the river for miles, as seen now, we would see it clothed in rugged forest trees and thick bush. Instead of the fine iron bridge, connecting two pretty towns, with fine business blocks, residences and public buildings, there was a sluggish ferryboat and numerous canoes and skiffs to cross from shore to shore. The battle-scarred ruins of Fort Meigs, on the south side, and of Fort Miami, further down, on the north side of the river, told the stranger that this point had lain in the track of war. Three straggling river settlements, on the river bluffs among the timber, or on the flats, strove for city honors. Maumee, the most pretentious, lay on the north bank, scattered along nearly two miles. Orleans, on the south side, was on the slope and flats below the old fort. There were a few cultivated areas at intervals, mostly of wheat and corn. Perrysburg had a few cabins, along a wood's trail, cut out where Front street is now. Her claims to city honors, other than her name and fine location, were seriously obscured by the heavy growth of timber. There were no streets or roads, except the old army trails. Indians

were, at times, more numerous than whites, though usually peaceable and quiet, unless under the influence of whiskey. There were not, at that time, to exceed 650 whites, men, women and children, in all three settlements and vicinity. The census of 1820 makes the population 733; but taking the list of names of voters at the elections up to 1825, it is difficult to figure out that many whites, on the usual ratio of five persons to every voter. But it is not improbable that in their efforts to get a county government, the settlers made the largest showing possible. At any rate, in ten years to 1830, the increase, as shown by the census report, only carried the population up to 1,102. The point, however, is not material, except as a basis from which to note the after-growth of population.

Now let us go to Maumee and attend court, in fancy, at least. It is Wood county's first Common Pleas court; May 3, 1820. How different from now. [The writer is indebted for an account of the first court, to the late Collister Haskins, one of the grand jurors on that occasion.] There is no bell ringing in the lofty tower to call the jurors, attorneys, and witnesses together. The clerk and his deputies are not hurrying to the court room with arms full of heavy court records. There is no clerk, and there are no record books. The attorneys are not edging up quietly to the sheriff's desk to learn if important witnesses have been notified, and are likely to be present. Curious as it may seem to those conversant with later judicial history, lawyers were scarce at that first court. The event had not got noised about very far; but they soon began to come. Before court had been in session long, three arrived, showed their credentials, and asked leave to practice. Where lawyers were found, there are certain to be clients. But if lawyers were a little scarce, the court was "numerous." As courts were then organized, the Common Pleas had four judges—a president judge, and three associates, all appointed by the Legislature.

George Tod\* was president judge at this first court, and his associates were Samuel Vance, Horatio Conant, and Peter G. Oliver. Four judges are considered, even now, as quite an imposing "bench;" and no doubt the proud dwellers in the new county seat felt, and justly, too, that quite an added dignity and prestige attached to their ambitious little city because of its court honors. David Hull was the name of the first sheriff who rapped on the table and opened the Common Pleas court. The first

official act was to appoint Thomas R. McKnight, clerk. While McKnight was hunting up suitable stationary and a record book, C. J. McCurdy was appointed prosecutor for the State. This completed the organization of the court, and they were now ready for business.

Many duties attached to the Common Pleas court then that do not belong to it now. All probate work belonged to it; such as the appointment of guardians, granting administration, recording wills, taking bonds, etc. Besides this, the court granted all licenses. Every business paid license then: Taverns, stores, ferries, bridges, ware-houses, all had to pay rates fixed by the court. Thus it will be seen that the Common Pleas court embraced, in its scope of work, some of the most important functions of government in this new settlement—even the vital one of creating revenue, and the records, happily yet in a good state of preservation, afford us an insight into many interesting facts not elsewhere to be found. One thing is particularly striking in the testamentary records of that time—the frequent number of deaths noted. Before the end of the year 1822, the death list, in this sparse population, enrolls the names of several of the leading citizens. The United States collector and his wife; Gibbs, the postmaster and merchant; one of the county commissioners, and one of the justices of the peace, are included, and the names of many other property owners appear on these tell-tale pages. There were doubtless as many more, of these hardy men and women, who fell victims to the prevalent malarial fever, whose names do not appear in the books. These are some of the things shown by the old court records. They tell us, in sorrowful lines, that the pioneers, who laid the corner-stone of this civilization, had a hard struggle. Privations, disease and death met them at every turn. [Subsequent proceedings of Wood county courts are told in the chapter on Bench and Bar.]

Now that the Maumee Rapids people had a county of their own, and a seat of justice right in their midst, it might reasonably be presumed that they would, after the great inconvenience they had endured, be happy to a man. No so. Human nature is not shaped thus. It was the same then as it is to-day; never satisfied. Maumee had the county seat temporarily, but not by general approval. Orleans and Perrysburg were not pleased. The settlers were pretty evenly divided on each side of the river. But in the new counties then forming, the seats of justice were fixed temporarily by the Legislature until the de-

\*Father of Governor David Tod.

velopments of population should indicate where the proper place for the county seat would be, when three disinterested commissioners were appointed, whose duty it was to carefully investigate the situation and fix upon the location of the county seat. Had the location of the seat of justice been made by a vote of the settlers, no doubt Maumee would have held it at that time. Orleans and Perrysburg, both on the south side of the river, were envious of each other, and would not act in unity, and, in a triangular battle, Maumee could out vote either of them. The question has often been raised in later years as to how Perrysburg got the county seat away from her stronger neighbor, Maumee, and we believe this is the first time an explanation has appeared in print. At the session of the Legislature, in the winter of 1821-22, Charles R. Sherman (father of Gen. Sherman), Edward Paine, Jr., and Nehemiah King were appointed commissioners to fix the permanent location of the county seat of Wood county. At the May term of court in Maumee, 1822, the report of these commissioners, a copy of which had been placed on file with the clerk, was read in open court, and from which report (following the language of the Journal) "it appears that the town of Perrysburg, in said county of Wood, was selected as the most proper place as a seat of justice for said county of Wood, the said town of Perrysburg being as near the center of said county of Wood as, paying a due regard to the situation, extent of population, quality of land and convenience and interest of the inhabitants of said county of Wood, as was possible, the commissioners aforesaid designate In-lot No. 387, as the most proper site for the court house of said county of Wood." It must not for a moment be supposed that Maumee surrendered up this coveted prize without a protest, or that Orleans looked on with an approving smile. Both opposed it with every possible influence, but Perrysburg had a powerful ally. Just at this critical juncture, the United States gave some friendly aid to her protégé. In May, 1822, Congress enacted a law vesting the title to all unsold lots and out-lots in Perrysburg, in the Commissioners of Wood county, on condition that the county seat should be permanently located there.

The net proceeds of the sale of the lots were to be used in erecting public buildings, etc. There was a considerable number of these lots unsold, and the gift proved of great benefit to the county in its early poverty, in getting a jail and court house without much expense to the tax-payers. Regardless of this help to the county, the decision of the commissioners, who located the seat of justice, was a wise and also a just one, either in the light of the views set forth in their report, or of what subsequently occurred, the dismemberment of Wood county to form Lucas.

There was, too, at this time a complicating question of jurisdiction between Ohio and the Territory of Michigan which well nigh provoked a war fifteen years later. According to the claims of Michigan most of the territory north of the Maumee belonged to her. The final decision of the question rested with Congress, as Michigan was not yet a State. This uncertainty of jurisdiction may also have had its influence with the commission which fixed the permanent county seat at Perrysburg. It was known to the friends of the latter place, and the Hollisters, Spaffords and others, who had at that time invested in property in Perrysburg, were tacticians enough to work the point for all it was worth.

Although the decision of the commission in favor of Perrysburg was made in May, 1822, there does not appear to have been any haste in the removal. The first meeting of the county commissioners in Perrysburg, as shown by their Journal, was held on the third of March following, nearly ten months after the decision had been made. The minutes of their proceedings in Maumee, during almost three years, show a light amount of routine work. They had constructed a log jail, and taken some steps looking to the establishment of roads. Their record for the entire time covers only about twenty pages, and the auditor, Ambrose Rice, received \$29.75 for his services in the year ending March 4, 1822. Thomas W. Powell, then prosecuting attorney, was appointed auditor for the year 1823, and filled both offices, getting an allowance of thirty dollars for his services as auditor, which was twenty-five cents more than Rice got.

## CHAPTER XII.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE COMMISSIONERS—CHANGE OF OFFICERS—ENTRIES IN THE PIONEER RECORD BOOK—TAX LEVIES—ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW TOWNSHIPS—EARLY COURT HOUSES—THE “TEN-YEARS’ WAR”—QUESTION OF REMOVING THE COUNTY SEAT FROM PERRYSBURG TO BOWLING GREEN—SUNDRY INDICTMENTS, ETC.

It was the intention of the writer to group, in one chapter, the doings of the commissioners, from 1820 to 1895; but this intention was cast aside in favor of distributing the transactions throughout the local chapters with which they were specially associated, and, for this reason, what promised to be one of the most exhaustive chapters of this volume now embraces only incidents, which were not apportioned to the histories of the bench and bar, the soldiers and the townships. No apology is offered for these concise and dry relations; for, with the foregoing chapters (from the pen of Mr. Evers), dealing with the most interesting years in Ohio's history, the reader must be prepared to meet the matter-of-fact details of the history of Wood county.

In December, 1820, John E. Hunt took the place of W. H. Ewing on the Commissioners' board, and in the new organization was made clerk. Beyond a short meeting, held in June, 1821, to inquire into the treasurer's accounts, and one in December of that year, to order a payment of \$12.50 for the use of court house, nothing of importance was considered, until March 4, 1822, when they appointed Thomas W. Powell auditor, to fill a vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Ambrose Rice, taking his bond for \$2,000. On that occasion, they declared the township of Waynesfield within the jurisdiction of Wood county, to be co-extensive with the counties of Wood and Hancock, and the township of Auglaize with the counties of Williams, Henry, Putnam and Paulding. At this term, the proposal of Almon Gibbs to give the use of the upper part of his store for court purposes, on condition that his county, tavern and ferry tax be paid by the county, was accepted. In June, 1822, Samuel Spafford, appointed by the court in May previous, took his place as commissioner, *vice* Hubbell, resigned. Walter Colton was appointed treasurer, and his bond for \$2,000 was accepted; while David Hull qualified as collector of State and

county taxes. On September 2, 1822, the death of Almon Gibbs, one of the State road commissioners, is noticed in the record, and the appointment of Francis Charters the same day as his successor, is recorded, while Daniel Hubbell was also appointed to take up the unfinished work of the pioneer, on the State road, from the town of Maumee to Fort Defiance, and thence westward.

The last session of the commissioners, held at Maumee, was that of September 2, 1822, while the first held at Perrysburg was that of March 3, 1823, when Hiram P. Barlow, Samuel Spafford and John Pray, were present. On that occasion the offer of Guy Nearing and Daniel Hubbell to erect county buildings for the sum of \$895.00 was accepted, and, after some routine business, Aurora Spafford was appointed treasurer to succeed Colton, the bond being made at \$3,000. Sixteen days later, the board assembled to view the jail building, which had been moved from Maumee to Perrysburg, where it was rebuilt by Daniel Hubbell, who received only \$48 for the whole work of razing, moving and reconstructing. A sum of \$25 was ordered to be expended on repairing it. These transactions, with the order to sell 105 lots at Perrysburg, by auction, on May 26, 1823, for the use of the county, at a minimum price of \$20 a lot—one-fourth of which was to be paid in cash—and the cancellation of a contract with Thomas R. McKnight, to furnish a court room to the county for ten years, completed the first work of the commissioners at the new county seat.

The appointment of Francis Charter, as collector, was made June 2, 1823, his compensation being fixed at the rate of six per cent. of the sum collected. Aurora Spafford was reappointed treasurer, who reported that he redeemed orders issued by the commissioners to the amount of \$408.35. The terms of sale of lots at Perrysburg were made more popular, but the Act providing for placing the transfer of town lots on

the county records was ordered to be enforced, and the name of Commissioner Barlow to be used as prosecutor for the county.

Let us look back three-quarters of a century to the first financial doings of the commissioners, and measure, if we can, how far the compensation offered by the new county was in accord with the work performed for her. In FF. 30-31-32 and 33 of Wood county's pioneer record book, the story of her first servants and of the moneys paid to them is told in cold figures. Let the form of the entries of orders be observed:

|                                           |          |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|
| C. J. McCurdy, May 5, 1820.....           | \$ 10 00 |
| Thomas R. McKnight, May 5, 1820.....      | 28 00    |
| C. J. McCurdy, May 5, 1820.....           | 10 00    |
| Hunt & Forsyth, May 5, 1820.....          | 16 12    |
| Almon Gibbs, May 5, 1820.....             | 40 25    |
| Seneca Allen, May 5, 1820.....            | 2 50     |
| George Patterson, May 5, 1820.....        | 2 00     |
| S. Allen, May 5, 1820.....                | 1 00     |
| James H. Slawson, May 5, 1820.....        | 1 50     |
| John E. Hunt (lister).....                | 11 25    |
| Thomas Driver (lister).....               | 5 00     |
| George C. White (guard).....              | 1 00     |
| Ezra Kelly.....                           | 75       |
| Norman L. Freeman (roads).....            | 3 75     |
| James Carlin.....                         | 3 00     |
| James Slawson.....                        | 75       |
| Samuel H. Ewing.....                      | 75       |
| Thomas McIlrath.....                      | 1 50     |
| Ephraim H. Leaming.....                   | 3 00     |
| Thomas Leaming.....                       | 75       |
| Jacob Wilkison.....                       | 1 12     |
| David Hull.....                           | 23 00    |
| Wilson Vance (cancelled).....             | 3 50     |
| John Perkins.....                         | 3 00     |
| Andrew Race.....                          | 1 50     |
| Samuel Ewing.....                         | 50       |
| Guy Nearing (juror).....                  | 6 00     |
| James Thomson.....                        | 2 00     |
| George Marsh.....                         | 11 15    |
| David Hull.....                           | 2 90     |
| Almon Gibbs.....                          | 1 00     |
| Salmon Cross.....                         | 1 10     |
| Salmon Cross.....                         | 8 61     |
| Francis Charter.....                      | 6 00     |
| Guy Nearing (work on jail).....           | 10 50    |
| William Griffith (work on jail).....      | 1 00     |
| James Carlin (work on jail).....          | 5 50     |
| Jacob Wilkison (work on jail).....        | 4 50     |
| Peter G. Olliver (work on jail).....      | 2 00     |
| Seneca Allen (grand juror).....           | 4 50     |
| Dexter C. Gunn (grand juror).....         | 4 50     |
| David Bucklen (grand juror).....          | 7 50     |
| David W. Hawley (grand juror).....        | 4 50     |
| Samuel Spafford (grand juror).....        | 4 50     |
| Guy Nearing (grand juror).....            | 1 50     |
| Thomas Leaming (grand juror).....         | 3 00     |
| Artemus Underwood (grand juror).....      | 4 50     |
| John E. Hunt (grand juror).....           | 1 50     |
| James Carlin (grand juror).....           | 3 00     |
| Thomas McIlrath (grand juror).....        | 4 50     |
| Jacob Wilkison (grand juror).....         | 4 50     |
| John Jay Lovett (grand juror).....        | 4 50     |
| William Hunter (labor at jail).....       | 1 00     |
| George Patterson (grand juror).....       | 4 50     |
| Wilson Vance (grand juror).....           | 4 50     |
| James Hunter (grand juror).....           | 4 50     |
| Hiram P. Barlow (grand juror).....        | 4 50     |
| Guy Nearing (work on jail).....           | 1 50     |
| James H. Slawson (services at court)..... | 6 75     |

|                                             |       |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|
| George Patterson (keeping Jones).....       | 3 50  |
| Daniel Hubbell (services at jail).....      | 8 50  |
| William Griffith (attendance on court)..... | 1 00  |
| Almon Gibbs (jurors' room).....             | 5 00  |
| Seneca Allen (auditor's fees).....          | 10 50 |
| Daniel Hubbell (clerk to court).....        | 5 37  |
| Horatio Conant (judge of common pleas)..... | 18 00 |
| Samuel Vance (associate judge).....         | 15 00 |
| Daniel Hubbell (commissioner).....          | 21 37 |
| Samuel H. Ewing (commissioner).....         | 21 37 |
| Samuel Vance (iron for jail).....           | 4 75  |
| John Pray (commissioner).....               | 19 12 |
| Peter G. Oliver (judge).....                | 15 00 |
| David Hull (sheriff).....                   | 19 44 |
| D. Hubbell.....                             | 2 25  |
| W. Vance.....                               | 3 50  |
| S. H. Ewing.....                            | 2 25  |
| Seneca Allen (auditor).....                 | 3 00  |
| J. Richardson.....                          | 10 00 |
| G. Jones.....                               | 9 32  |

The orders represent the pay for work which would, to-day, cost ten times as much. The record is valuable not only as a souvenir of the first public servants of the Black Swamp, but also for purposes of comparison.

In December, 1823, the commissioners asked John Shelby, representative in the State Legislature, and Joseph Vance, Congressman, to obtain for the county a complete title to the forfeited lots and to the common at Perrysburg. The acceptance of the court house on March 15, 1824, and the tender of any unsold lots, at the county seat, for \$15 each, to the contractors in lieu of cash, for the balance due them, formed the work of the board. In June of that year, Aurora Spafford was re-appointed treasurer, and Daniel Hubbell, collector. The former reported \$333.55½ as paid into the treasury, while a balance of \$553.42 was due to the court-house builders, who were again offered ten lots for \$12 each to pay part of that indebtedness. In the closing month of the year, repairs on the jail were authorized. In June, 1825, Jonathan H. Jerome was appointed collector, and the old treasurer was re-appointed. A special tax, equal to one-fourth of all the county levies, was ordered, to pay off the court-house debt, as the revenue of the treasurer's office was only \$488.66 for the year. In December, the financial question was so pressing that the sale of lots at \$12 each was ordered, and the trustees of the town of Perrysburg—T. R. McKnight, Walter Colton and Samuel Spafford—were authorized to sell at any time, prior to June 1, 1826, Inlots 151, 162 and 175 for \$30 in all, said lots to be devoted to burial purposes. In June, 1826, a radical advance in taxation was made, being one per cent. on the grand levy, one-half of a mill on the dollar for school purposes. At that time, the treasurer reported the receipt of \$498.86 3-10 for the fiscal year. Ambrose Rice



was appointed collector, and the receipt of \$309.12 of the "Three Per Cent. Fund," acknowledged. In August, 1826, the question of finishing and re-paving the court house was debated, and the work of lathing and plastering and general furnishing was awarded to John McKnight, whose bid of \$225 was the lowest. Jacob Wilkinson ultimately was given another part of the work on a bid of \$294.00. Ambrose Rice was appointed county assessor in March, 1827. In June following, Inlots 10 to 14—31 to 42—55 to 66—79 to 90—103 to 114—127 to 138—152 to 161 and 176 to 185,—inclusive,—in all 84 lots—were appropriated for a poor-house building and garden. Elijah Hunting was appointed treasurer, the tax levy was placed at eight mills for general purposes, three mills for roads and one-half of one mill for schools. In August, 1827, the contract for furnishing the jail was awarded, the bid being \$486. In June, 1828, the court house was finished, and about the same time Elisha Martindale, the assignee of Lakin, offered the jail for acceptance. There was no school tax levied in 1829. In this year the commissioners ordered that the Act of Legislature, providing for improving the breed of sheep, be adopted by the county. In December, 1830, the name of the township of Ottawa, established on June 14, of that year, was changed to "Weston," and the first election ordered to be held at Edward Howard's house. At this session Waterville township was established, the resignation of Auditor and Clerk Powell was accepted, and James W. Robinson was appointed in his place.

In January, 1831, the new auditor resigned to accept the office of clerk of court, when John C. Spink was appointed, John Webb and Daniel H. Wheeler being his bondsmen. Another appointment was also made necessary at that time by the death of Recorder Thomas R. McKnight. James W. Robinson succeeded him, thus having filled the offices of auditor, clerk of commissioners, clerk of court and recorder successfully within a brief period. In March, 1832, it was resolved to build a stockade around the jail, and this was done. A few months after the general tax was placed at five mills, the road tax at three mills, and the school tax at one mill, the last being one-fourth of a mill more than the school law demanded. The first sidewalk was mentioned at the June session, when the pathway in front of the court house was ordered to be paved or flagged. Many new roads were authorized that year, and, in December, Middleton township was established. Townships 3 and 4 in Range 12, and Township 3, in Range 11, were set off under

the name of Perry, and some territory was detached from Middleton and attached to Portage, in June, 1833. At this time, the general tax was placed at four mills, and the road tax at three mills, while nothing is recorded of a school tax. On December 16, 1833, the sale of 201 inlots at Perrysburg to Ambrose Rice for \$1,025, was negotiated.

In March, 1834, Joshua Chappel succeeded Rice as county assessor, and, in November, 1834, Guy Nearing, Joshua Chappel and John C. Spink were named as members of a board of equalization. The establishment of Montgomery, Freedom and Troy townships dates back to December 1, 1834. Congressional Township 4, R. 12, was called Montgomery, and the election ordered to be held at Guy Morgan's house; Congressional Township 5, R. 12, was called Freedom, and the house of Michael N. Myers made the place of meeting, while Township 6, R. 12, was named Troy, and the polling place fixed at Thomas Leaming's house.

In February, 1835, the proposal to erect a building, to include the old jail, was recorded, and on March 2 the contract was awarded to Levi Tilton for \$650. The contract does not appear to have been carried out, for in May, 1836, the question was revived. Liberty township was established on the latter day to embrace Congressional Townships 3 and 4 of R. 10, and the place of meeting fixed at Henry Grove's house. At the same time Township 5, R. 11, was named Center, with the polling place at Adam Phillips' house; Township 3, R. 11, was named Bloom, with place of meeting at the house of Frederick Frankfather; Wing township, with its irregular lines, was to hold its first meeting at C. L. Wing's house, and Plain township at Henry Walker's house, in what is now Bowling Green. In June, 1835, Sections 25 to 30, inclusive, were taken from the south end of Wing and attached to Waterville township. That day Willard V. Way was appointed auditor, to succeed J. C. Spink. Ten days later a bell belonging to Perrysburg was offered to the county on condition that it should be hung on the court house. Townships 3 and 4, in R. 9, were set off to form Milton township, on June 11, and the place of meeting fixed at Morrison McWilliam's house. On June 13, Horatio Conant was appointed to appraise School Section 16, in Township 3, of the Twelve Mile Reservation, this being the first reference to such lands in the records of the commissioners. On the same day the general tax was placed at three mills, the road tax at two mills and the school tax at one-



quarter mill, plus the three-quarter-mill tax demanded by the school law. In December, 1835, County-Surveyor Hiram Davis was ordered to procure the United States field notes for Townships 3 and 4, Range 11; of 4 and 5, R. 12, and of 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the U. S. Reserve at the Foot of the Rapids, and also of the additional survey of Perrysburg and of the Maumee and Western Reserve road in Wood county. In that month, also, the auditor, W. V. Way, was allowed \$315.07 as salary, while the first claim for damages for running a road through Eben Wilson's farm was considered, and the first keeper of Wood county's standard measure was appointed in the person of Addison Smith.

In March, 1836, Montgomery township was authorized to elect school trustees. E. B. Eagle was auditor at that time, but his death and the appointment of W. H. Sloane as his successor are noticed in the minutes under date of May 6. The new auditor and the new commissioners cast aside the old rawhide-covered volume, venerable as the first record-book of Wood county, bearing all the earmarks of official life for her first fifteen years, and telling much about the work of the pioneers in laying the foundations of her prosperity.

In September, 1836, the commissioners gave notice that on October 1 they would consider proposals for building a court house. On December 5 the petition for the establishment of a new township was discussed, and Congressional Township No. 3, R. 10, was set off under the name of Henry township. In February, 1837, the auditor was instructed to advertise in *The Miami of the Lake* for bids for building a court house. Washington township was established June 5, 1837. Two days later, the county tax was placed at seven and one-half mills, the road tax at four mills, and the school tax at one and one-half mills on each dollar of assessed value.

On June 5, 1838, the board ordered a deed to be given to the town of Perrysburg for lots 151, 162 and 175, formerly granted for burial purposes, and on the following day that all other lots owned by the county, with the exception of the two lots on which the new court house was building, should be offered for sale on September 1. The establishment of Troy township, and the rejection of a petition from Middleton, asking the annexation of that township to Washington, are recorded under date of December 3, 1838. On April 23, 1839, the Act authorizing Wood county to subscribe \$100,000 to the capital stock of the Perrysburg & Bellefontaine Railroad Company was observed by the commission-

ers, who signed the books at Perrysburg for one thousand \$100 shares. They appointed David Ladd, of Perrysburg, agent to borrow that sum at six per cent. At the same time David C. Doane was appointed agent to borrow \$5,000 for court-house-building purposes under the special Act of the Legislature. At the June session of 1839, a tax levy of seven mills for county purposes, three for road purposes, one for bridge purposes and two for school purposes was authorized. Twelve sections were attached to Perrysburg, and Hiram Davis was paid \$30 for a map of the county. In December, Morrison McMillan succeeded Doane as agent in the matter of borrowing the \$5,000 alluded to above. Notice was given to the electors of Fractional Township No. 6, original survey, to meet at the school house on Section 32, on April 28, 1840, to organize that township (Middleton).

In June, 1840, the petition for the establishment of Congressional Township No. 3, R. 9, under the name of Jackson, was granted, and the place of meeting fixed at John Dubb's house. The tax levy, of five mills for county purposes, three for road purposes, one for school, two for bridge and two for interest, or thirteen mills on the dollar, was ordered. In December, 1840, David Ladd surrendered his commission as agent to borrow \$100,000, and his bill of \$108 was paid. In June, 1841, River Tracts 56, 57, 58, 59, and fractional part of Section 16, lying on the southwest side of the Maumee in Township 1, U. S. Reserve, twelve miles square, M. R. L. E., were attached to Perrysburg township (though the territory was attached to Middleton in the former year). At the June session of 1841, county tax of five mills; school, two; road, three; bridge, two; special for finishing court house, three; interest, two, and State, five, or a total of twenty-two mills, were authorized. On December 8, 1842, the court house was completed and occupied. In December, 1844, the s.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 36, Township 6, R. 10, and the s.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 31, Township 6, R. 11, were set off to Plain and Center. The attachment of Sections 3 and 10, in Township 5, N. R. 10 E. of Washington township to Plain township was ordered March 3, 1845. On June 3, 1845, the commissioners ordered Township 5, R. 9, to be set off and organized as a separate township, the meeting to be held at John Crew's house. The business of the year 1845 was principally given up to petitions for new roads, alterations of roads and settlements with the contractors on the Perrysburg & Findlay, and on the Kenton turnpike.

On March 16, 1846, the commissioners, act-

ing under the Act of March 2, that year, divided Wood county into four Assessors' Districts, as follows: Perrysburg and Lake townships, No. 1—Jairus Curtis, assessor; Perry, Montgomery, Freedom, Troy and Center, No. 2—Thomas Eisenhaur, assessor; Portage, Bloom, Liberty, Henry and Jackson, No. 3—Francis Carrothers, assessor; and Milton, Weston, Washington, Middleton and Plain, No. 4—Michael Sypher, assessor. Special taxes for roads were common in 1844-45 and 1846-47, such part of the public business requiring the earnest study of the board. In June, 1846, the board purchased In-lot 210 at Perrysburg for the purpose of building a jail thereon. On July 7, John W. Woodbury was awarded the masonry work for \$800, and the whole cost was estimated at \$2,150, including Henry Thornton and Daniel Lindsay's contract, for all work outside the mason's contract, \$1,022, and O. H. Carpenter's contract for iron work, amounting to \$150. W. Huston and George Powers purchased each a half of the old courthouse lot.

On June 17, 1847, the extraordinary levy for county, school, bridge and road purposes was ordered, and a detailed record made in the Journal, showing specifically the application of the moneys to be levied. In December, 1847, the masonry work on the new jail was accepted, but on June 7, 1849, Woodbury petitioned for relief against losses sustained in carrying out his contract, owing to the manner in which the commissioners hurried forward his work. This petition won for him an additional \$100, to which his partner, S. N. Beach, waived all claims. The Act of January 13, 1829, "To Improve the Breed of Sheep," was ratified and adopted by the commissioners, March 5, 1850. In December of that year they remitted a fine of \$100, imposed by Common Pleas upon Nelson H. Emmons for bigamy, provided that the guilty one would pay into the treasury the costs incurred by the county and interest thereon, within a year. In 1852, David Ross, Lewis F. Dubbs, Henry L. Wood and John Russell were appointed assessors of the districts in the order given. In December, 1853, several citizens were paid for their services in surveying and appraising swamp lands and laying out ditches on the same.

On March 18, 1854, the board summarily declared vacant the office of sheriff, because Thomas L. Webb, the sheriff-elect, would not give \$5,000 bail in addition to his official bonds. The coroner was notified to assume the office, discharge its duties and to furnish additional bonds for \$7,000. Under this order, John Elder, the cor-

oner, qualified on March 29, 1854. Congressional Township 3, N. R. 12 E. (Perry), was ordered to be organized April 7, 1854, for the purpose of taking charge of school lands. On September 7, ditches 27 to 36, were authorized as well as the clearing out of a natural water course. William Noel succeeded to the office of sheriff on December, 1854.

A petition from the residents of Gilead was considered in December, 1855, and subsequently granted. About the same time, Township 3, N. R. 12 E. (Perry), was ordered to elect school trustees and treasurer to take charge of Section 16. In March, 1856, James W. Ross qualified as treasurer. In June, notices were given that holders of protested county orders would be paid with interest at 20 per cent. The appointment of Nathan W. Minton to re-survey the Wood-Sandusky line was made in September, 1858, and with this the commissioners appear to have ceased to consider everything save roads, ditches, bridges and finances. In 1860 Addison Smith qualified as auditor. In June of that year the portion of the Toledo and Woodville plank road, in Wood county, was surrendered to this county, and accepted by the commissioners. At the same time, Congressional Township 4, N., R. 11 E., was established, and an election for school trustees and treasurer ordered to be held at the Johnson school house, under the authority of the law of March 14, 1831. In September, 1860, E. Graham qualified as treasurer, his bonds being \$75,000. Not until June 7, 1862, is there a reference made to the Civil war. On that date, the commissioners dealt with the Military Relief Fund, giving orders for \$2,057 to 158 soldiers' families. On June 10, the contract for building an addition to the jail was awarded to Henry Thornton, while the carpenter's work was awarded to Josiah Miller. On June 1, 1863, there were 388 soldiers' families in the county, to whom relief orders were issued for \$2,716. In 1864 the commissioners dealt with the Military Bounty Fund, and in March paid out \$2,737 of the Relief Fund, and in June, \$1,823. In June, 1865, a sum of \$4,134 was ordered to be distributed among the families of soldiers.

The transactions of 1865 were confined to the establishment of an infirmary; to the building of court house, jail and offices at Bowling Green; to ordinances for ditches and roads; and to the financial affairs of the county—military, bounty and relief matters requiring much attention. In the pages devoted to county buildings the acts of the board in relation to county-seat matters are reviewed; while, in the military chapter, refer-

ences are made to the aid given by the county in men and money.

The removal of the county seat entailed much work upon the commissioners. In the winter of 1865-66 a petition was presented to the Legislature for authority to vote on the question of removing the seat of justice from Perrysburg to Bowling Green. Though Mayor H. L. Wood, of Troy township, then representative, opposed the petition, a bill was passed, and duly signed, authorizing a vote on the subject. Then began that bitter, but bloodless, struggle known as the "Ten Years' War."

On October 1, 1866, there was filed in the auditor's office a bond for \$15,000, given by the following named citizens: A. Ordway, G. J. Rogers, Norton Reed, S. L. Boughton, Jeremiah Kitchen, D. L. Hixon, Franklin Sears, David Cargo, Alfred Thurstin, G. Z. Avery, M. Fuller, A. Fay, William Hood, James Hood, A. Selkirk, L. H. Burns, William Wakefield, Hugh Cargo, A. A. Thurstin, G. W. Smith, J. V. Owens, Darius Skinner, William Gorrill, Jacob Hartman, J. Hall, J. W. Tooker, Clinton Fay, L. Moore, S. G. Foot, R. A. Dunbar, Henry Lundy, Henry Hoff, Peter Klopfenstein, J. Howells and A. D. Pernot. This bond provided for a donation of ground and buildings for county purposes as good as the buildings at Perrysburg, should the people vote for the transfer of the county seat to Bowling Green.

The question of removing the county seat from Perrysburg to Bowling Green was submitted to a vote October 9, 1866. Joshua Chappel and A. L. Fowler, justices of the peace, canvassed the vote, and declared that 2,176 citizens voted against the project, 2,454 for it, and 17 for removal to any point. The vote by townships is given as follows, the first figures representing the opponents, and the second, the friends of Bowling Green: Perrysburg, 817 against and 17 for; Lake, 163—3; Troy, 176—15; Freedom, 28—164; Montgomery, 58—271; Perry, 3—265; Bloom, 0—263; Portage, 21—180; Center, 1—261; Middleton, 168—58; Washington, 223—21; Plain, 7—333; Liberty, 36—151; Henry, 0—117; Jackson, 0—47; Milton, 116—99; Weston, 291—86; and Webster, 68—103. This election was carried out under authority of an Enabling Act of the Legislature. Then followed the case of John Powers, contestor, *vs.* Norton Reed *et al.*, contestees, before Judge Mott, in March, 1868, which was continued to June 2, 1868, when a complete canvass of the votes showed 2,390 for removal, and 2,265 against, or a majority of 125 for Bowling Green. Judge Mott denied a motion

for a new trial, and taxed the contestor \$1,086.16 costs; but notice of appeal to the district court was entered by the contestor. On August 30, 1869, William White, judge of the supreme court, Alexander S. Latty, James Pillars and James McKenzie, judges of common pleas, assembled and entered the following judgment: "The court being fully advised in the premises, \* \* it is considered, and ordered that the petition in error be dismissed, and the same is hereby dismissed, and that the said John Powers pay the costs herein taxed at \$35.70. And it is further ordered that a special mandate be sent to said Court of Common Pleas of Wood county to carry this judgment into execution. You are therefore commanded, that without delay, you cause the aforesaid judgment of our said District Court, to be carried into complete execution." On July 1, 1869, John Powers sought to hold an injunction against the commissioners in the matter of removal, but Judge Pillars vacated the injunction. On October 7, 1870, the injunction suit by Powers against the commissioners was dismissed by Judge Pillars, and the costs taxed against the county.

The county-seat meetings held at Bowling Green, March 21 and 23, 1868, considered the petition presented by Perrysburg to the Legislature, and a statement of the claims of Bowling Green was ordered to be prepared and signed by the subscribers to the court-house-building fund, to be presented to the Legislature by Joseph Hollington and R. A. Dunbar. An organization of the Bowling Green interests was made with J. R. Rudolph, president; John W. Canary, vice-president; E. H. Hull, secretary; S. L. Boughton, treasurer; N. Reed, G. J. Rogers, S. L. Boughton, Joseph Hollington and A. A. Thurstin, executive committee. These officials were given charge of the Bowling Green interests *in toto*, so far as obtaining the county seat was concerned, and at once considered the location, donations of land being offered as follows: A. Ordway, an acre on the west side of Main street; N. Reed, an acre on Wooster street, and A. Thurstin, an acre on Summit and Thurstin streets.

In June, 1868, ground was broken for foundations; on July 4 the corner stone was placed, and by October 23 the walls were completed under the superintendence of Norton Reed. In February, 1869, the bill against removal was dismissed in the State Supreme Court, but opposition was thoroughly quieted even then. On March 3, 1868, the commissioners ordered that a levy of \$10,000 be made for the purposes

of building a court house at Bowling Green. On the same day a levy of \$8,000 for the erection of necessary county offices was authorized, and a third levy of \$5,000 for the construction of a jail. On March 5, the orders for levying the \$8,000 and \$5,000 taxes were rescinded. Work on the court house was carried on in December, 1869, when \$441 was paid to A. Ordway on account, and on January 25, 1870, the commissioners notified the county officers that the court house and jail were ready for occupancy, specified the rooms assigned to each department, and ordered all books, etc., to be packed and moved to their new home. Judge G. C. Phelps, of the probate court, observed the order of the commissioners, and located at Bowling Green at that time. Not until April was the transfer wholly effected. On April 12, 1870, the commissioners met at Bowling Green, but, owing to the work of removal of books, adjourned to the 19th, when the first business was transacted here. In June, 1870, lot 151, north of the jail lot, was purchased for \$175, and made a part of the public grounds. In August, 1871, a well was drilled in the court-house grounds, and the contract for vaults was awarded to A. Ordway for \$1,340.

In 1872, after John Norris, of Perry township, took his place in the Legislature, a bill providing for reopening the county-seat question was introduced. He opposed the measure, and it was defeated. In the session of 1873-4 Nathan Hatfield, the successor of Norris, introduced a similar bill, which passed its several stages, and again called the voters of the county into this troublous question. The law providing for a vote for the removal of the county seat from Bowling Green to Perrysburg was approved March 17, 1875, and in October following 4,826 votes were cast for removal, and 4,555 against removal. The vote of Perrysburg town and township was cast out, and Bowling Green held its place as the capital of the county. A new bill for removal passed the State Senate on March 31, 1876, by a vote of 19 to 12, but the subject may be said to have rested there.

The commissioners in session March 7, 1871, adopted the following resolution against the attempt made by Lucas county to annex a part of Wood county: "Whereas, a bill is pending in the Legislature of the State of Ohio, introduced by a member thereof, of an adjoining county,

having in view the annexation of a portion of Wood county to Lucas; therefore, Resolved: That the territory of our county should be maintained intact, and that we regard the efforts of any and all persons outside of our county to sever any portion thereof from the same as uncalled for, and in our opinion cannot be carried by a vote of the county; and that we hereby protest against and oppose any and every act and effort having in view such severance."

To follow up their work in the matter of ditches, roads, etc., is beyond the limits of this chapter—it would not be necessary—it would be extravagant. Millions of dollars have been levied by general and special taxation, and it may be said that ninety-six *per centum* of the great sum has been expended judiciously under the direction of the commissioners whose names are given in other pages.

It is unnecessary to go into the details of the indictments, entered in 1895, against one ex-commissioner, the three men in office, and in May of that year others connected with the court-house construction. The records of the auditor show how far the members of the board were vindicated; while the action of Prosecuting-Attorney Murphy in December, 1895, tells the balance of the story. Prior to December 6, 1895, a *nolle prosequi* was entered on each of the following indictments: No. 1331, against Knight, Gibson and Gundy, for letting the heating contract without advertising for bids. No. 1333, against Stahl, Knight and Gibson, for levying a tax for the new court house without first submitting the same to the voters. No. 1334, against the same, for letting the contract for the treasurer's vault, without first advertising for bids. No. 1335, against Knight, Gibson and Gundy, two counts; first for allowing Auditor Wilson \$600 as compensation for keeping the new court-house journal; second, for falsely stating on their journal that the prosecuting attorney had instructed them that they had a right to do so. No. 1337, against Contractor Townsend, for fraudulently changing the stone used in the court house. No. 1338, against Yost & Packard, for permitting such change of stone. How much farther the people and courts may go toward undoing any wrong, which political zeal may have inflicted, is foreign to this work.

## CHAPTER XIII.

COUNTY BUILDINGS—FIRST COURT HOUSE AND JAIL AT PERRYSBURG—SECOND COURT HOUSE AT PERRYSBURG—THIRD COURT HOUSE, ERECTED AT BOWLING GREEN—THE PRESENT COURT HOUSE AT BOWLING GREEN—JAILS—INFIRMARY.

**I**N the chapters devoted to the Transactions of the Commissioners and the Common Pleas Court, the question of county buildings is incidentally noticed. It is an important subject, for, from 1820 to Centennial Year, the ambitions of three or more towns kept the county in a condition of turmoil, of which, happily, there are but few examples this side of Kansas. The first move was from ancient Maumee to the precocious town of Orleans of the North, and thence, by force of circumstances, to Perrysburg.

At the first meeting in Perrysburg, March 3, 1823, H. P. Barlow, Samuel Spafford and John Pray composed the board. Their first official act was to award a contract to Daniel Hubbell and Guy Nearing for a court house to cost \$895. In the same month, at a special session, they allowed Daniel Hubbell \$48 for moving the log jail over from Maumee, and ordered the auditor to expend a sum not to exceed \$25 more in repairs on the building. At the same meeting the board made an order for the auditor to advertise and sell 105 lots to pay for the court house. After lots enough to pay for the court house were sold, buyers had the privilege of exchanging county orders for lots if they so desired. The minimum price of lots was \$20 each, one-fourth to be paid at time of purchase, the residue in six-months' installments. For some cause the county commissioners did not follow the recommendation of the State commission in locating their court house and jail on Lot 387 as the best site; probably that lot had been sold before the county made its selection. The buildings were put on Front street, just west of where that street corners with Louisiana avenue. The trees and brush had to be cut off to make room, even for the teams to haul material on the lots. Most of the lumber came from Leaming's sawmill at Monclova; the shingles were split out of white-oak trees. First, the tree was sawed in sections, split into bolts, and these were split into thin slats or boards with a tool called a "fro," smoothed up with a drawing-knife on a "shingle-

horse," and nailed on the roof; they were called "lap shingles." Few carpenters now, if called upon, would know how to make an oak shingle, or properly put it on a roof after it was made. The brick for the chimneys were made at Hubbell's, at Miami.

The second court house at Perrysburg was a Roman-Doric structure, built in the basilica style, under authority of the Act of the commissioners, recorded in 1837. The building, as then designed, was to be 50x70 feet, and thirty feet in height above the foundation. The specification provided that "the foundation be stone, and the roof be similar to that of the Universalist church building, with the 'cupaloe' on the end of the house. The lower story be divided on one side into four rooms of equal size, and these be fire-proof, and two rooms on the other side of the hall be twelve feet wide, and at the end of the hall, the upper story, or court room, to be made to the draft, the front of the building is to have a projection of five feet to extend over the columns. There are to be four of these columns in front." In March following, the sum of \$10,000 of the surplus revenue was appropriated for building purposes; on April 17, Jairus Curtis and Loomis Brigham signed the building contract. When this brick building was completed in 1843, it was found to have cost the county \$20,000. Subjected to repairs periodically, and used down to April, 1870, it was burned in 1873, and the city hall of Perrysburg erected on its site.

The third court house was erected at Bowling Green by the people, in accordance with promises made prior to the removal of the county seat. It was used down to 1894, when the records were moved to the city hall, which was used for courthouse purposes until the new building was completed in 1896.

In 1894, on the occasion of placing the corner stone of the present court house, Benjamin F. James made the following reference to the old house which was torn down in December, 1893:

"Six and twenty years ago, Wood county experienced slightly similar strife and dissension within; for seven years the war waged, and the contestants, each striving for supremacy over this temple of justice, watched one another as fiercely as the Caledonians watched Agricola during those seven years of the Roman Conquest in Britain. All honor to our Caledonian neighbors of the North, and their valor for seeking to save what they deemed theirs by right of discovery; then it was, however, that this vicinity appreciated the sterling strength, the unselfish loyalty, the sublime sacrifices of Norton Reed, A. J. Manville, S. L. Boughton, John H. Reed, A. A. Thurstin, Joseph Hollington, and, later, Earl W. Merry, the Mercers, the Rogers, C. W. Evers, Judge Phelps, John W. Canary, the McMahans, Mr. Lehmann, and an hundred others. July 4, 1868, was only a day, and a day seems of small moment in the history of any county; but the events of a day oftentimes 'change the current of a nation's life blood, strip an empire of supremacy, and clothe the weakest kingdom with wonderful power.'"

The corner stone of the new court house was placed July 4, 1894, with great ceremony, by Commander J. C. Whitaker, of the Patriarchs Militant, I. O. O. F. On this stone is the inscription: *Erected A. D. 1894. Samuel Knight, James Gibson, Chris. C. Gundy, Com. John B. Wilson, auditor.* Within it was placed a copper box, containing remains of the contents of the corner stone of the old court house, built in 1868, and dismantled December 21, 1893, with copies of *Bowling Green Daily and Weekly Sentinel*, *Tribune*, *Democrat*; North Baltimore *Beacon*, *Times*; Perrysburg *Journal*; Bloomdale *Derrick*; Weston *Herald*; Pemberville *Leader*; Bradner *News*; Grand Rapids *Triumph*; Toledo *Commercial*, *Blade*; picture of Gen. H. Gibson, orator of the day; copy of law granting commissioners power to build new court house; names of the judiciary and bar of Wood county, from its organization to the present; copper plate containing names of all present county officers; copper plate containing names of all officers of Bowling Green; copper plate containing names of all business men of Bowling Green; copper plate containing names of C. T. Campbell, Grand Sire of Sov. Grand Lodge I. O. O. F.; Gen. J. C. Whitaker, Commanding Dept. O. P. M., I. O. O. F.; Grover Cleveland, President of the United States; and Wm. McKinley, Governor of Ohio. Addresses were delivered by A. B. Murphy, prosecuting attorney; Benjamin F. James, representative in the Legislature, and the late W. H. Gibson.

The following description of the building is in part taken from an article prepared by Frank A. Baldwin, of Bowling Green. The building, which is entirely of stone, is located on the site of the old court house, and has a frontage of 150 feet on each of Court, Prospect and Summit streets.

"The style of architecture is the modernized Romanesque, and it has been faithfully carried out in every detail, making a structure pleasing to the eye, substantial in appearance and convenient in arrangement.

"The massive walls throughout the entire building rest upon the solid rock, giving assurance of the greatest permanence and stability. The tower, square in front, rises to a height of 185 feet, and within it, near the top, is placed the clock, having four dials facing the points of the compass, and a 2,000-pound bell for striking the hours. From the higher openings is afforded a magnificent view of the surrounding country for many miles. The sub-basement extending under the entire area of the building is subdivided into several rooms. In it is placed the boilers, engine and machinery for supplying heat, light and power, and affords ample space for fuel and general storage.

"The main entrance, with its beautifully carved, massive archway, is unique in design and charming in appearance. The outside stairway, common to buildings generally, is entirely dispensed with, entry being made to the basement or ground floor through a well lighted and richly ornamented vestibule. At the northwest corner on this floor is located the assembly room. It contains 128 opera chairs, speakers' tables, etc., with a committee room opening from the east side. \* \* \* At the northeast corner is located the teachers' examination room. It is well lighted and ventilated, and has individual desks and seats for 66 persons. The offices of the coroner and surveyor are located at either end of the corridor, and the board of elections will occupy a commodious room with openings to the main vestibule and corridor. Well appointed toilet rooms are provided directly opposite the main entrance, the ladies' room being on the right and the gentlemen's on the left, and in the rear of the main staircase.

"The grand stairway, with its polished marble steps and electro-bronzed railings, ascends from the middle of the basement corridor to the main floor. Opposite the landing is the drinking fountain, an elaborately carved piece of marble, which is highly ornamental as well as useful. The metal railing surrounding the

stairway opening is surmounted with Athenian marble columns, rising singly and in groups to the ceiling above. \* \* \*

"From the stair landing, turning to the right and making a circuit of the corridor, we pass in their order the offices of the commissioners, recorder, probate judge, prosecuting attorney, treasurer and auditor. Broad stairways ascend from each end of this corridor to the upper floor. The view presented from this point is one of entrancing beauty. The vaulted ceiling, with its broad panels of colored glass, admits a soft and mellow light to blend with the varied tints of fresco which adorn the walls.

"Upon the eastern wall is presented a picture of Wood county's most noted and historic ground—Fort Meigs. \* \* \* On the opposite wall is a painting from a sketch drawn near the Toledo & Ohio Central railway depot at Portage, looking south. \* \* \*

"The common pleas court room occupies the east end of this floor. It is also finished with high-vaulted ceilings, paneled, with art glass of rich design. The room is not as large as the old one, but it is ample for all ordinary occasions. It contains 142 opera chairs of spacious and comfortable design. Its acoustic properties are perfect, and all the surroundings and appointments are of a nature calculated to awaken the kindlier instincts of nature, and smooth the troubled waters of litigation. The petit jury is provided with easy revolving chairs placed on a portable rostrum, and has a large cheerful room on the south side in which to deliberate on its verdict. \* \* \* On the opposite side of the corridor is the grand jury room. It is liberal in dimensions, well furnished, convenient to the court room, and the usual grist of indictments will there be ground out with neatness if not with dispatch. The judge's private room occupies the southeast corner of this floor, and the west end is devoted to the offices of the clerk and sheriff. On the north side are witness rooms for separate use of men and women, with toilet rooms adjacent to each. A library and a consultation room on the south side complete the subdivisions of this floor. \* \* \* All the principal offices are in suites of three rooms each, with ample space for records, and supplied with all the modern conveniences for the transaction of business. All the principal corridors and the outer portion of the offices have floors of vitrified tiling laid in ornamental designs, and the corridors are wainscoted to a height of six feet with Italian marble."

The net cost of the building was \$222,895.94; total cost of completed building, fully furnished with grounds improved, \$255,746.84. At this writing (September 1, 1896) the building is practically ready for occupancy, although not fully completed.

*Jails.* The original jail building was moved from Maumee to Perrysburg in March, 1823, and its reconstruction completed March 19 of that year, the total cost of moving and rebuilding being \$48, paid to Daniel Hubbell, and \$25 for repairs. This jail was in use down to June, 1828, when Elisha Martindale, the contractor for a new building, offered it to the commissioners. In 1832, a stockade was constructed. In February, 1835, the question of erecting a building around the jail of 1828, was considered, but that for building a new court house was substituted and adopted. The jail question was revived in 1846; in June of that year, Inlot No. 210 was purchased as a site; on July 7, the building contract was awarded to John W. Woodbury, S. N. Beach, Henry Thornton, Daniel Lindsay and O. H. Carpenter; but the house was not completed until the close of 1848. That building may be said to have been used down to 1870, when the seat of justice was removed to Bowling Green. On March 3, 1868, a tax of \$5,000 was ordered to be levied; but this order was rescinded two days later. In March, 1869, the order to erect a jail at Bowling Green was entered, and, on May 6, the bid of \$9,000 made by S. L. Boughton and A. A. Thurstin, was accepted, the condition being that the contractors could use the stone, iron and other material of the old jail at Perrysburg, in the new building.

*Infirmary.* The initial movement for providing a home for the poor of this county was made in June, 1827, as related in the chapter on Transactions of the Commissioners. Not until 1865, however, was the question presented in practical shape. In April of that year a vote was taken on an appropriation for the purpose of purchasing a farm and erecting buildings; but not until March 3, 1868, were the first directors appointed, namely—John Yeager, R. W. Kelly and Henry Lundy. In June of that year, they awarded the building contract to A. K. Vail & Co., on a bid of \$4,900, the house to be built on the old Adam Phillips farm, of which the county obtained title. The directors and officers of the Infirmary are named in the list of officials, given in the political chapter.



## CHAPTER XIV.

BENCH AND BAR—COURTS HELD AT MAUMEE, PERRYSBURG AND BOWLING GREEN—EARLY TRIALS, JUDGES AND JURORS—COURT INCIDENTS AND NOTORIOUS TRIALS—CHANGES OF OFFICERS—JUDICIAL DISTRICTS—JUDGES OF COMMON PLEAS—PROBATE JUDGES—PROSECUTORS—TRANSACTIONS OF SUPREME COURT—UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT—JUSTICES' COURTS—MEMBERS OF OLD AND NEW BARS.

THE story of the courts and lawyers of this county presents a number of important civil cases, but only a few great criminal ones. From that time, in May, 1820, when the lower Maumee was visited by Judge Tod and his band of intellectual advocates, Wood county has been subjected to great physical and social changes. The Bench and Bar are no longer looked upon as traveling talkers, in search of frolic and of clients—scolding, wrangling and fighting for their friendly clients in court, forgetting their fierce looks and gestures in a moment after adjournment, and meeting as old friends and boon companions in the neighboring tavern. The members of the modern law circle vary from the atoms of the pioneer Bar in methods and manners, making their profession a science and an art at once, and exercising a most beneficent influence on municipal, county and State affairs. The pleasant, genial Bohemianism of the Old Bar has disappeared, and, in its place, a profession—at once business-like, permanent and useful in all its characteristics—has grown up.

And so, in philosophic vein, I say as I began,  
Although the man of law loves peace and is a peaceful man,  
If dogs delight to bark and bite and doctors disagree,  
It were not well that all mankind should live in unity.  
If with consummate peacefulness the Christian world were  
blest  
Some occupations would be gone and the lawyer's with the  
rest

The first term of Common Pleas was opened at Maumee, May 3, 1820, as already related in Chapter XI. The first official act of Prosecutor McCurdy was to challenge the whole fifteen men summoned as grand jurors, and the court, sustaining him, ordered the sheriff to summon a full jury from the by-standers. The persons so summoned were William H. Bostwick (foreman), Aaron Granger, John T. Baldwin, Parris M. Plum, Aurora Spafford, Jeremiah Johnston, William Pratt, Richard Gunn, Collister Haskins, Ephraim H. Leaming, Josephus Tyler, Daniel Murray, John

Hollister, Norman L. Freeman and John J. Lovett. On the day following, the jurors returned true bills against the following named citizens: George Jones, who assaulted Ezra Crosby, and Thomas Gainor, who assaulted Joseph Willey. These indictments, with the appointment of Horatio Conant to administer the estate of George D. Roberts, deceased, the trial of Thomas Gainor, who was sentenced to pay \$5 and costs; that of George Jones, who was ordered to pay \$10 and costs, the indictment of Isaac Richardson for resisting the sheriff, and the granting of licenses, completed the day's work.

The petit jurors ready in the Gainor case were saved further trouble by the defendant's plea of "guilty," but were not so fortunate in the Jones case. According to the indictment, this Jones, on April 3, 1820, at Maumee, "did make upon the body of Ezra Crosby and him, the said Crosby, then and there beat, bruise and wound, and his under lip did then and there bite off, and other enormities commit against the peace of God and of the good people of the State of Ohio, and contrary to the statute in such cases made and provided." The jury in the case included Benjamin Farnsworth, Thomas Gainor, Elijah Gunn, Jr., James Wilkinson, William Hunter, Edmund Palmer, Levi Osman, Samuel J. Varney, James C. Adams, Hiram P. Barlow, Darius C. Henderson and James Carlin. The trial of Isaac Richardson, for resisting, beating and abusing Constable George Campbell, was hastily finished, and for this trivial offense he had to pay \$10 and costs, or just the same as Jones had to pay for his terrible assault and cannibalistic appetite. The charge of resisting Deputy-Sheriff George Patterson was withdrawn, and thus Isaac escaped with Pelion upon him, rather than Pelion and Parnassus, as full justice would have it.

The court also heard, and granted, an application for leave to elect three additional justices



for Waynesfield township. This township, it will be remembered, had vast territorial jurisdiction at that time, and Wilson Vance (brother of Gov. Vance) was appointed surveyor for the county.

In October, 1820, the same judges present, Thomas W. Powell produced his certificate of admission to the bar, and was appointed prosecuting attorney. Following the example of McCurdy, he challenged the whole grand jury, and had a jury summoned from the audience, among whom were Seneca Allen, Jacob Wilkinson, David W. Hawley, Artemus Underwood, Wilson Vance, John E. Hunt, Thomas McIlrath, David Buckland, Samuel Spafford, Dexter C. Gunn, James Hunter, Hiram P. Barlow, Thomas Leaming and John J. Lovett. The attorneys formerly admitted were Thomas W. Powell, Eleutherus Cook, Ebenezer Lane and Philip R. Hopkins, all of whom were interested in the trial of Joseph Kinjo for assault and battery, and all of whom were surprised when Judge Tod imposed upon him a fine of one dollar. New indictments were returned against George Jones and Thomas Gainor, old offenders, as well as against Thomas Carr, Isaac Richardson and William Griffith, for assault; against Neil Thompson, who "unlawfully, with force and arms, did sell the quantity of one pint of spirituous liquor of intoxicating quality, for the price of twenty-five cents, to certain Indians," and against Thomson *et al.*, for attempting to abduct a negro, as related in the history of Perrysburg.

The principal business of the court, during 1821, was transacted by the associate judges, Judge Tod giving his attention to the criminal calendar.

In May, 1822, Daniel Hubbell qualified as associate judge, under his commission of February 4, that year. At this session the report of county-seat commissioners—Messrs. King, Payne and Sherman—was received and entered on the record.

Many indictments for selling spirituous liquors in a less quantity than a quart, and, in some cases, without license, were returned in 1821 and 1822. The report of the coroner, Francis Charter, in May, 1822, on the inquest over the body of Samuel Ewing (who was murdered by one Lewis, at Roche-de-boeuf, March 9, 1822), was ignored on motion of Thomas W. Powell, and an indictment for manslaughter against John Lewis was substituted. Charles L. Lanman was assigned for the defence. French was found guilty of passing counterfeit bank notes, and was sentenced to a three-years' term in the Ohio penitentiary;

while Lewis, found guilty of manslaughter, received precisely the same punishment. He escaped from jail, and was never again heard from. Judge Tod was present in September of this year, with Horatio Conant, Daniel Hubbell and William Pratt, associate judges—the last named being commissioned July 30, that year. Moses B. Corwin and Oliver Overton were permitted to practice here; Hiram P. Barlow was appointed administrator of the James Carlin estate, and a good deal of probate as well as county business was transacted, such as the will of Olive Spafford, the appointment of guardians and administrators, and the issue of mercantile, tavern and ferry licenses.

The last session of Common Pleas, held at Maumee, was that of February 12, 1823, when Walter Colton, William Pratt and John Hollister, associate judges, presided, under their commissions dated January 24, 1823. The first session at Perrysburg, was held, March 27, that year, the same associate judges present. In May, Judge Tod came to Perrysburg, but finding no suitable place to hold court, adjourned to John Hollister's house at the town of Orleans, and finished the term there. Mr. Evers, in one of his historical papers, tells the story of this first term of court, as follows:

This term only lasted three days. There were only about thirty cases docketed; the largest judgment taken was for \$780.50 in favor of James Boyd *vs.* Peter Lumbar. The grand jury, composed of the following named men, William Hunter, Daniel Hubbell, E. H. Leaming, Elijah Gunn, Jr., H. P. Barlow, William Gunn, Arthur Burrows, Thomas McIlrath, Moses Rice, James Shirley, Anthony La Point, David Hull, Guy Nearing, John Webb and Timothy S. Smith, were sworn and only found one indictment, which finding charged a Frenchman named Rebideau with larceny; the Frenchman's lawyer picked a fatal flaw in the indictment, and Rebideau went free. That ended the State business that term. One civil case only, Thomas Smith *vs.* Israel Smith and John and William Hollister, was tried to a jury. The jurymen were Jonathan H. Jerome, Olean Dagget, Pierce Evans, Elisha Gunn, Neal Thompson, James H. Slawson, Antoine Peltier, Joseph Woolcut, Pain C. Parker, John Pray, Isaac Richardson and Aurora Spafford. At this term no less than twelve administrators and guardians were appointed, and four others removed for cause. As noticed in a previous chapter, the unusual number of deaths in this way disclosed, in that small community, was something frightful. Among those probate proceedings we note a few: James Carlin, the blacksmith, had died, and J. H. Forsyth was appointed guardian for Parlee, his sixteen-year-old son, who, in after years with his brother, Squire Carlin, became leading citizens of Findlay, Ohio, and have numerous descendants in Wood and Hancock counties; John Webb was guardian for Olive Ewing, afterward Mrs. Rolla H. Chubb, who has numerous descendants living in Wood. Angelina Ewing had for her guardian Thomas R. McKnight, and Samuel Spafford acted for the other sister, Minerva Ewing. These three sisters, the eldest of whom was thirteen years of age, were the daughters of one of Wood county's first commissioners, Samuel H. Ewing, and sisters of William Ewing, in later years a probate judge of the county. Their father and mother had both fallen victims to the Maumee fever. Charley Robey's widow was appointed

administratrix on the estate of her husband, who was the father of the boy, Curtis Robey, who became noted as an Indian interpreter, and also Charles, who commanded the ill-fated "Griffith," a steamer, whose destruction by fire on Lake Erie in 1851 was attended by such great loss of life, including Robey himself and his wife. Collister Haskins was appointed guardian for Martha Russ; Isaac Cook was appointed administrator of Horace Cook's estate; H. P. Barlow was appointed guardian for Anthony, also Henry Ewing (later known as Uncle Hank Ewing), then boys of fourteen and twelve years of age, respectively. They were the sons of Samuel Ewing, killed at Roche-de-boeuf, as were Samuel and John, younger children, whose guardian was Pain C. Parker.

These details are given to bring out the names of the heroic band of pioneers who were grouped about the parent settlement of the county at that early day, struggling amidst most disheartening trials and exposure, to gain a foothold and make a beginning. The court at this session supplemented the work just done by the commissioners in forming new townships, by ordering that each township should be allowed two justices of the peace, and that the number of justices in the hitherto colossal township of Waynesfield be reduced to two. The elections for such justices which were the first in each of the three counties were ordered as follows: Perrysburg, June 19, at the house of Samuel Spafford; Findlay, July 1, at the house of Wilson Vance; Damascus, June 19, at the house of Neil Thompson. At the same term, Doctor H. Conant, at Maumee, and Daniel Hubbell, at Miami, were each licensed to operate a ferry one year; tax \$5 each. The charges for foot passengers were 6¼ cents each; teams, 37½ cents. Robert Forsyth and John E. Hunt got a permit to sell merchandise at Maumee, and John Hollister at Orleans, for \$15 each, and Anthony La Point at Presque Isle Hill, the same privilege for \$10, and Samuel Vance at Prairie Damasque (Damascus, Henry county), to keep tavern, paid \$6. This ended the proceedings of the first regular term of Common Pleas Court in what is now Wood county. The business of the session was doubtless curtailed by the inconvenience experienced in being compelled to hold court at a private house, a thing which has never occurred since.

"With a full complement of county officers and courts, we may consider that Wood county was fully started on her career. To use a figure of speech, the ship was launched safely and her destiny now rested with the crew. The character and make-up of the population centered about the seat of the new county, at that time, was fully up to the average in enterprise and intelligence. They were from New England, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, with a fair sprinkling of French and English traders and half-breeds from the Detroit country, who left as the county increased its settlements."

At the October term of 1823, Barbara Ewing, a widow, appeared in court to offer herself as bondswoman for Matthias Dismen, in the sum of \$500. In May, 1824, Robert A. Forsyth succeeded William Pratt as associate judge, and, with his fellow judges, held a Probate Court in the clerk's office at Perrysburg. In May following, the court house was ready, but, as Judge Tod did not appear, the probate and common-debt cases were only considered. In October the associate judges expected to deal with a criminal case without the aid of their president; but Peter Dalson, who was indicted for assaulting

David Emick, pleaded not guilty, and the case against him was continued. In October, 1824, they did, however, dispose of the case by discharging Dalson, the prisoner's counsel showing that one of the grand jurors, who voted for his indictment, was not a resident of the county. Judge Ebenezer Lane was here in May, 1825, being the first president judge who took part in legal transactions here from 1823 to the latter date. Numerous indictments were returned for infractions of the license laws, and a new one against Peter Dalson, who was charged with "maiming." In October, 1825, Judge Lane, with Walter Colton, Robert A. Forsyth and John Hollister, presided. John B. Pennetshaw was tried for taking 500 muskrat skins, value for \$225, and 200 raccoon skins, value for \$75, from William and John Hollister. He was found guilty of burglary, and sentenced to a five-years' term in the penitentiary. The same judges were present in 1826, 1827 and 1828.

Among the court incidents of that day, told by Thomas W. Powell, and preserved by Mr. Evers, is that known as "The Huntington Robbery," which is given *verbatim et literatim*, as follows:

In the spring of 1826, there transpired at Perrysburg a case of more than ordinary interest and excitement. Elijah Huntington, of Perrysburg, had about that time been collecting his money with a view to be prepared to purchase some lands on the river that were soon to be resold by the United States, and which had become forfeited for non-payment by the former purchasers. Huntington had in his house some four hundred dollars, which he kept by him, waiting the sale of these lands. Early one morning Mr. H. came to my house greatly excited, with a club in his hands, saying that, in the night previous, some persons had entered his house, broken open his drawers, taken his money, and left in the room that club. Mr. H. thought himself ruined; for at that time four hundred dollars, with a view to the approaching sales, was an important sum of money. But who had committed the crime could not even be guessed at. It for a while baffled all conjecture, and became quite a mystery. A week or two previous a pocket-book and a small amount of money had been missed from the house of Charles O'Neil, of Perrysburg, and suspicions after a while began to be placed upon one Stockwell and his wife, who had not long before settled there. The citizens of Perrysburg became greatly excited upon the subject of this robbery; and for a time it seemed to elude all endeavors to detect the perpetrators. Suspicions having been placed upon Stockwell and his wife in regard to the O'Neil affair (though as yet there was no evidence against them), public attention was directed immediately to Stockwell as a person who might be in some way connected with the robbery of Mr. Huntington. The club that was found in Huntington's house, after the burglary, was for awhile handed around as a curiosity. When tired of its exhibition, Mrs. H. threw it upon the fire for the purpose of making a final disposition of it. Just then, as luck would have it, Judge Ambrose Rice, an old citizen of Maumee, a remarkably shrewd man and close observer, came into the house and immediately snatched the club from the fire, with the observation that it should be preserved, as it might yet be evidence against the perpetrators of the act. The club was a hickory stick, considerably reduced at one end by long chips taken from it with a knife. Judge Rice thought that possibly the chips might be somewhere found

and identified with the club, so as to implicate some one with the burglary. Strenuous investigations were made for some days without result. At length a number of the citizens of Perrysburg determined to make a search of Stockwell's house, and take him and his wife, for awhile at least, into custody. For this purpose they went in the night time, when they would be sure to find them at home, took possession of the house, and them into custody, and made diligent search of the house without finding any evidence against them. Stockwell and wife asserted entire ignorance of the whole matter in question. The next morning Judge Rice went to the house with the club, and examined to see if some of the chips taken from the club could not be found there. After some diligent search he found some fresh chips scattered under the floor of the house. These chips upon examination would correspond exactly with the marks of the club so completely that there could be no question of their identity.

This was a crushing answer to Stockwell's assertion of his innocence in the matter. But as yet no further evidence was discovered against them. But becoming alarmed in consequence of the identity of the chips found at his house with the club, and finding that his associates had played a trick upon him in keeping him ignorant of the amount of money that had been taken, and applying the whole of it to their own use, he became indignant toward them, and determined to disclose the whole. For this purpose he sent for me as the prosecuting attorney, and disclosed to me the whole transaction as far as he knew it. He told me that he and his wife had the O'Neil money, and informed me where I could find it; but as to the Huntington money, he knew nothing beyond eight or ten dollars of it. He said that a night or two before Huntington's house was robbed, two men by the name of Keiser, old cronies of his in crime, came to his house and inquired of them if there were not some plunder to be had in Perrysburg. Stockwell informed them that his wife had discovered that Mr. Huntington had a quantity of money on hand in his house. This they soon formed a resolution to take. They kept secreted at his house a day or two making observations and planning how to take the money. On the night that the money was taken, they all three sallied forth and went to Huntington's house, found them all asleep, and one of the Keisers made his way into the house and soon returned, saying he had got Huntington's pocket-book, but he feared it was a "water-haul." The club he had taken into the house with him, he had accidentally left there, which gave them some concern, and some time debated upon the subject of returning for it. They did not, however, and proceeded to Stockwell's house to examine the pocket-book and divide the spoils. Keiser presented the pocket-book as all that he had taken. Upon examination it was found that it contained only fifteen or twenty dollars, and the Keisers gave Stockwell eight or ten dollars as his share of it. Stockwell was dissatisfied, and suspected fraud; and so questioned Keiser about it. Keiser declared upon his "honor" that that was all he had taken—it was, he said, only a water-haul; and proposed to Stockwell that he might search him. Stockwell was silenced by the brass and impudence of the Keisers, who immediately left Perrysburg; and no one except Stockwell and wife knew anything of their having been there, or within a hundred miles.

Now, if the club had not been saved by Judge Rice, and identified with the chips found in Stockwell's house, and was likely to throw upon him the guilt of the whole transaction, and the conviction on his part that the Keisers had perpetrated upon him what he considered to be a dishonorable and knavish trick, in secreting from him almost the whole of the spoils they had taken, it is not probable that this most wicked transaction could have been ferreted out. But the ways of Providence are mysterious, and the ways of the wicked are hard, and in the best-laid schemes of the criminal is found the train of circumstances that leads to his inevitable detection. Stockwell, smarting under the conviction that an infamous trick had been played off on him, finding by sad experience that there was no "honor among thieves," and finding that the evidence against him was likely to make him a victim of the knaves who had appropriated, by means

of a dishonorable trick, the whole spoils to their own use, was now ready to make a frank and open disclosure of the whole transactions as far as he knew them. He informed us that the Keisers were to be found in a strip of woods on the north cape of Maumee Bay. A committee of the citizens was immediately dispatched for them, and within a few days the Keisers were in custody of the committee in Perrysburg. They held out for some time before they could be induced to disclose where the money was. But after being put through a pretty severe course of discipline, they, in the course of about a week, revealed where the money was to be found. It was buried at the foot of a tree on the north cape of the bay. Two women, the mother of the Keisers, and the wife of one of them, who were then at Perrysburg, were to show where the money was to be found. These women, Mr. Huntington, myself, and a few men to man a boat, went down there to receive the money. When we arrived at the cape, we found a most desolate place—a mere sand-bar with a few trees and shrubbery, where we found a miserable log-house—the home of the Keisers. The women took us to the tree where the money was buried. After a little search, it was found; and, being principally in paper money, which had lain there some ten days, it had become so very damp that it was very near being worthless. Through the means of these various proceedings, Mr. Huntington recovered nearly all of his lost money. Stockwell and the Keisers remained in jail several months after that, waiting their trial. But just before court, they broke jail and made their escape to Canada.

In 1828 Ambrose Rice took Colton's place, and in 1829 James Colton qualified. In November, 1829, Ambrose Rice was appointed county surveyor. On January 19, 1830, James W. Robinson was appointed clerk *vice* Thomas R. McKnight, deceased, by Aurora Spafford, James Wolcott and Robert A. Forsyth, the associate judges. In May, 1831, William Bigger took the place of Judge Forsyth, and, with his two associates and Judge David Higgins, was present during the term. John Webb resigned the office of sheriff and was appointed clerk. In 1835, the same judges were on the Bench, while Jonas Pratt was sheriff and John Webb, clerk; but, in October of that year, William Fowler, William Bigger and Aurora Spafford, were the associate judges—Judge Bigger holding office since April, 1831—and all being associate judges when Journal No. 3 closed, April 6, 1837. In 1835, a number of indictments for assault, etc., growing out of the Toledo war, were presented. In 1834, Jonathan Wood was appointed an auctioneer; in April, 1835, Daniel H. Wheeler; in October, 1835, Joshua Chappel, and in April, 1837, W. W. Irwin, all having been professional auction men. At this last term, the court appointed James Matthew, inspector of pork, flour and liquors. Thomas W. Powell resigned the office of prosecuting attorney in May, 1831, when J. C. Spink was appointed. Jessup W. Scott was the prosecutor in 1834, with Sidney Smith assistant, in the case against Joseph I. Applegate. In April, Hiram K. Steele was appointed surveyor. Willard V. Way succeeded Scott as prosecutor, in October, 1834; while Isaac Stetson was ap-

pointed in July, 1835. In 1837, Andrew Coffinberry was his assistant. In April, 1835, Addison Smith resigned the office of county surveyor. In July, 1837, Prosecutor Henry Reed resigned and James Purdy was appointed. From November, 1828, to April, 1837, there were sixty-three distinct estates settled by the court, and 179 cases, in which the Commonwealth was plaintiff, were tried. From October, 1825, to the close of the May term of 1831, there were 131 cases tried.

In April, 1838, Ozias Bowen, with William Fowler, Aurora Spafford and David Ladd, associate judges, presided. Isaac Stetson was granted \$135, salary as prosecuting attorney for the ensuing year. After his death, in September, 1839, J. C. Spink succeeded Stetson. In March of that year, Emery D. Potter, with the associates named as serving in 1838, was present.

Hezekiah L. Hosmer, in his reminiscences, speaks of a notorious case tried at that time, as follows:

John Knowles, an old citizen of Perrysburg, died from poison in 1839, under circumstances creating strong suspicions that he had been murdered by his wife. Knowles was considerably advanced in years, and the possessor of a comfortable estate—the fruit of hard labor and economical habits. A year or two prior to his death he married a young, buxom-looking girl, who had been for some time a housemaid in several families in the town. Very soon after their union, his life was rendered miserable by her violent temper and extravagant habits. Anxious to sever the tie which caused his misery, he, on several occasions, came to our office for legal advice; but divorces were not so easily obtained then as now, and we could offer him no better consolation than to advise kindness and indulgence. His health was failing, and he was frequently attacked with severe spasms. On one occasion he intimated that he believed he had been poisoned. In one of these attacks he died, and a *post mortem* examination confirmed his suspicions. Arsenic, in considerable quantity, was found in the stomach. The wife was arrested, indicted and tried for murder, upon evidence which would have been ample to convict a man. Her sex saved her. The trial was very interesting—the Count and Spink conducting the prosecution, against Willis Silliman and Stowell. I thought, at the time, that the argument of the Count to the jury was irresistible, and fastened the guilt so strongly upon the defendant that escape would be impossible. Silliman, who enjoyed a good reputation as an advocate, was adroit and eloquent, and received credit for a successful defense; but, really, nothing but the fact that Mrs. Knowles was a young and rather good-looking woman saved her.

[When the new Constitution was adopted in 1851, the judicial system was changed to its present form, in which the Probate is a separate court.—Ed.]

Myron H. Tilden presided over the court in the spring term of 1844. John Webb was then sheriff, and Joseph Utley, clerk. The work of the court was characterized by a number of naturalization papers issued to natives of Ireland and Germany. In March, Hiram Davis was appointed county surveyor to succeed Morris Brown. In 1845, Benjamin Olney took the place of Judge Ladd—the only change made in the court officers. In 1847, Ebenezer B. Sadler

appeared as president judge, with Judges Spafford and Olney, Nathaniel D. Blinn (chosen as the successor of Francis Carothers, deceased) not being present. In April, 1850, Aurora Spafford was succeeded by Jairus Curtis, who, with N. D. Blinn and Benjamin Olney, was present during the session with Judge Sadler. In March, 1851, Gilbert Beach succeeded Curtis, and, in November, Peleg G. Thomas qualified as sheriff.

In March, 1852, Lawrence W. Hall presided in Common Pleas. On April 23, that year, Asher Cook, judge of probate, established his court at Perrysburg, inaugurating the business by ordering the release of the old surveyor, Sylvanus Jefferson, who was arrested under “a warrant to keep the peace.” L. O. Simmons was clerk, and Coroner Thomas L. Webb was acting sheriff, with Jairus F. Curtis, deputy, in September, 1852. A large number of Irish and German settlers and two Englishmen were naturalized. In October, 1854, Coroner John Elder was acting sheriff, and in 1855 John Webb was clerk. On October 5 of the latter year, no less than 444 men asked the court to be admitted as citizens of the United States. In February, 1856, William L. Cook was sheriff. In February, 1857, Judge M. C. Whiteley presided. From September 20, 1852, to March 5, 1857, there were 502 settlers admitted to citizenship, the great majority registering before the fall elections. In June, 1857, C. W. Norton was present as sheriff. The judges of the Tenth District in December, 1858, were M. C. Whiteley, George E. Seney and Josiah S. Plants; while in February, 1859, M. C. Whiteley, William Lawrence, A. Sankey Latty and George E. Seney signed the rules then adopted for the Third Judicial District. In February, 1861, Judge Whiteley, with Gabriel E. Guyer, sheriff, and William H. Jones, clerk, were present, and again during the summer and fall terms—the records, like the Commissioners’ Journal, containing not one reference to the Civil war. The conviction of Walters for murder in the second degree, in February, 1862, and of Rachel Ann Nicely for manslaughter, in March, 1862, were part of the excitements and troubles of war times. On September 1, 1862, Mrs. Moore, of Tontogany, was killed, and a Mrs. Thomas wounded, by the irritated husband of the first named and the father of Mrs. Thomas. He was sentenced to the penitentiary, and died there. In October of that year, John McGowan was prosecuting attorney. In March, 1863, Judge A. S. Latty presided. One year later, James W. Knaggs appeared as clerk, who appointed Thomas J. Webb and W. S. Eberly his deputies.

In 1865 Charles W. Evers succeeded C. C. Baird, who was acting sheriff, *vice* Guyer, resigned. In 1866, George Weddell signed the record as clerk. One of the features of the March term of 1867, was the memorial resolution, presented by Asher Cook, on the death of Lieut. George N. Parsons (formerly auditor of this county). It was signed by the members of the Bar, then present, namely: Henry H. Dodge, J. F. Price, Asher Cook, James R. Tyler, J. M. Hord, John A. Shannon, S. B. Price, John H. Reid, George Strain, P. S. Slevin, E. Tuller, D. K. Hollenbeck, F. Hollenbeck and Willard V. Way. About this time, the returns of the election of 1866, for and against the removal of the county seat, were presented to the court and spread on the record. In 1868, Judge James Pillars took his seat, and, in June following, Judge Mott was called upon to give judgment in the matter of the removal of the county seat.

In 1870, Judge Pillars was here with George Weddell, clerk, and John W. Brownsberger, sheriff. In 1872, Andrew D. Stewart was clerk, and in 1874 Charles C. Baird was sheriff. In December, 1875, the contested election of William A. Benschoter, as prosecutor, was tried. The election returns of October, 1875, showed 5,217 votes for Jasher Pillars, the contestor, and 4,068 for Benschoter, and on these figures Pillars was adjudged the legal holder of the office. Judges Pillars, Latty and Beer were present in March, 1876, in District Court. Orrin Henry appeared as sheriff in January, 1877; in March, 1878, Selwyn N. Owen, and Pillars and Latty were here as District Court judges, and W. S. Eberly as clerk. On May 6, 1878, Judge Henry H. Dodge succeeded Judge Pillars, and the procedure and usages, which now obtain, were fully introduced.

The cases presented to Common Pleas, since 1878, compass many important civil ones, and not a few heavy criminal ones, such as those which led Bach and Grove to execution. The trials growing out of the death of Mrs. Peany, 1894, brought forth the best efforts of prosecution and defense. The opening of the gas and oil fields of Wood county, the extraordinary stampedes, town-building and general activities of the last ten years, introduced new men, new manners, new criminal and civil causes, and changed, in a measure, the local notions of former times. Of course, invincible ignorance still exists in very vicious forms; but its influence is bounded by the ever-growing intelligence of the people who naturally incline toward justice. The Common Pleas journals, numbering from 1 to 36 (the last being

opened in February, 1895), contain the minutiae of transactions for seventy-five years. The first thirteen volumes cover the business of the Common Pleas for almost fifty-five years, while twenty-three books and many supplementary records have been required for the last twenty years, exclusive of the voluminous records of the Probate Court since 1852.

*Judicial Districts.*—The old district, under the Constitution of 1802, embraced all northwestern Ohio down to 1830, when this Judicial Circuit included Wood, Huron, Richland, Delaware, Sandusky, Seneca, Crawford, Marion, Hancock, Henry, Williams, Putnam, Paulding and Van Wert counties. The Assembly of 1838-39 established the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit, embracing the counties of Wood, Seneca, Henry, Williams, Paulding, Putnam, Allen, Hardin, Hancock and Van Wert. On February 19, 1845, the Judicial Circuits were reconstructed. The Constitution of 1851 abolished the office of president judge, and created five great circuits, or one for each of the Supreme Court justices, who were excused from attending in 1863 or 1864.

That Constitution of 1851 abolished the office of associate judge, and provided for the establishment of a Probate Court. Under the Constitution of 1802, the Court of Common Pleas, represented by the president or any one of the associate judges, considered all probate cases; but the New Constitution blotted out the associate judges, and removed such cases to the newly established Probate Court. District Courts were held here from 1852 to 1884, one of the Supreme Court judges, with two district judges, being generally present. It was really the successor of the county sessions of the Supreme Court.

In 1853, Wood, Seneca, Wyandot, Hancock and Crawford were placed in the Third Sub-District of the Third Judicial District. In April, 1857, the Legislature authorized the election of an additional judge for this Sub-District. In April, 1858, this territory was made a Sub-Division of the Tenth Judicial District, but on May 1, 1862, the Tenth was disestablished and the Third reorganized. The Act of 1868 provided for an additional judge, and, though that Act was repealed in 1879, the office exists under the Act of 1879. In 1879 the First Sub-Division of the Tenth District was recreated to embrace Wood, Seneca, Hancock and Hardin, and Judge John McCauley was elected in April of that year as additional judge for this First Sub-Division. The judges of the circuit, at the close of 1894, were elected, one under the Act of 1879, and two un-

der that part of the Act of 1868 which was countenanced in the Act of 1879.

The Circuit Court was re-established in 1884, and the judges ordered to be elected for six-year terms.

*Judges of Common Pleas.*—In the following list the president judge holds first place, and the names of the three associate judges follow the date:

George Tod, 1820, Horatio Conant, Samuel Vance and Peter G. Oliver.

George Tod, 1822, Horatio Conant, William Pratt and Daniel Hubbell.

George Tod, 1823, John Hollister, William Pratt and Walter Colton.

George Tod, 1824-25, John Hollister, Robert A. Forsyth and Walter Colton.

Ebenezer Lane, 1825-28, John Hollister, Robert A. Forsyth and Walter Colton.

Ebenezer Lane, 1828-30, James Wolcott, Ambrose Rice and Robert A. Forsyth.

Ebenezer Lane, 1830-31, Aurora Spafford, James Wolcott and Robert A. Forsyth.

David Higgins, 1831-35, William Bigger, Aurora Spafford and James Wolcott.

David Higgins, 1835-38, William Fowler, William Bigger and Aurora Spafford.

Ozias Bowen, 1838, David Ladd, William Fowler and Aurora Spafford.

Emery D. Potter, 1839, William Fowler (resigned), Aurora Spafford and David Ladd.

Emery D. Potter, 1842, Benjamin Olney, David Ladd and Aurora Spafford.

Emery D. Potter, 1843-44, Francis Carothers, David Ladd and Aurora Spafford.

Myron H. Tilden, 1844, Francis Carothers, Benjamin Olney and Aurora Spafford.

Ebenezer B. Sadler, 1845, Nathaniel D. Blinn, Benjamin Olney and Aurora Spafford.

Myron H. Tilden, 1850, Jairus Curtis, Benjamin Olney and N. D. Blinn.

Myron H. Tilden, 1851, Gilbert Beach, Benjamin Thomas and N. D. Blinn.

Under the Constitution of 1851, and the several Legislative Acts reconstructing judicial districts, the following named judges were elected and presided over the Common Pleas Court of Wood county: Lawrence W. Hall, 1852; M. C. Whiteley, 1857; A. Sankey Latty, 1863; Chester R. Mott, 1866; James Pillars, 1868-78; Henry H. Dodge, 1878-83; John McCauley, 1879-84; Henry H. Dodge, 1883-88; George F. Pendleton, 1884-89; John H. Ridgeley, who was elected (under the Act of 1868), served as additional judge from 1888 to February, 1893; Artemus B. Johnson, from February, 1889, to February, 1895, (under the Act of 1879); J. W. Schaufelberger (under the same Act), from February, 1893, to the present time, his term not expiring until February, 1898; and Charles M. Melhorn from February, 1895, to the present time, his term not expiring until February, 1900.

*Circuit Judges.*—The judges of the Circuit Court, re-established in 1884, were Henry W. Seney, Thomas Beer and John J. Moore. So far as the Sixth Judicial Circuit is concerned,

they are Charles H. Scribner, elected in 1886 and re-elected in 1892; Charles S. Bentley, elected in 1888, and E. B. King, elected to succeed Judge Charles S. Bentley, who was elected in 1884 to serve two years, and was re-elected at the end of his term for six years. George R. Haynes was elected in November, 1896.

*Probate Judges.*—The judges of the Probate Court, since its establishment, are named as follows: Asher Cook, 1852; John A. Kelley, 1855; J. F. Price, 1857; William Ewing, 1858; Daniel W. Poe, 1861; Edwin Tuller was appointed in 1863, *vice* Judge Poe, resigned; was elected in 1863, and re-elected in 1866, but resigned in 1869, when John A. Bonnell was appointed; George C. Phelps qualified in 1869; John Reed, 1879; Frank M. Young, 1885; Guy C. Nearing, in 1891, and Stephen A. Angus, in November, 1896.

*Prosecutors.*—The prosecuting attorneys for Wood county, from 1820 to the present time, are named as follows: C. J. McCurdy, May 3, 1820; Thomas W. Powell, October, 1820; John C. Spink, 1831; Jessup W. Scott, 1834; Willard V. Way, 1834; Isaac Stetson, 1835; Henry Reed, 1836; Count Andrew Coffinberry, 1837; Isaac Stetson, 1838; John C. Spink, 1839; Henry Darling, 1841; Willard V. Way, 1842-46; William H. Hopkins, 1846; Sylvanus Jefferson (also a surveyor), 1852; Josiah F. Price, 1858; J. E. McGowan, 1862 (now of Chattanooga, Tenn.); James R. Tyler, 1862; George Strain, 1864; Alexander Brown, 1866; John W. Canary, 1869; John A. Shannon, 1871; Jasher Pillars, 1873; Frank A. Baldwin, 1877; James O. Troup, 1879; R. S. Parker, 1884; Andrew J. Mears, 1890; A. B. Murphy, November, 1893, and Frank A. Baldwin, February, 1895, to act during the illness of the prosecutor; Arthur B. Murphy, re-elected in November, 1896.

*Transactions of Supreme Court.*—A Supreme Court record, now in possession of Clerk Baird, shows that Judges Jacob Burnet and Charles R. Sherman presided at Perrysburg, August 1, 1825, and heard eight cases. At that time Silas Lee was admitted to the Bar. In July, 1826, the same judges being present, Wolcott Lawrence was admitted to practice. At the August session of 1827, Judges Peter Hitchcock and Charles R. Sherman presiding, James A. Scranton was admitted to the Bar. In 1828, Judges Calvin Peas and Sherman were present, and, in 1830, Judges Peter Hitchcock and Henry Brush. The trial of George Porter (an employe of E. Foote), for the murder of Isaac Richardson at Roche-de-Bœuf, July 22, 1830, was heard at this term, the court

appointing Orish Parrish and David Higgins to defend the prisoner, while Thomas W. Powell prosecuted. The jury in the case comprised Robert Shaw, Palmer, Kellogg, John M. Jaques, Aurora Spafford, Elijah Huntington, Sewell Gunn, Thomas Leaming, Nathaniel K. Decker, Knowlton Young, Nathaniel Blinn, Reuben Freshwater and Andrew Hoover. This jury found Porter guilty of murder in the first degree when he was sentenced to be hanged at Perrysburg November 5, 1830, on which day he was executed by John Webb. Thousands witnessed the execution. At that session, also, James W. Robinson was admitted an attorney of the Ohio Bar.

In 1831, Judges Joshua Collett and John C. Wright were present; Elijah Huntington was appointed master commissioner of the court. Judges Collett and Reuben Wood presided here in July, 1833, when Jessup W. Scott was admitted to the Bar, and a number of civil cases disposed of. In 1834 Judge Ebenezer Lane was present with Judge Collett; but in 1835, when Frederick Lord, John C. Champlin and Henry Reed were admitted to the Bar, Judges Wood and Collett were here. In 1836, Francis H. Gillet, Samuel M. Young, and Emery D. Potter were admitted before Judges Lane and Wood, and at that time the celebrated trespass case of David Hedges *vs.* Isaac Van-Tassel was disposed of. In 1837, before the same judges, Henry Darling, Samuel B. Campbell, Daniel F. Cook and Henry Bennett were admitted to practice. The judges who presided in 1839 were Ebenezer Lane and Frederick Grimpke. David Allen and Joseph Utley were admitted attorneys. In 1839, Judge Wood was present with Judge Lane. Josiah G. Abbott and Joshua B. Davis were admitted to the Bar, while in July, 1840, the last term recorded in the old book, Judges Hitchcock and Wood presided. James Coffinberry was admitted to the Bar and a number of assumpsit and chancery cases heard.

In 1841, the same judges were present, the *cause celebre* being the Utley divorce suit, which resulted in a decree giving Mrs. Mary Ann Utley \$2,000 alimony and costs. The same judges presided in 1842; but, in 1843, Judge Matthew Birchard appeared with Judge Wood, who were also present in 1844 and again in 1845, when Joseph Utley was appointed clerk of the court for the constitutional term of seven years. In 1846, the same judges were present; but, in 1847 and 1848, Matthew Birchard and Edward Avery were on the Bench. The July term of 1849 was presided over by Judges Hitchcock and William B. Caldwell, and in 1850 by Rufus P. Spalding. With the excep-

tion of the admission of Asher Cook to the Bar in 1848, there is no record of admissions for the three years ending in 1851. In September, 1852, John A. Corwin, John M. Palmer and L. W. Hall appear as judges of the District Court, with Thomas L. Webb, coroner, acting sheriff and L. O. Simmons, clerk, and the records of the Supreme Court sessions in Wood county cease.

Under the Constitution of 1851, the District Court, composed of a judge of the Supreme Court and two district judges, was established, and held regular sessions until 1884, when the Circuit Court was established under an amendment to the Constitution.

*United States District Court.*—From 1855 to 1870, Wood county was in the Cleveland division of the United States District Court. In July, 1870, it was ordered that two terms of this court should be held at Toledo by Judge Charles T. Sherman, who was succeeded in 1873 by Judge Martin Welker, who preceded Judge Ricks. In June, 1878, Wood county was placed in the western subdivision of the Northern District, with Toledo the seat of justice. The United States Circuit Court subsequently held terms here, Judge John Baxter, of Tennessee, presiding until his death in 1886, when Judge Howell E. Jackson, of Tennessee, succeeded him, and he in turn was succeeded by W. H. Taft, the present circuit judge.

*Justices' Courts.*—Many volumes might be filled with the serio-comic administration of justice by the justices of the peace of Wood county, since the days when it was a part of Waynesfield township, of Logan county, or, as our brothers of Michigan would call it, "Maumee township of Erie county, Erie District of the Territory of Michigan." It would not be practicable to treat the subject extensively, but a little may be written to show the idiosyncrasies of the pioneer justices and, incidentally, of their unofficial neighbors.

In the reminiscences of the late Willard V. Way, the story of Joshua Chappel, who settled at Perrysburg in 1817, and who was a constable of Logan county in 1819, is related. At that time Logan county appears to have been attached to Champaign for judicial purposes, and in the jail at Urbana prisoners from Wood county found a temporary home. It appears that, in 1819, Jacob Wilkinson sued a fisherman for \$9, which the fellow refused to pay. The debtor also was impudent enough to say to his creditor that, if he wanted fish for his pay, he must turn out and catch them himself. The reply was an irritating one. The creditor sent the debtor to Urbana



in charge of Constable Chappel, to be held there until the \$9 and costs would be paid. After traveling 150 miles, Chappel offered his prisoner to the sheriff, but that official would not receive him until his board bill was guaranteed. This Chappel could not do, and the only alternative was to return with the debtor to Perrysburg. The expenses of the trip and law proceedings exceeded \$150, for which a bill was presented to Wilkinson. This was one of the incidents which urged the people to ask for the organization of Wood county.

Elijah Huntington, who succeeded Justice Powell in 1830, had advantages which were not offered to the lawyer while in office. He did not stop to consider technical points of law, but entered at once into the equity of a case, and decided it quickly. Hezekiah L. Hosmer tells of one of the first cases tried by him:

The "Old Squire" (Huntington) was a local institution. His knowledge of politics was encyclopædic. He read "Nile's Register" through regularly, and knew it by heart. In all matters of local interest he was always prominent, politics and schools receiving his special attention. No man ever discharged the duties of a magistrate or legislator more conscientiously, or generally with better judgment; but his court was often the scene of a funny incident. On one occasion a lawless character, known by the sobriquet of "Catfish Smith," a sort of land pirate, who had a shanty below the town, was arrested and brought before him on the charge of stealing Doctor Wood's pigs. The evidence disclosed the facts that the Doctor, on missing his property and suspecting Catfish, went to his premises and found the pigs penned up. Summoning Catfish, he charged him with the crime:

"And here," said he, pointing to the pigs, "are the very pigs themselves."

"Which are yours?" inquired Catfish; "I should like to know."

"That one, and that one, and that one," replied the Doctor, pointing to several.

"Them's all mine, every one on 'em. I raised 'em."

"Is that speckled one yours, that yellow one and that little hump-backed one?"

"Every one on 'em. I raised 'em. They ain't one on 'em as belongs to you."

The Doctor was a pepper-pod. The effrontery of Catfish made him very angry. "It's a lie and you know it!" he exclaimed.

"They're all my pigs," reiterated Catfish, "and you can't have 'em, Doctor Wood!"

"Well, take 'em," roared the Doctor, in a

tempest of anger. "Take 'em all and go to the devil with 'em," and turned and left. Convinced, however, that the pigs belonged to him, he made complaint and Catfish was arrested. Catfish was in the last stages of whiskey disease; bloated, blotched, a most pitiable object. He employed Count Coffinberry to defend him. Wood's attorney claimed that the case was clear, and asked that the defendant be punished. The Count in reply urged a justification.

"Admitting, may it please your honor," said he, "that the pigs were originally the property of Doctor Wood, the evidence shows that Wood gave them to the defendant. He told him to 'take them,' and the prisoner did so, and of course for this he is not liable to punishment. He told him furthermore to 'take them and go to the devil with them;' and any one, the most common observer, may it please your honor, can readily perceive, from the appearance of the man, that he had done no more than comply with this request. He had taken the pigs, that was undeniable, and, may it please your honor, he is going to the devil as fast as any man in the country."

Pig cases are not confined to that of Catfish and Dr. Woods. Wild hogs offered sport for hunters in early days, and men, armed with rifles and possessed of elastic consciences, did not always stop to learn whether they killed tame or wild swine. This haste led some of the sportsmen into the criminal court on charges of theft or robbery, and many men barely escaped the penalty attached to such crimes.

To show how the law was administered in Perrysburg in olden days, let the following copy of a page of Thomas W. Powell's justice docket be given:

State of Ohio vs. John Harris:

September 4, 1830, Elijah Huntington personally appeared before me and made complaint in writing and under oath that John Harris, of Auglaize, did, on the third day of the present month, run a horse within the limits of the town of Perrysburg, at Perrysburg township aforesaid. And thereupon a warrant was issued which was forthwith returned by Jonas Pratt, constable, with defendant in custody. Proceeded to trial, and upon hearing the proof and "allegations" of the parties, it is considered by the court the said John Harris pay a fine of two dollars and fifty cents, and 50 cents the cost of the prosecution.

This extraordinary docket of Justice Powell gives the history of 224 cases tried by him from 1823 to November 16, 1830, when he transferred the record book to Elijah Huntington. While the greater number of entries concern debtor and creditor, a large minority deal with social evils, showing, after all, that, in the quiet, pastoral days of this county, prior to the close of 1830, the people were not, morally, very far above



what the inhabitants of the busy, ambitious county of to-day are. Justice Hezekiah Hosmer's docket is also to be found in the archives of the county, and, like that of Justice Powell, is filled with accounts of big and little crimes, petty wrangles and numerous suits for debt. Beyond such trifling infractions of the law as that given in the Harris case, the writer of history may not go—the old books should be bound and made a part of the records of Wood county.

*Members of Old and New Bars.*—The first attorney named in the Court of Common Pleas record was C. J. McCurdy, the prosecuting attorney, whose permit to practice is not a part of the record. The admissions to the Bar of Wood county from the fall term of that court in 1820 to the fall term of 1840 are noticed as follows: Thomas W. Powell, Maumee, Eleutherus Cook, Huron county, Ebenezer Lane and Phillip R. Hopkins, in October, 1820; Charles L. Lanman, of Michigan, Moses B. Corwin and Oliver Overton, in 1822; John C. Spink, 1831; Jessup W. Scott, 1833; Sidney Smith and Willard V. Way, 1834; (Mr. Kinney, 1835, semi-lawyer); Isaac Stetson, 1835; Andrew Coffinberry, Henry Reed, James Purdy, Albion N. Olney and Henry C. Stowell, in 1837.

From 1826 to 1840, the Supreme Court, in session at Perrysburg, admitted the following named attorneys to its Bar: Silas Lee and Wolcott Lawrence, 1826; James A. Scranton, 1827; Orris Parrish and David Higgins, 1829; Frederick Lord and John C. Champlin, 1835; Francis H. Gillett, Samuel M. Young and Emery D. Potter, 1836; Henry Darling, Samuel B. Campbell, Daniel F. Cook and Henry Bennett, 1837; David Allen, Joseph Utley, Josiah G. Abbott and Joshua B. Davis, 1839; and James M. Coffinberry, 1840.

In many cases the admissions were mere formal permits to practice in the courts of Wood county, and even this formality was not observed in all cases. In the "twenties" and early "thirties," such lawyers as William Dougherty, Rodolphus Dickinson, Charles Ewing, Henry Cooper (of Fort Wayne), Charles Robey, James Lee Gage, Jonathan E. Champlin, George W. Ewing, David A. Colerick (of Fort Wayne) and Cyrus Lee Gage practiced here without a permit, so far as the records tell. Later in the "thirties," John M. May, James G. Haley, David Allen, Horace Sessions, Willis Silliman, Hezekiah L. Hosmer, Nathan Rathburn, Horace F. Waite, Henry S. Commager, Morrison R. Waite, Caleb F. Abbott, Richard Cook, George B. Way, D. O. Morton and Patrick G. Goode

practiced in the courts of Wood county; but there is nothing of record to point out the date of their formal admission to the Bar of this county.

Hezekiah L. Hosmer, the old justice of the peace, and later chief justice of Montana Territory, in his reminiscences of Perrysburg (written in 1862), speaks as follows of the lawyers whom he found at Perrysburg, when he settled there:

"There is no portion of the twenty-five years that I passed in the Maumee Valley filled with more agreeable associations than the ten-years' residence at Perrysburg. My partner, the late John C. Spink, was the oldest resident practitioner on the river—a good lawyer, of abundant resources as an advocate; a cute, sharp intellect; and aside from his professional accomplishments, one of the most genial, kind-hearted gentlemen I ever knew. His generosity to all knew no limit, save that of his contracted means, and always kept him poor. Indeed, his very 'failings leaned to virtue's side.' These characteristics surrounded him with friends, but failed to increase his store; and he, though ambitious of his professional reputation, and of political preferment, cared little for the accumulation of wealth. He was fond of conviviality and mirth, and always contributed his share of humor to enliven the leisure hours of our varied circuit experience. We were sure of a jovial evening when Spink was with us. He was full of anecdote and fun, and possessed a fine vein of quaint humor, which was ever at his command, and made him a very enjoyable companion. He was the soul of honor, and scorned a mean action with all the bitterness of an intense nature. A western man in birth and breeding, he exemplified in his intercourse with his fellows those hearty, hospitable and disinterested qualities of character common among the early settlers of the western States. His practice—a good one for the time—was in the courts of Wood, Lucas, Sandusky and Williams counties, and, after Lucas and Williams were divided, in Fulton and Defiance. The other resident lawyers in Perrysburg, when I went there, were Bennett & Campbell, Isaac Stetson, Henry C. Stowell, and Willard V. Way. Joseph Utley and Albion N. Olney, also residents, had been admitted but were not in practice. I formed a pleasant professional acquaintance with all of these gentlemen, and with some of them that acquaintance, as I am happy to believe, ripened into life-long friendship. Bennett & Campbell and Henry C. Stowell are the sole survivors of the number."

Samuel M. Young is now a resident of Tole-

do; Emery D. Potter died there February 12, 1896, in his ninety-second year. James M. Coffinberry died at Cleveland in recent years, and Henry Bennett died at Toledo in 1887; so that only the one member of the Old Bar remains. Judge Potter had been postmaster, collector of customs, common pleas judge, served in both branches of the State Legislature, and was a representative in Congress in 1851, where he led the fight for a reduction of postage to three cents instead of from five to twenty-five cents, according to distance. Objection being made in the House to the reduction to three cents because of the difficulty of making change he inserted in the bill a section authorizing the coinage of the silver three-cent piece, which remained until repealed by the coinage law of 1873.

Asher Cook, the first judge of probate, was admitted as an attorney in 1849, and about the same time, William H. Hall, James Mefford, the inventor, and William H. Hopkins, practiced here. D. M. McKinley, of Grand Rapids, and John Mastin, were here in 1855-58. James Murray, who was Ohio's attorney-general in 1861 and 1862, may be named among the lawyers of the middle period, with Henry H. Dodge, judge of common pleas for ten years; John E. McGowen, who resigned the office of prosecutor to become a soldier in 1862; Edwin Tuller, of Tontogany; B. W. Johnson, E. M. Colver, J. B. Spafford, George N. Parsons, who died in 1867; John A. Shannon (who died at Mason, Mich.), Josiah F. Price, Samuel B. Price, J. M. Hord, George Strain, M. B. Doyle, L. Fuller, Patrick S. Slevin (who died in 1895), Francis Hollenbeck, and John H. Reid, deceased; W. R. Bryant of Prairie Depot (1863); James R. Tyler, who died at Perrysburg; William H. Gorrill (who graduated with the Michigan University law class of 1862, and died in California in 1874); Peter Bell and D. K. Hollenbeck, of Perrysburg, were lawyers in the Wood county courts between the close of the pioneer period and March, 1867, when many of them signed the resolutions on the death of George N. Parsons.

Willard V. Way was a native of Springfield, N. Y., born in 1807, and his early life was passed on a farm. He was graduated from Union College, and then began the study of law in the office of Bangs & Haskell, at Le Roy, N. Y., and completed his study under Payne & Wilson, in Paynesville, Ohio. He was admitted to practice in the latter State in 1832, and from this date he soon became and was widely known as an honored member of that profession. He settled in the practice of law at Perrysburg in 1834.

His death occurred August 25, 1875. His attachment for the village of his adoption was great and he proved one of its greatest benefactors, bequeathing to it upward of \$15,000 for the establishing and maintaining of a Public Library. In his younger life he took an active part in politics, and served as the prosecuting attorney for the county.

Judge Asher Cook was born in Pennsylvania, but in early childhood came to Ohio with his parents, who located for a time in Richland county, then, settled at Perrysburg. He learned the trades of a stone mason and plasterer, and for a short time followed them. He also served for a time as a common sailor on the lakes. His ambition and thirst for knowledge, however, soon led him into a higher and broader sphere of usefulness. Without means, other than the earnings of his daily labor, he acquired a thorough knowledge of the common branches of learning, as well as several of the higher, and he had a special liking for the study of languages. Without the benefit of a college training, he was able to read, with ease, Latin, French, German and Spanish. He was admitted to the Bar in 1849. In the practice he was associated with and pitted against the ablest lawyers in northwestern Ohio, and was second to none of them in ability and knowledge of the law. The late Chief Justice Waite once said of him: "In knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles of law, Asher Cook has no equal in the Maumee Valley." Immediately on his admission to the Bar our subject was elected prosecuting attorney for his county, and, in 1852, was elected probate judge. From 1862 to 1864 he represented Wood and Ottawa counties in the Fifty-fifth General Assembly of Ohio. He was a delegate to the convention which nominated Gen. Grant for the Presidency in 1868. In 1873, he was elected to the convention to revise the State Constitution, and was made chairman of its committee on education. He showed marked ability in the deliberations and debates of the convention, and was recognized as among the best constitutional lawyers in that body of able men. Throughout his professional and political career Judge Cook's great ability, his unquestionable integrity, his genial courtesy and fairness, won for him the profound respect and esteem of his associates and competitors.

Judge Henry H. Dodge is a native of the State of New York, born in 1830; was graduated from St. John College, New York City, in 1849, and two years later began the study of law with Victory Birdseye, of Pompey, N. Y. In the fall of 1852 he came to Perrysburg, and finished his

preparation for the Bar in the office of Spink & Murray, and was admitted in 1855. After his admission he went into partnership with James Murray, Mr. Spink having died, and continued in practice with him until Mr. Murray was elected attorney general of Ohio. Mr. Dodge then formed a partnership with James R. Tyler, which lasted until 1869. Subsequently, he was for a short time a partner with Edson Goit, of Bowling Green, now deceased, and later was associated in practice with Jasher Pillars. In 1887 he was elected judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and was on the Bench for ten years, making an enviable record for judicial ability. On his retirement in 1888, he resumed his law practice, forming a partnership with John W. Canary, and is the oldest practicing member on the Wood county roll.

John H. Reid was a native of the State of Pennsylvania, born in Pittsburg, in 1823. He was a carpenter by trade, but not content with this vocation, and with a limited education, he, by his own efforts, worked his way through college, graduating at Oberlin, Ohio. He then read law at Findlay, Ohio, and on being admitted to the Bar located in the practice at Delta, Fulton county, this State, and, in 1851, was elected prosecuting attorney for the county. He remained there until in 1853, when he located at Perrysburg. He served the people of the latter place as postmaster, and during the war organized and was made captain of Co. D, 86th O. V. I., and later was quartermaster of the 144th Regiment, O. V. I. At the close of the war Capt. Reid resumed his practice at Perrysburg, and at the time of the contest over the county seat, he was retained on the side of Bowling Green, whose interests he heartily espoused and earnestly defended. Later he removed to Bowling Green. His death occurred November 1, 1885.

Francis Hollenbeck, deceased, was a native of the State of New York, born in 1809. In 1847 he located at Perrysburg, this county, and here lived until his death which occurred in 1894. In his early life he was a newspaper writer, and for a time was managing editor of the *Toledo Blade*. He was one of the founders of the Perrysburg school in 1848. In 1856 he was admitted to the bar, and for upward of a quarter of a century was a prominent member of the Wood County Bar.

Judge Edwin Tuller was a native of Delaware county, Ohio, born in 1821. He was a merchant and business man before he became a lawyer. He began to read law in the office of

James Coffinberry, of Maumee, and in 1865 was admitted to the Bar. He was appointed probate judge in 1863, and was twice elected to that office. Subsequently he was associated in the practice of law with James R. Tyler. He was active in politics, and for thirteen terms served as a justice of the peace. He was postmaster at Otsego for several years. His death occurred at Tontogany, August 29, 1896.

From 1868 to 1878 the majority of the senior members of the present Bar settled in the county. S. W. Clay, who died about ten years ago, and E. H. Hull, who moved to Bryan, Texas, selected Bowling Green as a place of residence in 1867. In 1868, John W. Canary and Henry S. Siple came, and W. A. Benschoter was admitted that year. Seth H. Fairchild and Henry A. Lease were admitted in 1869. Early in the "seventies" the names of Simon P. Harrison, James O. Troup, Frank A. Reid, J. R. Swigert, Jasher Pillars, J. M. Hord, Robert Dunn and Robert S. Parker were enrolled as members of the Bar. Edson Goit had moved to Bowling Green, where he died in 1880. Elam Day was at Weston or Grand Rapids; R. I. Campbell located here in 1876; Guy C. Nearing began practice at Bowling Green the same year; H. E. Averill came in 1877; Frank A. Baldwin located at Weston in 1877; Benjamin L. Abbott, George Smith, Andrew D. Stewart (now of Toledo), Geo. R. Miller, Henry S. Bunker, William H. Harris and Albion E. Lang were admitted here in 1878; J. C. Elder (now of Deshler) in 1879; while William B. McCarty, D. W. H. Day, Thomas Meehan, A. M. Treadwell, G. P. Thompson and L. K. Parks, were resident attorneys of Wood county prior to 1880. Judge Dodge, Canary, Fairchild, Troup, Reid, Dunn, Parker, Baldwin, Nearing, Abbott, Parks, McCarty, Harrison, Bierly and Thompson belong to the Bar of the present time. N. R. Harrington, Benjamin F. James, Rufus B. Moore, Andrew J. Mears, Ira C. Taber, A. R. Campbell, Edward Beverstock, Leander C. Cole, Perry J. Chase, W. S. Haskell, C. R. Painter, Thomas F. Conley, Joe Baird, Datus R. Jones, E. G. McClelland, E. M. Fries and A. B. Murphy, who located here within the last fifteen years, are known as residents of Bowling Green; Thomas N. Bierly (also of Toledo), and J. P. Hoyman, of Pemberville; D. K. Hollenbeck and M. Bowers, of Perrysburg; Christopher C. Layman, of Woodville; Simon P. Harrison, E. R. Dean, E. H. Westenhaver, William Anderson, Frank Taylor and W. H. McMillan, of North Baltimore; Daniel C. Bemis, of Haskins; G. P.

Thompson, of Weston; George Fries, of Jerry City; Lewis C. Edgar, of Prairie Depot; G. C. Sheffler, of Risingsun, and Jesse Stephens, of Fostoria, are well known members of the Bar.

Edson Goit was born in the State of New York in 1808, and before he was of age came to Ohio, and at Tiffin read law under the direction of Abel T. Rawson, and, after admission to the Bar, located in the practice at Findlay, where, in the course of time, he became extensively engaged in mercantile pursuits in connection with his profession. Later in life Mr. Goit located in Wood county, and for many years was a prominent and successful member of the Wood County Bar. His father died when he was but an infant, and he had few opportunities to improve his mind by the aid of books; but such chances as presented themselves he availed himself of, and by the time he was twenty years old he was capable of teaching. He was a man of great force and strength of character, and of great energy, and made a success of life. It is said of him by all his clients, that he would not, for the sake of money, encourage litigation. In his professional capacity he was a peace-maker among men, always counseling the settlement of difficulties without going into court if it was consistent with the honor of both parties. He was a sincere friend, and in his most prosperous days never forgot those who were his friends at the beginning when he was poor. His death occurred in 1880.

H. A. Lease is a native of Ohio; was admitted to the Bar in the Supreme Court of California in 1861; served by appointment, as district attorney for Colusa county, Cal., for one term, returned to Ohio in 1866, and in 1867 was admitted to the Bar in Ohio, and, in 1869, located at Bowling Green. He was enrolling clerk of the Ohio Senate for the sessions of 1872-3.

S. P. Harrison is a native of this State, born in 1849; read law in the office of Watson & Strong, of Norwalk, Ohio, and later entered the law department of Michigan University, from which he was graduated in 1872, and located in the practice at Bowling Green. He remained here for some twelve years, and after an absence of several years from the State, returned and located at North Baltimore, of which he became the first city solicitor, elected in 1890. He had served as mayor of Portage in 1870 and '71, and as a justice of the peace in Bowling Green in 1874, '75 and '76.

James O. Troup is a native of Scotland, born in Aberdeen; studied law in the office of Hon. Asher Cook, in Perrysburg, and was admitted to

the Bar in this county in April, 1873. He resided in Perrysburg in the practice of the law until 1880, since which time he has lived in Bowling Green, and followed his profession, in which he is at the present time actively engaged.

Judge Guy C. Nearing was born in Ohio, and raised on a farm in this his native county. He began the study of the law in 1873 with Col. John A. Shannon, in Bowling Green, and was admitted to the Bar in 1876, and then located in the practice at Bowling Green. He has served this city as city solicitor, and is now serving his second term as probate judge of Wood county.

Robert S. Parker is a native of Ohio. He attended the public schools at Findlay until twelve years of age. In early youth he learned the cigar-makers trade, which he followed seven years, during part of which time he also attended school. He began reading law at Findlay, Ohio, with Shaffer Bros., then under the direction of his father. He was admitted to the Bar in April, 1876, and at once began practice at North Baltimore in partnership with William H. Anderson, and in September of the same year located in Bowling Green. The first year he practiced alone, and then became associated with Col. John A. Shannon under the firm name of Shannon & Parker, which firm continued about two years. In 1890 Mr. Parker became associated with R. B. Moore, and the partnership lasted some five years, since which time he has practiced with E. M. Fries. During the twenty years of his active professional life, he has never missed a term of court in Wood county. He served as prosecuting attorney of the county two terms, and he was nominated by the Republican party for judge of the Court of Common Pleas, but failed of election. In the fall of 1894 he was endorsed by the Wood county delegation for representative in Congress, but was defeated in the convention.

Frank A. Reid is a native of the State of Ohio, a son of John H. Reid, whose sketch appears above. He was graduated from the law school at Ann Arbor, Mich., in 1877, and located in the practice in this county, becoming associated with his father.

Frank A. Baldwin was born in the State of New York, attended for a time the high school at Toledo, Ohio, and Eastman Business College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Later he was prepared for the Bar under the direction of J. R. Tyler, of Perrysburg, and McCauley & Pennington, of Tiffin, and was admitted in April, 1877. In June of the same year he began practice at

Weston. A few months later he was elected prosecuting attorney of Wood county.

Thomas N. Bierly is a native of Center county, Penn. He grew to manhood in Wood county, this State, and read law at Perrysburg, under James R. Tyler. He was admitted to the Bar in 1877, and opened an office for the practice of his profession at Pemberville. Mr. Bierly served as mayor of the latter village several terms, and was once a candidate for prosecuting attorney for the county, but was defeated at the election. In 1895 he located in Toledo, where he opened an office.

B. L. Abbott, of Bowling Green, was born in this State, though his early life was passed in Michigan. He began the study of law at Bowling Green with an uncle, Philander Abbott, and some years later, in August, 1878, was admitted to the Bar. He began practice with Edwin Goit, a former preceptor, which partnership lasted until the latter's death. Mr. Abbott was elected mayor of Bowling Green, in 1886, and for more than thirteen consecutive years has been a justice of the peace.

Abel Comstock is a native of the State of Pennsylvania, but grew up near Bowling Green, to which place the family removed in his youth. He was prepared for the Bar by Col. J. A. Shannon, with whom he afterward formed a partnership, which continued until in 1886. He began his law studies in 1879, and has given especial attention to pension claims. He has been a justice of the peace in Bowling Green since 1890.

William S. Haskell, recently mayor of Bowling Green, and of the law firm of Mears & Haskell, is a native of Michigan; received a liberal education, having been graduated in a classical course from the University of Michigan in 1872, and in August, 1877, came to Bowling Green. From 1877 to 1883 Mr. Haskell was the superintendent of the public schools of the latter city. He afterward read law with Cook & Troup, and in 1885 was admitted to the Bar, and since 1894 has been associated in the practice with Mr. Mears.

Lewis C. Edgar, of Prairie Depot, is a native of Ohio, and before coming to the Bar was for many years a school teacher. He read law at Toledo and at Fostoria, Ohio, and was admitted to the Bar in 1882, and located in the practice at Bowling Green, Ohio, and there remained until 1887, when he removed to Prairie Depot.

Ira C. Taber is a native of Wood county, this State. He was graduated in 1882 from the public schools of Bowling Green, and at once began the study of law in the office of Frank A. Baldwin

of that city. Subsequently he entered the Cincinnati Law School, from which he was graduated in 1885. He at once began practice at Bowling Green, and is now the senior member of the law firm of Taber & Painter, of the latter city.

Frank Taylor, of North Baltimore, is a native of Maryland. He came to Ohio with his father in his youth, and was here educated. For a time he attended Heidelberg College at Tiffin, and the College at Oberlin. Later he was occupied as a school teacher in his native State, and in 1878 took charge of the public schools at North Baltimore. He was admitted to the Bar in 1886, and has since followed the legal profession at that place.

Benjamin F. James was born near Mt. Gilead, Ohio, and, until fifteen years of age, was employed on his father's farm. He was a student at the Ohio Wesleyan University, Dennison University and the Chicago University, at which latter he was graduated in 1884 at the age of twenty-one, with the degree of A. B. He took a post-graduate course and law studies at Yale College, receiving the degree in 1887 of LL. B. In October of that year he began the practice of law in partnership with Judge Nearing, of Bowling Green, and later became associated in the practice with his present partner, Edward Beverstock, the firm being styled James & Beverstock, and has offices both in Bowling Green and in Toledo, Ohio, the Toledo location being in the Spitzer Building. In 1890, Mr. James was chosen vice-president of the Ohio Republican League, and a year later a vice-president of the National League. In 1890 he was elected city solicitor, and in 1891 he was elected to the General Assembly of Ohio.

Edward Beverstock, the junior member of the law firm of James & Beverstock, is a native of Ohio, born in Wood county. He was reared on a farm, and in 1889 completed a classical course, and was graduated from Oberlin College with the degree of A. B. He was subsequently graduated from the Cincinnati Law School, receiving the degree of LL. B. in 1891, and in June of that year was admitted to the Bar.

A. B. Murphy, prosecuting attorney of Wood county, is a native of this State. He was graduated in the scientific course from the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware in 1885, with the degree of A. B. In 1884, he won the college prize for oratory, and in February, 1885, took the second place among eight contestants in the State oratorical contest in Oberlin. He began the study of law with John S. Jones, of Delaware, Ohio, and, in 1886, entered the senior class of

the Cincinnati Law School, and graduated the following year. In the fall of 1887, he located at Bowling Green and began practice. In November, 1890, he was appointed mayor to succeed Andrew Mears, and the following April was elected to that office. He was re-elected in 1892, but resigned to take the office of prosecuting attorney January 1, 1894.

L. C. Cole is a native of Ohio, and grew to manhood on a farm in Jefferson county. He attended college at Mount Union and Richmond, and afterward read law, with Judge Robert Martin, of Steubenville, Ohio. He was admitted to the Bar in 1872, at Newark, Ohio, and began the practice of the law at Massillon, Ohio, where he was engaged in the profession until in April, 1887, when he came to Bowling Green. For a number of years he served as city solicitor of Massillon, and, in 1884, he was elected to the State Legislature in Stark county, in which he served two terms. Mr. Cole is connected with a number of business enterprises. He was a member of the State Central Committee for a number of years; also one of the executive committee for several years. In 1894, he was defeated for probate judge of this county.

N. R. Harrington is a native of Pickaway county, this State; was educated in the public schools of Warren, Ohio, and began a business career as bookkeeper for the Lima Paper Mills of Lima, Ohio. He later became secretary and superintendent of the mills. He resigned in 1884, to study law, which he did in the office of his uncle, C. A. Harrington, of Warren, Ohio. While pursuing his law studies he served as deputy clerk of the court. He was admitted to the Bar in March, 1887, at Columbus, Ohio, and in the following May began the practice of law at Bowling Green. In 1888 he was elected city solicitor on the Republican ticket.

Rufus B. Moore is a native of Ohio; was graduated from the high school at Galion, Ohio, in 1878, with the highest honors of his class, and also with the same grade from Otterbein University in 1883, where he took a classical course. After graduation he taught one year in the grammar school at Bowling Green. He then went to Kansas, and was superintendent of schools and high-school teacher at Burden for two years. He returned to Bowling Green in 1886, and studied law with R. S. Parker, and was admitted to the Bar in June, 1888, and immediately after formed a partnership with that gentleman, which continued until January 1, 1895. Mr. Moore was elected city solicitor of Bowling Green in the spring of

1892, and is now serving his third term in that office.

Thomas F. Conley, of Bowling Green, was born in the city of Baltimore, Md., and there grew to manhood, where he attended the public schools and business college. He began life as a messenger boy in the freight office of the B. & O. railroad, from which position he rose step by step, until he became private secretary to the general manager of the road. In 1890 he became the official stenographer for the Court of Common Pleas at Bowling Green. He studied law for two years with Messrs. Cook & Troup, and afterward attended the Law School of the Cincinnati College, from which he was graduated with the degree of LL. B.

E. M. Fries is a native of this county. After having attended the district schools at home, he spent two years in the academy at Fostoria, and the same length of time in the Ohio Normal University at Ada. He fitted himself for a civil engineer, and after having taught one year he entered the employ of the L. E. & W. R. R. as civil engineer. He passed upward of a year at Seattle, Washington, as a civil engineer for a land company. Subsequently he returned to Ohio and took a course of law in the Cincinnati Law School, from which he was graduated in 1893 with the degree of LL. B., and located at Bowling Green.

John S. Hoyman read law with Thomas W. Bierly, graduated from the Cincinnati Law School in 1894, which admitted him to practice in all the courts of Ohio. On his admission he formed a partnership with his former preceptor which lasted until August 1, 1896, since which time he has been in the practice alone.

J. R. Tyler, who made a reputation as a successful criminal lawyer, passed away only a few years ago. Col. Shannon moved to Mason, Michigan, where he died only recently; C. F. Lewis was at Weston in the "eighties." A. C. Houston, of Risingsun, moved to the Indian Territory; Jasher Pillars returned to Tiffin; C. W. Everett, who resided near Millgrove, resides at Toledo; Jason Barbour established an office at Toledo, and is prosecuting attorney of Lucas county; Thomas H. Tracy, of Millbury, is now an attorney of Toledo; Thomas Meehan, who was here in the "seventies," was mayor of Findlay, Ohio, in 1894; W. S. Thurstin is a member of the Lucas County Bar; C. F. Lewis was here in 1884; R. C. Wilson came in 1885, removed to the new State of Washington in 1888 or 1889 and is now in the Senate of that Commonwealth;

Fred Hollenbeck was admitted here, but moved to the State of Washington; R. F. Beausey, superintendent of the Pemberville schools, was admitted in March, 1895; George H. Withey, now of Grand Rapids, Mich., began practice in this county, and L. D. Heller, another school teacher, now a lawyer of Columbus, Ohio, was admitted here; Clyde R. Painter, who studied in Ira C. Taber's office, is one of the most recent additions to the law circle.

## CHAPTER XV.

POLITICAL STATUS OF WOOD COUNTY—THE TOLEDO WAR—INCIDENTS CONNECTED THEREWITH—THE WHIGS AT FORT MEIGS—ELECTIONS IN THE COUNTY UP TO 1896—LISTS OF NATIONAL, STATE AND COUNTY OFFICIALS.

THE political status of Wood county, down to 1840, was scarcely considered by candidates for State or National offices. Beyond the limits of Perrysburg, the canvasser for votes seldom strayed, unless indeed, he considered it advisable to visit the enterprising towns along the Western Reserve road. To local politicians, however, the county was an open book; for they knew all the nooks where a vote rested, and, when the roads or trails were passable, directed their steps to secure it. For fully twenty years after its organization, the people paid very little attention to the outside world. Gen. Harrison's visit to Fort Meigs, in 1840, attracted their attention, and, by degrees, the Congressional, Senatorial, Representative and Judicial contests interested them, but never destroyed their absorbing interest in county and township elections. The Toledo War irritated the pioneers, who, in the sober hours after the conflict, speculated on their narrow escape from civil strife, and wondered why or how the authorities, elected to direct their affairs, would entail upon them such risks. From 1835 to the fall of 1839, the people avoided State politics, and, not a few, looked upon the State officials with suspicions of their competency. This was all due to the trouble with Michigan.

*The Toledo War.*—This ludicrous fiasco is an example of the excess to which the individual or people of one State may go to rob another State of its territory. Ohio played this game on Michigan, and Illinois on Wisconsin, each taking a strip from its northern neighbor without regard to the law, only with regard to the profits, and each building a large city in relative positions, on the lake shore of the acquired territory.

The history of the transaction relates only

remotely to Wood county, but there are circumstances in connection with it which justify a mention of the fiasco in these pages. A Wood county citizen, W. V. Way, wrote a most complete sketch of the little attempt at civil war; Perrysburg was converted into an armed camp for the would-be warriors, among whom were many of Wood county's old settlers, ready to advance against the soldiers of Michigan. Ohio was determined to hold the "Six-Mile Strip." The trouble may be said to have preceded the Act of the Ohio Legislature, February 23, 1835, authorizing the governor to appoint three commissioners, for running the north line of the State, from the southern extremity of Lake Michigan to the most northerly cape of the Maumee Bay. On February 12, 1835, the Michigan Council passed an Act to prevent the organization of a foreign jurisdiction within the limits of the Territory. On March 31, 1835, Gov. Lucas and the boundary commissioners, appointed by him, arrived at Perrysburg *en route* to re-mark the Harris Line, and, about the same time, 600 militia, under Gen. John Bell, of the Seventeenth Ohio Militia District, went into camp round the old British Post, known as Fort Miami or Fort Campbell. According to Judge Way's history:

The force consisted of five companies of the 1st regiment, 2d brigade of the 17th division of militia, under the command of Col. Mathias Vanfleet. The captains of these companies were J. W. Scott, of the Perrysburg company; Stephen S. Gilbert, of the Maumee company; John Pettinger, of the Waterville company; Felton, of the Gilead company, and Granville Jones, of the Lucas guards, an independent company at Toledo. These companies numbered about 300 men. There was also a part of a regiment from Sandusky county, commanded by Lewis Jennings, and a part of a regiment from Seneca and Hancock counties, under command of Col. Brish, of Tiffin. These numbered about 300 more, making the total force 600 men. I am unable to give the particulars of the recruiting of any of the companies in Col. Vanfleet's regiment, except that of Capt.



Scott. Agreeably to military usages, he employed a drummer to wake up the martial spirit of the inhabitants. Instead of establishing headquarters at some particular place, he made them rove up and down nearly the whole length of Front street, in Perrysburg. That street was the only one, except Louisiana avenue, that contained many inhabitants. He selected a spot some distance below the avenue, and one near the upper end of the town, between which the drummer was required to beat the drum, from early morning until night. The drummer was a very large man by the name of Odle. He had a brother who was of usual size; but the drummer was so much larger than his brother, that he went by the name of the "Big Odle." He was so large, that while marching beating a common-sized drum, the drum appeared, in comparison of size with him, no greater than one of those small drums in toy shops, for the use of little boys, would appear in the hands of an ordinary sized man. He wore a two-story white felt hat, with a narrow brim; but by long use it had become softened and the crown bulged up so that it was really a two-story and an attic. A strip of paper with the words "recruiting for the war," in large letters printed on it, was fastened around it. His coat was an old rifleman's uniform of green color, trimmed with black lace. His pants were domestic cloth, colored with oak bark, and also trimmed with black lace down the legs.

Thus equipped, Odle, accompanied by a man carrying the American flag, marched up and down the street, beating the drum with great vigor from morning to night. This drumming continued for several days in succession. In the meantime the Court of Common Pleas of Wood county commenced its session. David Higgins was presiding judge. In going his beat up and down Front street, Odle had to pass by the court house. The drumming after a while became annoying to Judge Higgins, who was a very nervous man, and somewhat irritable at times. One of his peculiar irritable moods came over him during this term of court. He vented his feelings by pitching into Capt. Scott's drummer, instead of some young and modest member of the Bar, as was his usual custom. He ordered the sheriff to go out and stop that drumming. The sheriff went to Odle and told him that he was ordered by the court to stop his drumming. Odle replied, that he was under orders and pay from Capt. Scott to drum for recruits for the war. That he considered it his duty to obey him as a military authority, and should continue to beat the drum until stopped by him; or until he was satisfied that the court had more authority than Capt. Scott. He marched on beating his drum, and the sheriff went into the court room to report. The Judge's eyes flashed lightning when he heard the report. The sheriff was ordered to arrest Odle forthwith and bring him before the court, and also summon Capt. Scott. All of which was done in a few minutes. Capt. Scott was interrogated whether this man Odle was disturbing the court under his orders. The Captain replied that Odle was beating the drum under his orders, having received instructions from Col. Vanfleet to employ the music to aid in recruiting volunteers for the service of the State. He further stated that Gov. Lucas, who was stopping at Spafford's Exchange, had sanctioned his proceedings before the court commenced its session, and should therefore continue the music until stopped by Col. Vanfleet or his Excellency. The Judge roared out in a stentorian voice, "Mr. Sheriff, take Capt. Scott and his music organ to jail and lock them up. Mr. Prosecuting Attorney, draw up an information against these men for contempt of court, and have the case ready for hearing to-morrow morning."

The sheriff, Jonas Pratt, made a move toward executing the order. Capt. Scott and Odle readily followed him down stairs to the corner of the building where there was a path leading to the log jail on the back end of the lot. Here a stand was made. The sheriff's authority to imprison was repudiated. The Captain informed him that he should not sacrifice the interests of the State to gratify Judge Higgins's assumed authority. That in the emergency of war, when the State was invaded by an enemy, the military authority, on which the State relies for protection, is paramount to the civil authority; that although he regretted to disturb the proceedings of the court, yet he could not consent to the enforce-

ment of its order in his case. He gave the sheriff to understand, that if he persisted in attempting to take him to jail, he would then and there, on the spot, test the question of power, between himself and the court. He told the sheriff that if he made a single move further to imprison him, he would declare martial law, and do with him and Judge Higgins as Gen. Jackson did with Judge Hall at New Orleans, put them both under arrest. "That is right; that is right, Captain," said Odle, at the same time doubling up his two hands to about the size of elephant's feet. "That's the way to talk. Bully for you, Captain. Stand off, Sheriff!"

By this time, there was a commotion in the crowd of bystanders, indicative that the sheriff would have a lively time of it, in getting them to jail, if he should attempt it by force. The sheriff retreated up-stairs to the court-room as soon as possible, and reported what had taken place at the door below.

The Judge never said a word in reply; but continued in the trial of the case on hand, as if nothing unusual had happened. Without losing any more time, Odle slung the drum strap over his neck, and continued his march and music as before up and down the street. After some little time, the Judge directed the sheriff to go and find Capt. Scott and ask him if he would be so good as to order that music to some back street, where it would interfere less with the court. The enthusiasm for enlisting recruits was so great, that if the court had attempted to enforce its order, it would have failed. Capt. Scott acquired so much popularity by these proceedings, that he shortly after had no further use for his drummer. His company was made up at once. Gov. Mason, with Gen. Joseph W. Brown, arrived at Toledo with a force under the immediate command of the latter, variously estimated from 800 to 1,200 men, and went into camp, ready to resist any advance of the Ohio authorities upon the disputed territory to run the boundary line or doing other acts inconsistent with Michigan's right of jurisdiction over it. Gen. Brown had, for his staff, Capt. Henry Smith, of Monroe, inspector; Maj. J. J. Ullman, of Constantine, quartermaster; William E. Boardman, of Detroit and Alpheus Felch, of Monroe, aids-de-camp. The two governors, having made up an issue by legislative enactments, found themselves confronted by a military force that had been called out to enforce their respective legislative pleadings. Gov. Mason, representing the tenant in possession, was content to rest at his ease. Gov. Lucas, representing the plaintiff, had to open the trial. He found it convenient to observe a "masterly inactivity" for some days.

Nothing prevented war but the arrival of Richard Rusk and Col. Howard from Washington, who came as peace delegates from the President. They proposed that the Harris Line should be re-marked according to the Act of the Ohio Legislature; but that the residents of the "Six-Mile Strip" should be free to recognize the authority of the State and Territory according to the sympathies of each, until Congress would settle the question. It cannot be said that the two governors accepted this solution; but it had the effect of permitting the militia to retire to their homes without firing a shot. Michigan maintained her pretensions until August 29, 1835, when Gov. Mason was removed and Charles Shaler appointed in his place; but the boundary-line troubles continued down to June 15, 1836, when Congress designated the Harris Line as the southern boundary of the State of Michigan, admitted that day.

This boundary trouble arose over a strip of



land five or six miles wide, which, by a survey made by William Haris, and known as the "Haris line," belonged to the State of Ohio. But, according to another line, surveyed by John A. Fulton, and known as the "Fulton line," it belonged to the Territory of Michigan. By the "Fulton line" Toledo and the north part of Lucas county would now be in Michigan. As Lucas was then a part of Wood, or rather as there was no Lucas county, Wood was right in the midst of the "war." Army headquarters were at Perrysburg.

The Ordinance of 1787 provided that the line in question should be a line extended due east from the South end of Lake Michigan. It is easy to see that there might be considerable room for slight variations. Ohio was a State, and has votes and influence in Congress. Michigan was just a Territory, subject to the action of Congress. Ohio had specified her boundary lines in her Constitution; she was no doubt in the wrong; but while the Michigan people stood manfully for their "rights," Congress thought best to recognize the Haris or Ohio line, and did so, but as a sop to the wrathful "Wolverines" gave them what is known as the Upper Peninsula, and, further, admitted Michigan to Statehood.

*The Whigs at Fort Meigs.*—The Harrison meeting at Fort Meigs remains, to-day, one of the political landmarks of Ohio. The idea of this demonstration was expressed February 21, 1840, at Columbus, when a miniature fort, armed with a brass cannon, cast at Toledo, and a few iron pieces, was shown to the Whigs, then present to ratify the nominations made at Philadelphia, December 4, 1839. It was resolved then to hold a great meeting at Fort Meigs in June, 1840.

From the report made in the Perrysburg journals, and reprinted in a thousand papers, pamphlets and books since that time, the following story of the meeting is taken: It was decided that a huge log cabin should be erected upon the fort, to be used as headquarters by Gen Harrison for reception purposes. One log for this cabin was to be furnished by each township in Wood and Lucas counties. The first log to arrive was brought from the neighborhood of the present village of Swanton. It was a fine stick of timber, about fifty feet in length. Its arrival was the signal for a jollification. The cannon was bought and taken to the fort, followed by three barrels of hard cider. The Whigs of Maumee and Perrysburg united in this demonstration, which lasted until the evening, when many of the men and a host of boys gave

evidence of familiarity with these barrels of cider.

The next day, many of the Whigs visited the fort to see the log, which had met with such a warm reception that the Democrats had gone to the fort in the night and stuck said log into the well. Not only this, but they had bored a hole in the end of the log which projected out of the well about five feet, then had got a hickory bush, shaved the end to fit the hole in the log, and then planted the bush in the log. The bush was removed, but the log could not be lifted out of the well, and it remains there to this day. The parties who did it were Charles F. Wilson; Henry Ewing; Samuel Bucher, who lived in a cabin near the fort; S. D. Westcott, a well-known citizen of Perrysburg, and John Westcott, of Vanlue. Just how so few men could plant so large a log in a well, the reader will be curious to know. A man by the name of Radway lived on the farm later owned by F. R. Miller & Co., about a half mile above the fort. He had a pair of breachy oxen, and was in the habit of turning them upon the commons in their yoke. These cattle were at the fort, and the guerrillas drafted them into the service. Bucher got a log chain, the oxen were hitched to the log, and it was drawn into position, the butt at the well and the other end resting upon the embankment. Thus situated, the men managed to raise the small end and slide the log into the well.

The Whigs were not discouraged by this little episode, but the logs kept coming in until every township had its representative for the cabin. The logs ranged from forty to sixty feet in length, were straight as an arrow and smooth as a ramrod. The Whigs were proud of their logs, and contemplated the beautiful cabin to be made of them with great satisfaction. It is singular that the fate of the first log did not operate to warn the Whigs against further raids, but they evidently thought the success of the first venture would satisfy their enemies. In this they were deceived, for one dark night men, armed with cross-cut saws, entered the fort and cut those logs into old-fashioned back logs. Like the man who locked his stable door after the horse was stolen, the Whigs now built a bark guard-house and hired a man, armed with a shot-gun, to keep watch. Other logs were procured, and a huge double cabin was erected, George W. Newton, acting in the capacity of master builder, John C. Spink, Julius Blinn, Judge Hollister, J. W. Smith, and other Whigs of Perrysburg, being the leading spirits in this preparatory work for the great convention.

The Fort Meigs demonstration was worthy of the campaign of 1840. In fact, everything considered, it was the most remarkable political gathering ever witnessed in this county. It must be remembered that facilities for travel were very limited at that time, and that Fort Meigs was then a point on the frontier. Notwithstanding these facts, the crowd assembled was estimated at from 40,000 to 60,000 persons. It is safe to say that there were 50,000 people at the fort on the 11th day of June, 1840. They came from all parts of the country, in all manner of conveyances. Capt. Wilkinson, with his "Commodore Perry," escorted sixteen steamboats up the river, all loaded to their utmost capacity. Men are said to have sold their last cow to get the means to take them to that convention. Military companies from various cities were present, and a large number of bands furnished music. The processions on the roads leading to Perrysburg were immense, while thousands upon thousands were streaming in for two or three days before the demonstration, from all parts of the country. A mock siege occurred on the night of the 10th, and the cannonading is described as having been sublimely grand. Every house at Perrysburg and Maumee was crowded with weary men who had rode in buggies and wagons hundreds of miles. Thousands slept upon the ground in the woods adjoining the fort. The wells in the upper portion of Perrysburg were soon pumped dry in relieving the thirst of the multitude. Gen. Harrison was present and while in Perrysburg was the guest of Judge Hollister, who then owned and occupied the residence now owned by H. E. Peck. In the evening, in response to the calls of a great crowd of people, he appeared upon the grounds in front of the residence, and briefly addressed the multitude. The General, Tom Ewing, and a large number of other distinguished Whigs were present, and addressed the people. Gen. Harrison passed a portion of his time in Maumee, the guest of Judge Forsyth. Thus was inaugurated and successfully concluded one of the greatest political demonstrations ever witnessed on this continent.

The vote, cast in 1840, numbered 549 Whig and 519 Democrat, or 1,068, divided as follows: Perrysburg township, 140 W. and 64 D.; Troy, 44 W. and 18 D.; Center, 28 W. and 20 D.; Freedom, 22 W. and 22 D.; Middleton, 16 W. and 95 D.; Portage, 14 W. and 91 D.; Washington, 27 W. and 43 D.; Weston, 58 W. and 32 D.; Henry, 7 W. and 30 D.; Milton, 13 W. and 5 D.; Montgomery, 54 W. and 44 D.; Jackson, 1 W. and 10 D., and Liberty, 21 W. and 20 D.

Harrison was then the Whig and Van Buren the Democratic candidate, both receiving about one-tenth of the vote cast in 1892 for a lineal descendant of the first named on the Republican ticket, and a political descendant of the second on the Democratic ticket.

In 1848, the county gave 562 votes for Seabury Ford (W.), and 557 for J. B. Waller (D.), candidates for governor; 626 for John C. Spink (W.), and 471 for James Myers (D.), for senator; 575 for Isaac Van Doran (W.), and 526 for the Democratic candidate for representative; 574 for John A. Kelley (W.), and 529 for Whitman (D.), for commissioner, and 565 for J. W. Ross (W.), and 552 for Simmons (D.), for coroner. The Presidential election in November brought out a similar vote; but in April, 1850, the county gave 598 votes to John E. Hunt, and 585 to Charles J. Orton, being 27 and 21, respectively, more than recorded for Spink and Rawson, candidates for delegates to the Constitutional Convention.

The elections of 1850 show 475 votes for W. Johnston (W.), and 530 for Reuben Wood (D.), candidates for governor; 452 for John Kelley (W.), and 463 for James Myers (D.), senatorial candidates; 391 for Samuel Treat (W.), and 589 for Eber Wilson (D.), for representative; 418 for William Campbell (W.), and 541 for John Groves (D.), for commissioner; 452 for John Webb (W.), and 524 for Jairus Curtis (D.), for recorder; 408 for J. F. Stubbs (W.), and 571 for John Webb (D.), for coroner. Less than two-thirds of the electors appeared at the polls. In June, 1851, the county gave 487 votes against and 458 for the New Constitution, and 556 for and 335 against the proposed liquor law.

The elections of 1851 show 616 votes for S. F. Vinton (W.), and 728 for Reuben Wood (D.), for governor; 683 for J. M. Coffinberry (W.), and 648 for William Mungen (D.), for senator; 604 for Elijah Huntington (W.), and 713 for S. Hollingshead (D.), for representative; 623 for C. K. Watson (W.), and 700 for L. C. Hull (D.), for district judge; 584 for E. Elliott (W.), 660 for Asher Cook (D.), and 43 for M. Sypher (Ind.), for probate judge; 620 for J. W. Ross (W.), and 716 for S. D. Westcott (D.), for auditor; 668 for Shibnah Spink (W.), and 681 for John Bates (D.), for treasurer; 615 for William Ewing (W.), and 671 for Peleg Thomas (D.), for sheriff; 639 for George W. Clark (W.), and 700 for L. O. Simmons (D.), for clerk; 626 for S. Jefferson (W.), 482 for M. Sypher (D.), and 18 for W. V. Way (Ind.), for prosecuting attorney; 559 for John Russell (D.), 563 for Thomas Gorrell (W.),

203 for A. G. McClelland (W.), and 500 for R. Bamber (D.), for commissioners.

The election of November 10, 1854, resulted as follows: Probate judge—S. W. St. John (D.), 618, J. A. Kelley (W.), 789; clerk—L. O. Simmons (D.), 608, John Webb (W.), 823; sheriff—S. S. Bronson (D.), 544, W. L. Cook (W.), 617, and John Elder (K. N.), 238; commissioner—Isaac Clay (D.), 551, H. L. Wood (W.), 778, Muir (K. N.), 83; coroner—Gideon Z. Avery (D.), 500, and S. L. Sergeant (Fusion), 883. The *Maumee Valley Democrat*, noticing this election, said: "The election is over, we have met the enemy and—are defeated. But there ain't no use o' crying, and, like the old Kentucky hunter, when his gun missed fire, we'll pick the flint and try 'em again in 1855." The Whig and Know-Nothing tickets were merged into one, known as the "Fusion." The *Democrat* dealt with the principles of Know-Nothingism without gloves, but the demagogues of the period looked only for votes, regardless of private or party principles, and got them; in October, 1855, a Republican mass meeting was held at Bowling Green, and the same month the party reassembled there to congratulate its atoms on the victory. Salmon P. Chase (R.), received 1,099 votes against 591 cast for William Medill (D.), and 45 for Allen Trimble (K. N.) for governor; Erasmus D. Peck (R.), candidate for the Legislature, received 1,144 against 598 cast for John Bates (D.); auditor—James W. Ross (R.), 1,160 against 564 for Josiah N. Westcott (D.); treasurer—Shibnah Spink (R.), 1,211 against 518 for Dr. Thomas S. Carman (D.); commissioner—Samuel M. Chilcote (R.), 1,138 against 588 for William R. Bryant (D.); attorney—Sylvanus Jefferson (R.), 1,149 against 571 for Willard V. Way (D.); and 1,079 for county surveyor—Francis W. Bowe (R.), against 647 for John Clarke (D.).

The vote cast in 1858 was 1,328 for Chester W. Norton, 881 for Lorenzo Borden, and 67 for W. A. Prior, for sheriff; 1,356 for Samuel M. Chilcote, and 935 for Daniel Mercer, commissioner; and 1,368 for John Elder, and 918 for Thomas S. Carman, coroner. In 1859, the Republican majority was over 500.

During the campaign of 1860, the "Wide-awake" companies were drilled, and special attention paid to militia matters, so that, though the attack on Fort Sumter was sudden and unexpected, the rank and file of the Republican party in Ohio were prepared to carry arms in defense of party principles and the integrity of the Republic, while the majority of the Democrats of Wood

county were equally ready to oppose any attempt at disrupting the union of States.

The Union State ticket received a majority vote in October, 1861, John C. Wooster, for treasurer, receiving 1,557 votes; John E. McGowan, for attorney, 1,556 votes; Addison Smith for auditor, 1,554 votes, and Addison Lansdale for commissioner, 1,420 votes, while Asher Cook, for representative, was elected without opposition. The Jewett or Democratic ticket received only 282 votes. Judge Whiteley received 1,522 votes in Wood, and 4,001 in the judicial district.

The County Union Mass Convention was called to meet at Bowling Green, September 13, 1862. The signers of the call were John Bates, George Knoll, William G. Lamb, W. R. Caruthers, Henry H. Dodge, Eber Wilson, J. J. Parks, N. L. Besanson, John C. Wooster, Sanford Baldwin, A. La Farree, A. Van Camp, Joel Foote, S. D. Westcott, J. R. Tyler, Michael Hayes and Lorenzo Borden—all war Democrats, with Asher Cook, Francis Hollenbeck, George Weddell, T. G. Frisbie, Daniel Newton, E. Quigley, Thomas Taylor, David Gibson, J. W. Ross, Peter Bell, A. E. Jerome, R. Russell, R. Brisbin, De Los Pratt and Thomas Junkins—all Republicans. The convention met on the day named, M. R. Waite and Judge Whiteley addressed the delegates and the election which followed in October, 1862, was simply the voice of that meeting. The returns give the following names and figures: 1,458 votes for G. E. Guyer (U.), 1,250 for Thompson, and 49 for Flower, candidates for sheriff; 1,326 for Alvin Clark, and 1,401 for Hill, for commissioner; 1,421 for Sylvanus Hatch, and 1,328 for Stephen Merry, for recorder; 1,354 for D. D. Ames, and 1,390 for N. W. Minton, for surveyor, and 1,388 for S. L. Sergeant, and 1,366 for John Elder, for coroner.

The election of October, 1863, was a contest between the Union party and the Democratic party, in which the latter was worsted, though making a very thorough fight. For governor, John Brough (R), received 2,280, and O. L. Vollandigham (D.), 1,175 votes; for senator, J. C. Hall received 2,274, and Lemmon, 1,215; for representative, John Ryder, 2,273, and Cole, 1,212; for county auditor, G. N. Parsons (U.), 2,268 and Westcott (D.), 1,217; for treasurer, J. A. Bonnell (U.), 2,277, and Gorton (D.), 1,206; for clerk, J. W. Knaggs (U.), 2,268, and Besanson (D.), 1,211; for probate judge, Edwin Tuller (U.), 2,246, and Lamb (D.), 1,218; for attorney, George Strain (U.), 2,276, and J. R. Tyler (D.), 1,207; for commissioner, Walter Davidson (U.), 2,252, and Nathan Hatfield (D.), 1,217, and for

coroner, C. C. Baird (U.), 2,272, and McCrory (D.), 1,205.

The voters of the county gave more attention to military affairs during the ensuing two years, than to politics. Even when the cloud of civil war was riven, the question of removing the county seat was brought forward, and, for four years, at least, was one of absorbing interest; the candidates for State and county offices coming next in public calculation.

The vote of October, 1869, showed majorities ranging from 142 for Commissioner St. John to 791 for Infirmary-director Bruce. For governor, R. B. Hayes received a majority vote of 756, being 53 below the Republican majority for Secretary of State in 1868.

The political contest of 1870 was carried on here by George Kimberlin, candidate for treasurer; Stephen Merry for recorder; John W. Brownsberger for sheriff; R. W. Kelly for commissioner, and Jabez B. Lockhart for infirmary director, all Republicans, against the ablest gladiators of the Democrats. In 1874, Wood county recorded 597 votes for and 3,163 against the New Constitution; 537 for and 2,987 against minority representation; 391 for and 3,324 against railroad aid, and 1,980 for and 1,774 against license. The October elections resulted in Republican majorities ranging from 343 for congressman to 906 for Baird, candidate for sheriff.

The majorities recorded from 1872 to 1877, inclusive, for President, Governor and Secretary of State are given as follows: 1872—Grant, 1,098, for President; 1873—Noyes, 274, for Governor; 1874—Wikoff, 452 for Secretary of State; 1875—Hayes, 723 for Governor; 1876—Barnes, 951 for Secretary of State; 1876—Hayes, 834 for President, and 1877—West, 207 for Governor. In 1876 there were 6,827 votes cast, against 6,414 in 1875, the Democratic increase being 125, and the Republican 333.

The October elections of 1884 resulted as follows: J. W. Newman (D.), 3,883, and J. S. Robinson (R.), 4,517, for Secretary of State; G. E. Seney (D.), 3,875, and Dan Babst (R.), 4,532 for representative in Congress; G. F. Pendleton (D.), 3,660, and A. Cook (R.), 4,837, for judge of Common Pleas; G. M. Brown (Peo.), 4,543, and Miles (R.), 3,944, for sheriff; J. W. Canary (Peo.), 3,885, and E. W. Poe (R.), 4,570 for auditor; Daniel Mears (Peo.), 4,026, and Fries (R.), for commissioner; Thomas Meehan (Peo.), 3,903, and

R. S. Parker (R.) 4,614, for prosecuting attorney; J. D. Halsey (Peo.), 3,804, and F. M. Young (R.), 4,580 for probate judge; C. E. Winchester (Peo.), 3,862, and O. Stearns (R.), 4,541 for infirmary director. The vote in November, 1884, was 3,753 for Cleveland, and 4,549 for Blaine, candidates for President of the United States.

In 1892 there were 5,314 votes cast for the Republican candidate for President, or rather for the electors, while 4,784 were cast for the nominee of the Democrats. In 1893 McKinley received 5,714, and Neal 4,395 votes for Governor of Ohio, while 5,233 votes were recorded for S. M. Taylor (R.), 3,436 for M. F. Turner (D.), 589 for M. G. McCaslin, of the P. party, and 388 for C. R. Martin, of the P. P. party, all candidates for Secretary of State.

The election for Circuit and Common Pleas judges, representatives in Congress and for sheriff, commissioner, recorder and infirmary director, with the vote cast in 1894, is recorded as follows: E. B. King (R.), 5,170, and T. M. Marshall (D.), 3,415, for judge of Circuit Court; C. M. Melhorn (R.), 5,123, and A. B. Johnson (D.), 3,493, for judge of the Common Pleas Court; J. H. Southard (R.), 5,042, B. F. Ritchie (D.), 3,566, and George Candee (Peo.), 959, for representative in Congress; R. Biggs (R.), 5,099, F. W. Heald (D.), 3,667; H. Hanna (Pro.), 528, and A. Neifer (Peo.), 314, for sheriff; Samuel Knight (R.), 4,896, F. Freyman (D.), 3,765, H. D. Stouffer (Pro.), 553, and J. H. Whitker (Peo.), 353, for commissioner; H. L. Hinkley (R.), 5,166; W. A. Esterly (D.), 3,448, J. F. Smith (Pro.), 567, and P. Henderson (Peo.), 366, for recorder; F. J. Schriber (R.), 5,156, Fred. Sealscott (D.), 3,427, Charles Wineland (Pro.), 581, and D. H. Young (Peo.), 380, for infirmary director. The Act extending the term of the recorder left Mr. Finkbeiner in office until September, 1895, when H. L. Hinkley, recorder elect, qualified for office.

There were 10,358 votes cast in this county in November, 1895, for gubernatorial candidates, as follows: Bushnell (R.), 5,370; Campbell (D.), 3,814; Coxey (People's party), 654, and Ellis (Prohibition party), 520. The total shows 581 more votes than were cast for the candidates for county treasurer, where the race was supposed to be strongest and swiftest. The official record of the vote for senators, representatives and county officers cast at this election is given as follows:

## OFFICIAL RECORD OF VOTE, NOVEMBER, 1895, ELECTION OF SENATORS, REPRESENTATIVES AND COUNTY OFFICERS.

| PRECINCT.                   | SENATORS.  |              |          |           |              |            | REPRESENT'VS. |            | TREASURER.  | L. TERM COMM. |           | S. TERM COMM. | SURVEYOR. |            | INF. DIR. |               | CORONER.    |            |              |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|----------|-----------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|-----------|------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
|                             | Hankey, R. | Harbaugh, R. | Vogt, R. | Watts, D. | Whiteley, D. | Koller, D. | Vorris, R.    | Taylor, D. | McMahan, R. | Hampton, D.   | Brand, R. | La Farree, D. | Brand, R. | Fraker, R. | Davis, D. | Zimmerman, R. | Burgoon, D. | Thomas, R. | McClaran, D. |
| Bloom—Bairdstown.....       | 65         | 65           | 65       | 46        | 46           | 46         | 62            | 51         | 65          | 47            | 61        | 52            | 64        | 65         | 47        | 66            | 46          | 66         | 46           |
| Bloomdale.....              | 168        | 181          | 176      | 67        | 68           | 66         | 185           | 65         | 165         | 79            | 177       | 73            | 175       | 183        | 67        | 183           | 64          | 165        | 89           |
| Cygnets.....                | 105        | 105          | 109      | 80        | 90           | 91         | 104           | 92         | 104         | 93            | 106       | 92            | 107       | 106        | 91        | 107           | 90          | 107        | 90           |
| Jerry City.....             | 70         | 70           | 70       | 63        | 63           | 63         | 70            | 63         | 79          | 63            | 70        | 63            | 70        | 70         | 63        | 70            | 63          | 70         | 63           |
| Center.....                 | 160        | 158          | 158      | 69        | 69           | 70         | 157           | 74         | 144         | 84            | 155       | 80            | 155       | 155        | 75        | 156           | 75          | 156        | 75           |
| Bowling Green—1st Ward..... | 175        | 189          | 184      | 78        | 75           | 80         | 184           | 75         | 177         | 85            | 158       | 107           | 177       | 182        | 77        | 183           | 75          | 183        | 75           |
| 2d Ward.....                | 108        | 107          | 107      | 62        | 65           | 62         | 105           | 63         | 105         | 57            | 92        | 78            | 109       | 107        | 61        | 107           | 62          | 107        | 67           |
| 3d Ward.....                | 176        | 176          | 172      | 49        | 46           | 49         | 170           | 52         | 159         | 51            | 147       | 86            | 174       | 176        | 46        | 177           | 47          | 174        | 49           |
| 4th Ward.....               | 127        | 145          | 133      | 98        | 84           | 96         | 140           | 92         | 129         | 100           | 112       | 131           | 121       | 141        | 85        | 139           | 90          | 138        | 87           |
| Freedom.....                | 183        | 183          | 183      | 279       | 279          | 279        | 189           | 283        | 174         | 285           | 174       | 287           | 180       | 180        | 281       | 178           | 289         | 179        | 283          |
| Grand Rapids.....           | 169        | 170          | 171      | 50        | 50           | 52         | 170           | 50         | 143         | 76            | 169       | 53            | 169       | 172        | 50        | 172           | 50          | 171        | 50           |
| Henry—Hammansburg.....      | 62         | 63           | 63       | 84        | 84           | 86         | 62            | 86         | 66          | 82            | 63        | 85            | 63        | 69         | 82        | 63            | 84          | 63         | 84           |
| N. North Baltimore.....     | 170        | 178          | 174      | 171       | 168          | 177        | 158           | 202        | 185         | 166           | 183       | 168           | 182       | 179        | 169       | 179           | 169         | 178        | 172          |
| S. North Baltimore.....     | 145        | 165          | 160      | 105       | 105          | 109        | 157           | 117        | 165         | 102           | 161       | 108           | 166       | 166        | 103       | 164           | 104         | 122        | 108          |
| Jackson.....                | 202        | 202          | 209      | 94        | 95           | 94         | 198           | 103        | 203         | 98            | 195       | 109           | 197       | 200        | 99        | 197           | 107         | 199        | 103          |
| Lake—Millbury.....          | 81         | 81           | 81       | 91        | 91           | 91         | 81            | 91         | 86          | 86            | 81        | 91            | 82        | 82         | 91        | 82            | 90          | 92         | 90           |
| Walbridge.....              | 125        | 126          | 126      | 73        | 73           | 74         | 126           | 73         | 121         | 77            | 128       | 68            | 125       | 125        | 73        | 126           | 73          | 125        | 75           |
| Liberty.....                | 290        | 287          | 287      | 167       | 172          | 169        | 283           | 173        | 294         | 168           | 279       | 190           | 274       | 288        | 172       | 287           | 172         | 287        | 177          |
| Middleton—Dunbridge.....    | 104        | 105          | 105      | 78        | 48           | 78         | 105           | 77         | 91          | 94            | 101       | 85            | 106       | 105        | 77        | 106           | 78          | 106        | 78           |
| Haskins.....                | 177        | 177          | 178      | 143       | 143          | 146        | 176           | 148        | 141         | 185           | 217       | 115           | 219       | 176        | 145       | 176           | 146         | 178        | 145          |
| Milton.....                 | 236        | 229          | 230      | 227       | 225          | 227        | 228           | 229        | 222         | 237           | 215       | 251           | 228       | 255        | 213       | 229           | 235         | 229        | 236          |
| Montgomery—Bradner.....     | 124        | 123          | 124      | 72        | 74           | 73         | 123           | 72         | 122         | 73            | 123       | 73            | 124       | 123        | 72        | 123           | 72          | 123        | 72           |
| Freeport.....               | 236        | 236          | 235      | 89        | 89           | 89         | 235           | 93         | 223         | 103           | 217       | 99            | 231       | 234        | 93        | 234           | 93          | 234        | 93           |
| Risingsun.....              | 61         | 63           | 62       | 67        | 67           | 67         | 63            | 66         | 62          | 67            | 61        | 68            | 61        | 62         | 68        | 62            | 68          | 62         | 69           |
| Perry—North.....            | 102        | 102          | 102      | 54        | 53           | 54         | 106           | 54         | 96          | 57            | 98        | 55            | 99        | 100        | 54        | 101           | 54          | 101        | 54           |
| South.....                  | 67         | 67           | 67       | 30        | 30           | 30         | 77            | 26         | 68          | 29            | 67        | 30            | 67        | 67         | 31        | 67            | 31          | 67         | 31           |
| Perrysburg—North.....       | 169        | 168          | 169      | 202       | 202          | 202        | 169           | 201        | 124         | 249           | 153       | 218           | 164       | 166        | 205       | 167           | 203         | 168        | 203          |
| South.....                  | 207        | 207          | 208      | 268       | 270          | 274        | 207           | 71         | 147         | 338           | 192       | 287           | 214       | 209        | 268       | 209           | 268         | 210        | 268          |
| Plain—East.....             | 73         | 81           | 78       | 45        | 44           | 47         | 70            | 45         | 59          | 65            | 66        | 62            | 66        | 77         | 48        | 76            | 47          | 80         | 43           |
| West.....                   | 60         | 62           | 62       | 12        | 12           | 14         | 62            | 12         | 51          | 19            | 58        | 15            | 62        | 63         | 11        | 62            | 12          | 62         | 12           |
| Portage—East.....           | 63         | 63           | 63       | 53        | 53           | 53         | 62            | 54         | 60          | 56            | 62        | 54            | 63        | 63         | 53        | 63            | 53          | 63         | 53           |
| South.....                  | 121        | 121          | 121      | 44        | 43           | 42         | 118           | 44         | 119         | 43            | 118       | 46            | 118       | 121        | 44        | 121           | 43          | 120        | 45           |
| West.....                   | 132        | 133          | 134      | 83        | 84           | 85         | 135           | 82         | 168         | 53            | 125       | 92            | 130       | 130        | 86        | 131           | 85          | 133        | 85           |
| Ross.....                   | 97         | 97           | 97       | 41        | 40           | 41         | 96            | 41         | 95          | 42            | 96        | 41            | 93        | 97         | 41        | 96            | 41          | 95         | 41           |
| Troy.....                   | 127        | 129          | 130      | 241       | 238          | 243        | 135           | 239        | 117         | 258           | 128       | 239           | 135       | 130        | 244       | 132           | 240         | 131        | 243          |
| Washington.....             | 186        | 184          | 185      | 86        | 89           | 87         | 183           | 89         | 138         | 114           | 180       | 91            | 175       | 182        | 84        | 181           | 84          | 173        | 92           |
| Webster.....                | 135        | 135          | 135      | 113       | 114          | 115        | 135           | 114        | 97          | 132           | 139       | 117           | 139       | 132        | 118       | 129           | 120         | 135        | 115          |
| Weston.....                 | 230        | 230          | 229      | 113       | 111          | 114        | 232           | 117        | 202         | 141           | 233       | 120           | 230       | 298        | 69        | 230           | 114         | 230        | 116          |
| Total.....                  | 5287       | 5360         | 5341     | 3804      | 3770         | 3836       | 5318          | 3875       | 4965        | 4812          | 5163      | 4079          | 5163      | 5431       | 3756      | 5327          | 3832        | 5313       | 3867         |

Since the above was in type we are enabled to give the results of the November, 1896, election, as follows: For the electors for the Republican candidate for President—McKinley (R.), 7,290; Bryan (D.), 6,582; Levering (P.), 81; Bentley (N.), 82; Palmer (N. D.), 35. For Secretary of State—Kinney (R.), 7,278; White (D.), 6,542; Rockhill (P.), 84; Bates (N.), 107. Circuit Judge—Haynes (R.), 7,289; Finefrock (D.), 6,555. Congress—Southard (R.), 7,286; Brophy (D.), 6,558. Auditor—Gaghan (R.), 7,375; Esterly (D.), 6,462; Housekeeper (N.), 103. Clerk—Baird (R.), 7,526;

Koons (D.), 6,341; Spafford (N.), 102. Probate Judge—Angus (R.), 7,262; Bowers (D.), 6,577; Wright (N.), 101. Sheriff—Biggs (R.), 7,424; Rockwell (D.), 6,415; Bachman (N.), 101. Prosecuting Attorney—Murphy (R.), 7,129; Canary (D.), 6,710. Commissioner—Gundy (R.), 7,196; Dunnipace (D.), 6,548; Benschofer (N.), 93. Infirmary Director—Mitchell (R.), 7,295; Mercer (D.), 6,542; Hill (N.), 100. The total vote in Wood county was 14,070. The next highest vote was 10,936 in 1892, making an increase of 3,034.

## LISTS OF NATIONAL, STATE AND COUNTY OFFICIALS.

The names of the men who have been elected to represent this county, as part of a district, in Congress or in the Legislature, or to serve the county in its various offices, are given in the following lists:

*Representatives in Congress.*—The congressmen elected by the districts of which Wood county formed a part in the past, as well as by the present district, are named as follows: Joseph Vance, 1821-23, District No. 5; Joseph Vance, 1823-33, District No. 4; Joseph H. Crane, 1833-37, District No. 3; Patrick G. Goode, 1837-43; Emery D. Potter, 1843-45, District No. 5; William Sawyer, 1845-49; Emery D. Potter, 1849-51; Alfred P. Edgerton, 1851-55; Richard Mott, 1855-59; James M. Ashley, 1859-63, District No. 5; James M. Ashley, 1863-69, District No. 10; Truman H. Hoag, '69-71; Erastus D. Peck, 1871-73; Isaac R. Sherwood, 1873-75, District No. 6; Frank H. Hurd, 1875-77, District No. 6; Jacob D. Cox, 1877-79, District No. 6; William D. Hill, 1879-81, from No. 6, and Frank H. Hurd, No. 7; James M. Ritchie, 1881-83; W. D. Hill, 1883-87; M. M. Boothman, 1887-91; Denis D. Donovan and George E. Seney, elected in 1884 by District 10, elected and re-elected in 1890, from the Sixth District.

Byron F. Ritchie, elected in 1892. The district, now known as the "Ninth," embraces Wood, Lucas, Fulton and Ottawa counties. In November, 1894, James H. Southard (R.) received 20,715 votes; Byron F. Ritchie (D.), 14,109 votes; George Candee (Pro.), 1,130 votes, and George Candee (Pop.), 1,834 votes in the district. In the above list, district lines are not always observed, for congressmen elected from adjoining districts were as true to Wood county as if they depended on her vote for success.

*District Senators.*—The members of the General Assembly who represented Wood and the district of which it formed a part in the Ohio Senate, from 1820 to the present time, are named as follows: George Fithian, 1820, and James Cooley, 1821, representing Wood, Logan, Champaign and Clark; James Cooley, 1822, and George Fithian, 1823, representing Wood and Logan; Robert Young, 1824-25, Wood, Hardin, Logan, Hancock, Miami and Shelby, with Allen added in 1825; Daniel M. Workman, 1826-27, Wood, Miami, Shelby and Logan; David Campbell, 1828-29, Wood, Seneca, Hancock and Sandusky; Samuel M. Lockwood, 1830-31; Daniel J. Tilden, 1832-33; Joseph Howard, 1834-35,

and John E. Hunt, 1835, represented the four counties last named, with Huron added in 1830. John E. Hunt and David E. Owen appear to be senators from that large district in 1835; while, in 1836, John E. Hunt represented Wood, Lucas, Hancock and Henry, and Curtis Bates the same district in 1837 and 1838, when it embraced Wood, Lucas, Henry, Hancock, Van Wert, Allen, Shelby and Hardin. John E. Hunt was Senator in 1839-40, when Williams, Putnam and Paulding were added. John Goodin, in 1840, and Moses McAnelly in 1840-43, when Wood, Seneca, Sandusky, Hancock and Crawford formed the district; Charles W. O'Neal in 1844-45, and Jesse Wheeler in 1846-47, when Wood, Lucas, Hancock and Ottawa were embraced in one district; James Myers in 1848, when Henry and Sandusky were added, and also in 1849-50 and 1851, when Hancock was detached. The Thirty-third District was established in 1851, embracing Wood, Lucas, Putnam, Fulton, Hancock and Henry. William Mungen was elected, took his seat in 1852, Samuel H. Steedman in 1854, W. S. Lunt in 1856, Josiah N. Westcott in 1858, George Laskey in 1860, Charles M. Godfrey in 1862, and James C. Hall in 1864. Dual representation was given in 1866, when Parlee Carlin and James C. Hall qualified as senators. Since that time the following citizens have been honored with the senatorship: James C. Hall and Charles A. King, 1868; Abel M. Covy, 1870; D. W. H. Howard and Hanks P. Gage, in 1872; E. D. Potter and W. A. Tressler, in 1874; D. I. Brown in 1876; David Joy and James B. Steedman, in 1878; John A. Wilkins, in 1880; Joseph H. Brigham and Jonathan D. Norton, in 1882; William H. McLyman (now, 1895, of Bowling Green), and Orlando B. Ramey, 1884; Ezra S. Dodd and H. C. Groschner, 1886; William Geyser and William L. Carlin, 1888; John Ryan and William W. Sutton in 1890; John C. Rorick and Thomas H. McConical, in 1892; John R. Hankey with Messrs. Harbaugh and Vogt, in 1895.

In a work entitled "Ohio Statesmen," the names of Thomas W. Furnas and David F. Heaton are given as senators prior to Robert Young's first term, while those of John G. Jamison, James Johnson, William J. Thomas, John Walters and Alfred P. Edgerton are also given under the head of Wood county senators. The authority under which this is done is unknown to the writer.

*District Representatives in General Assembly.*—The members of the House from the Representative Districts, of which Wood county was a part, down to 1851, are named as follows:

I. M. Gray, 1819-20, and John Shelby, 1820-22—Wood and Logan counties; John Shelby, 1823—Wood, Logan and Hardin; John Shelby, 1824-26—Wood, Logan, Hardin and Hancock; John Shelby, 1827, same district; Samuel M. Lockwood, 1828—Wood, Hancock, Sandusky and Seneca; Josiah Hedges, 1830, Harvey J. Harmon, 1831, James L. Everett, 1832-33, and Jaques Hulbard, 1834, same district; Stacy Taylor, 1835—Wood, Lucas, Williams, Paulding, Darke, Shelby, Mercer, Allen, Van Wert, Putnam and Henry; John Hollister represented the same district in 1836; Parlee Carlin represented Wood, Hancock and Seneca in 1837; William Taylor—Wood, Lucas, Hancock, Henry and Williams in 1838; Moses McAnelly, the same district in 1839. Between the years 1839 and 1849 the following were elected: Amos E. Wood and Moses McAnelly represented Wood, Ottawa, Hancock, Sandusky and Seneca; Amos E. Wood and George W. Baird—Wood, Seneca, Hancock and Ottawa; George W. Baird and Henry C. Brish—Wood, Seneca, Sandusky, Hancock and Ottawa; Samuel Waggoner and William B. Craighill; Elijah Huntington—Wood, Lucas, Hancock and Ottawa; Lyman Parcher, John McMahan, and Emery D. Potter; Isaac VanDoren represented Wood, Sandusky and Ottawa; Eber Wilson, in 1849-51, when Wood and Ottawa were established as a Representative District. Of this new district, Samuel Hollingshead was representative in 1852, Addison Smith in 1854, Erasmus D. Peck in 1856-60, William S. Woods in 1860, Asher Cook in 1862, John Ryder in 1864, H. L. Wood in 1866-70, William Park in 1870, John Norris in 1872, Nathan Hatfield in 1874, Edwin R. Sage in 1876-80, W. H. Wetmore in 1880-84, Elijah P. Emerson in 1884-88, George B. Spencer in 1888-92, Benjamin F. James 1892-96, and Omar P. Norris in 1895. In 1873 Wood county was set off as a distinct Representative District, and so remains.

In a work entitled "Ohio Statesmen," it is written that Justin Hamilton, Patrick G. Goode, John M. N. McNutt and John G. Jamison followed Shelby, in the order given; that Horace S. Knapp followed Huntington, and that Nathan Landis, C. P. Edson, S. S. Sprague, W. H. Snook and Morrison R. Waite preceded Hollingshead. In the record by sessions of the General Assembly, the owners of these names do not appear to be associated with Wood county as representatives.

*Sheriffs.*—David Hull, 1820; Jonathan H. Jerome, 1827; Joshua Chappel, 1834; David Ross,

1841; John Webb, 1848; Peleg Thomas, 1851; William L. Cook, 1854; Chester W. Norton, 1856; Gabriel E. Guyer, 1861; Charles W. Evers, 1865; John W. Brownsberger, 1869; Charles C. Baird, 1873; Orrin Henry, 1877; Thomas C. Reid, 1881; G. M. Brown, 1883; Milton T. Miles, 1887; W. B. Bryant, 1891; Richard T. Biggs, 1895, re-elected November, 1896.

*Clerks of Court.*—Thomas R. McKnight, 1820; John Webb, 1834; Joseph Utley, 1842; James W. Ross, 1849; L. O. Simmons, 1850; John Webb, 1857; William H. Jones, 1860; James W. Knaggs, 1863; Thomas J. Webb, —; George Weddell, 1866; Andrew D. Stewart, 1872; W. S. Eberly, 1878; R. M. Donnelly, 1884; A. W. Rudolph, appointed in 1887; A. L. Muir, 1888, and Joe E. Baird, 1894, re-elected November, 1896.

*Recorders.*—Thomas R. McKnight, 1820; James W. Robinson, 1831; John Webb, 1831; Gilbert Beach, 1841; Pearl Simons, 1844; John Webb, 1847; Jairus Curtis, 1850; Sylvanus Hatch, 1856; Stephen Merry, 1864; John Campbell, 1874; Robert Dunn, 1875; Theodore Alexander, 1883; Christopher Finkbeiner, 1889-95, and H. L. Hinkley, 1895.

*Treasurers.*—William Pratt, 1820; Walter Colton, 1822; Aurora Spafford, 1823; Elijah Huntington, 1827-36; Elijah Huntington, 1836-40; John Bates, 1840; Shilbnah Spink, 1854; John Bates, 1857; Ebenezer Graham, 1858-60; John C. Wooster, 1862; John A. Bonnell, 1864; A. M. Russell, 1868 (as successor of George H. Van Blarcum, who died prior to September, 1868), and elected in 1869; George Kimberlin, 1871; Isaac W. Clayton, 1875; A. M. Russell, 1879 (elected in 1878); Henry P. Shanks, elected in 1880, refused to qualify; George Kimberlin appointed in 1881; Luther Black, 1882; Albert Fronev, 1886; William R. Noyes, 1888; and Frederick Yeager, 1892-96. R. W. McMahan, elected in November, 1895.

*County Assessors.*—Ambrose Rice, 1825; Joshua Chappel, 1834 (real-estate appraiser in 1844); John McBride, 1836, was succeeded in 1837 by Samuel Matthews; Francis Carrothers, 1840-44; John H. McBride, 1844-46. In 1846 the district assessors, named in the "Transactions of the Commissioners," were appointed, and this system of local assessors continues down to the present.

*Auctioneers.*—John Wood, 1835; Daniel H. Wheeler, 1835; William H. Irwin, 1837, 1842 and 1844; and L. C. Lock in 1844. The office was a licensed one rather than a county office.

*Coroners.*—Francis Charters, 1820; A. M.



Thompson, 1839; J. W. Ross, 1848; John Webb, 1850; John Elder, served, and S. L. Sergeant, elected, 1854; John Elder, 1858 (elected); S. L. Sergeant, 1861 (elected in 1862); C. C. Baird, 1864-72; Irving A. Noble, 1873; B. K. Abbott, January, 1874, *vice* Noble, who did not qualify; Robert W. McMahan, 1874; George Mills, 1878; B. K. Abbott, 1881; Joseph Hess (elected), 1881; A. J. Orme, C. S. St. John, and E. P. Thomas, M. D., who have each served two terms.

*Superintendents of Infirmary.*—Thomas C. Reid, 1872; E. M. Jenkins, 1877; and Edwin Farmer, 1877-95.

*Infirmary Directors.*—John Yeager, R. W. Kelley and Henry Lundy, 1868; J. B. Lockhart, 1870; Jacob Dauterman, Seth Bruce and John Muir, 1872; J. B. Lockhart, 1873; Henry Lundy, 1874; John Muir, 1875; John Bailey, 1876; W. G. Avery, 1877; John A. McKean, 1878-81; E. B. Beverstock, 1879; Harrison Terry, 1881 and 1885; Orrin Stearns, 1882 and 1884; A. S. Ferguson, 1883; Michael Amos, Jr., 1886; Wilson Patterson, 1887; John Isch, 1888-91; Milton Zimmerman, 1892 and 1895; Joseph H. Mitchell, 1893; Frank J. Schriber, 1894; and Joseph H. Mitchell, November, 1896.

*Surveyors.*—From 1820 to 1830 many surveyors are named in the records, such as Wilson Vance and James L. Freeman in 1820. Ambrose Rice is referred to as county surveyor in 1830; Hiram Davis, 1835; Gideon Jones, 1839; Hiram Davis, 1841; Morris Brown, 1841; Hiram Davis, March, 1844, *vice* Brown, resigned; Samuel H. Bell, 1849; S. H. Bell and Sylvanus Jefferson, ditch surveyors, 1853; Francis W. Bowe, 1855; N. W. Minton, 1857 (R. B. Minton, deputy county surveyor, 1858), (Daniel D. Ames, deputy surveyor, 1886), and (S. Davis, deputy surveyor, October, 1866); (D. D. Ames, deputy surveyor, April, 1868); D. D. Ames, surveyor, 1869; W. H. Wood, surveyor, 1872 (D. D. Ames, deputy surveyor, 1872); D. D. Ames, surveyor, 1876; Ferdinand Wenz, surveyor, 1883 (D. D. Ames, deputy surveyor, 1884); W. H. Wood, surveyor, 1890 (E. L. Spafford, deputy surveyor, 1892); and W. H. Wood, surveyor, 1893. L. B. Fraker, elected 1895, taking the office September 6, 1896. Many volumes are filled with records of road and ditch surveys; but the books of the surveyor's office number only five. In the pages of these there are several evidences of the draughtman's art.

*Auditors.*—Daniel Hubbell, clerk to commissioners, April 12, 1820; Seneca Allen, clerk to commissioners, May 3, 1820; Ambrose Rice, auditor, 1820; Thomas W. Powell, March 4,

1820, *vice* Rice resigned; James W. Robinson, appointed December 6, 1830; John C. Spink, 1831; Willard V. Way, 1835; E. B. Eagle, 1836; W. H. Sloane, 1836; S. C. Sloane, 1837; A. L. Fowler, 1840; Addison Smith, appointed 1842; Jarius Curtis, 1842; Addison Smith, appointed, 1844; Sardis D. Wescott, 1852; James W. Ross, 1856; Addison Smith, 1860; George N. Parsons, 1864; S. B. Price *vice* Parsons, deceased, 1867; J. B. Newton, 1868; S. Case, 1874; E. W. Poe, 1882; John B. Wilson, 1887; and George W. Gaghan, 1894, re-elected November, 1896. Samuel Smith was deputy auditor from 1866 to 1870, while A. M. Russell has held that office in recent years.

*Early Notaries.*—Henry Reed, Jr., qualified as notary public, March 2, 1836, being the first notary whose name appears on the records. Isaac Stetson, 1837; Edward Hotchkiss, 1846-53; E. Huntington, 1849; W. H. Hopkins, 1849-52; James Murry, 1850; H. H. Dodge, 1853; J. F. Price, 1856.

#### *Commissioners.*—

1820—Samuel H. Ewing, John Pray, Daniel Hubbell.  
1821—John E. Hunt, John Pray, Daniel Hubbell.  
1822—Samuel Spafford, John E. Hunt, John Pray.  
1823—Hiram P. Barlow, Samuel Spafford, John Pray.  
1823-24—John E. Hunt, Hiram P. Barlow, Samuel Spafford.  
1825-28—Guy Nearing, John E. Hunt, Samuel Spafford.  
1828-30—Leander Sackett, John E. Hunt, Guy Nearing.  
1830-31—John Hollister, John E. Hunt, Guy Nearing.  
1832—Edward Howard, John Hollister, John E. Hunt.  
1833—John Pray, John Hollister, Edward Howard.  
1834—Guy Nearing, John Pray, Edward Howard.  
1835—Guy Nearing, John Pray, James Wilkison.  
1836—Horace Hall, Benjamin Olney, Guy Nearing.  
1837—John A. Kelley, Horace Hull, Benjamin Olney.  
1838—David C. Doan, John A. Kelley, Benjamin Olney.  
1839—Morrison McMillan, David C. Doan, John A. Kelley.  
1840—Guy Morgan, Morrison McMillan, David C. Doan.  
1841—Josiah Miller, Guy Morgan, Morrison McMillan.  
1842—John McMahan, Josiah Miller, Guy Morgan.  
1843—James Jones, John McMahan, Josiah Miller.  
1844—Christian Houtz, John McMahan, James Jones.  
1845—John McMahan, Christian Houtz, James Jones.  
1846—Benjamin Brown, Christian Houtz, John McMahan.  
1847—Edmond Bloomfield, Benjamin Brown, William Campbell, *vice* McMahan resigned.  
1848—H. Burritt, Edmond Bloomfield, Benjamin Brown.  
1849—John A. Kelley, H. Burritt, Edmond Bloomfield.  
1850—Benjamin Brown, John A. Kelley, H. Burritt.  
1851—Thomas Gorrill, Benjamin Brown, John Groves.  
1852—Robert Bamber, Thomas Gorrill, John Groves.  
1853—John Russell, John Groves, Thomas Gorrill.  
1854—George Laskey, Thomas Gorrill, John Russell.  
1855—Henry L. Wood, George Laskey, John Russell.  
1856-59—Samuel M. Chilcote, Henry L. Wood, George Laskey.  
1860—Alvin Clark, Samuel M. Chilcote, Henry L. Wood.  
1861—Walter Davidson, Alvin Clark, Samuel M. Chilcote.  
1862—Addison Lansdale, Walter Davidson, Alvin Clark.  
1863-66—George W. Hill, Addison Lansdale, Walter Davidson.



1866—John W. Woodbury (died in September), S. W. St. John, A. Lansdale, W. Davidson.  
 1867—Stephen W. St. John, Addison Lansdale, Walter Davidson.  
 1868—John Russell, S. W. St. John, Walter Davidson.  
 1869-70—John Yeager, S. W. St. John, John Russell.  
 1871—R. W. Kelly, John Yeager, S. W. St. John.  
 1872—Rezin Skinner (*vice* Eber Wilson, deceased), S. W. St. John, R. W. Kelly.  
 1873-74—E. A. Wilson, J. H. Pierce, R. W. Kelly.  
 1875—H. Carrel, J. H. Pierce, R. W. Kelly.  
 In 1874 E. A. Wilson resigned, and Roswell G. Potter was appointed.  
 1875—On March 18, 1875, Joshua Hoiles was appointed, *vice* Kelly resigned.  
 1876—Joshua Hoiles, J. H. Pierce, H. Carrel.  
 1877—J. B. Newton (appointed, *vice* Carrel resigned), Joshua Hoiles, J. H. Pierce.  
 1878-80—N. W. Stafford, Joshua Hoiles, J. H. Pierce.  
 1880—Hugh Stewart (appointed, *vice* Pierce resigned in November, 1880).  
 1881—Hugh Stewart, Joshua Hoiles, N. W. Stafford.  
 1882—Solomon Fries, Hugh Stewart, N. W. Stafford.  
 1883—S. R. Junkins, Solomon Fries, Hugh Stewart.  
 1884-85—Wm. W. Dunipace, S. R. Junkins (resigned in 1886), Solomon Fries.

1886—E. B. Beverstock, W. W. Dunipace, Solomon Fries.  
 1887—Frank H. Thompson, E. B. Beverstock, Solomon Fries.  
 1888-91—Jacob Stahl, F. H. Thompson, E. B. Beverstock.  
 1892—Samuel Knight, Jacob Stahl, F. H. Thompson.  
 1893—James Gibson, Samuel Knight, Jacob Stahl.  
 1894—C. C. Gundy, James Gibson, Samuel Knight.  
 1895—C. C. Gundy, with Edgar L. Kingsbury, and J. D. Bolles.  
 Samuel Knight qualified as commissioner in September, 1895, and took his place on the board, *vice* Mr. Kingsbury.  
 1896—F. J. Brand, C. C. Gundy, Samuel Knight, C. C. Gundy, re-elected November, 1896.  
 Messrs. Kingsbury and Bolles were appointed by the auditor, recorder and probate judge, acting as an appointing board, July 31, 1895. The vacancies were created by the removal from office of James Gibson and Samuel Knight. Wilson Hamilton was appointed to succeed Knight, but he declined, and the appointment of E. L. Kingsbury was decided upon. In September Commissioner Knight resumed his place; then, in November, Commissioner-Elect Brand was elected for short and long terms, and January 6, 1896, was appointed to succeed himself and to serve until September, 1896.

## CHAPTER XVI.

THE PRESS OF WOOD COUNTY—PIONEER JOURNALISM—NEWSPAPERS OF PERRYSBURG, BOWLING GREEN, NORTH BALTIMORE, WESTON, PEMBERVILLE, GRAND RAPIDS, CYGNET, TONTOGANY, BRADNER, AND OTHER LOCALITIES IN THE COUNTY.

THE newspapers of the county, outside Perrysburg, have all come into existence since the close of the Civil war. The contest, for the removal of the Seat of Justice to a point near the geographical center of the county, suggested the publication of more than one journal, and the *Advocate* appeared at Bowling Green in 1866. The efforts, subsequently made, to re-establish the Seat of Justice at Perrysburg, brought into the field a few more newspapers, which defended the respective interests of the rival towns with warmth and enthusiasm. Then, the development of the southern townships began, and, later, that of the gas and oil fields of the county commenced, new towns were founded and new interests created. The newspaper publisher came to aid the developers, and localities, which were clothed with the forest before the advance of the commercial and oil men, were now cleared, and again dressed with the buildings of a new civilization. The printing press was found in the midst of the new peoples, and the old journals of Perrysburg, as well as their younger contemporaries of Bowling Green, found their hunting

grounds, from Pemberville to North Baltimore, and from North Baltimore to Perrysburg, invaded by an army of hustling news-gatherers and printers.

*The Miami of the Lake*, the pioneer newspaper, was issued at Perrysburg, December 11, 1833, by J. W. Scott and Henry Darling, the latter bringing the press and type from New York. In June following, J. Austin Scott purchased the office and, with J. H. McBride and Henry Reed, Jr., as associate publishers, issued the paper regularly until February, 1835, when J. H. McBride (who with Charles Wilcox, of Detroit, was the first printer), became sole owner. At that time, Capt. Allen established a paper at Vistula (Toledo), which lived but a short time. Hezekiah L. Hosmer (the old justice of the peace), H. T. Smith and William P. Rozner, were successive owners until August 18, 1838, when the name was changed to *The Ohio Whig*. Henry Reed, Jr., was a son of Henry and Temperance (Pratt) Reed, who located near Waterville, in 1832, on land purchased from John Pray. Samuel R. Reed became editor of the *Cincinnati Gazette*, while Alexander, a third son of the pioneer, Henry, was connected

with the *Morning Commercial* of Toledo, in the "seventies." J. W. Scott moved to Toledo, where he resided many years.

*The Ohio Whig* was first published at Perrysburg, August 18, 1838, by H. T. Smith, as successor of *The Miami of the Lake*. In its columns were the professional notices of J. Purdy, of Mansfield; W. V. Way, David Allen, Henry Bennett, John M. May, Samuel M. Young and J. C. Spink, local lawyers, as well as of A. Coffinberry, Isaac Stetson and Horace Sessions, of Defiance, and of Dr. N. Dustin. All the traders in that vicinity selected the *Whig* as an advertising medium, and, altogether, it was a popular journal until November 28, 1840, when it was merged into the *Maumee River Times*.

*The Perrysburg News* was issued June 28, 1842, by A. C. Morton. A copy of this journal could not be found, but the name and date are taken from a contemporary.

*The Miami of Lake Erie* was issued May 29, 1844, by W. P. Reznor; No. 7, Vol. I, bears date July 10, 1844. In March, 1846, H. L. Hosmer was proprietor; in the following month, Hosmer & Atkinson were owners.

*The Fort Meigs Reveille*, No. 1, Vol. I, bears date June 1, 1844, and No. 1, Vol. V, that of June 3, 1848, with the imprint of S. T. Hosmer as publisher. This issue showed an enlarged paper of 48 columns, filled with general news and advertisements, but wanting, almost *in toto*, in local items. In June, it published the names of Zachary Taylor for President; Millard Fillmore for Vice-President; Seabury Ford for Governor; and was altogether in the Whig interest. J. D. Bean was the successor of Hosmer, taking charge, March 2, 1850, and telling his readers that, not only was he opposed to the extension of slavery, but also to slavery in every form. On November 9, 1850, Silmon Clark became owner, but promised not to make the *Reveille* partisan. On June 7, 1851, owing to the difficulty of pronouncing this name, it was changed to *The Perrysburg Star*.

*The Perrysburg Star* was issued on the date above given, and continued publication until March 10, 1853, when the name was changed to *The Perrysburg Journal*.

*The Maumee Express* was founded about 1837. It was an important factor in the improvement of the Western Reserve road, in so much, that it ridiculed the county and State for tolerating such an unruly highway. Every issue of *The Express* abused the road in prose and poetry, and shamed the authorities into its improvement.

*The Maumee River Times* followed *The Express* as its successor on November 28, 1840. It was as much a Perrysburg as a Maumee journal, for it was published in each place, the name of location being the only difference in the dual issue. H. T. Smith carried on the paper until 1855, when the office was moved to Toledo. *The Express*, named above, was first issued March 25, 1837, by Calvin Frary and Henry Reid, Jr. J. H. Brown succeeded Frary in May, 1837, and the same month, H. L. and S. T. Hosmer, of Perrysburg, became owners, with Lawyer H. Reid, as editor.

*The Perrysburg Journal*, the lineal descendant of *The Miami of the Lake*, was issued March 10, 1853, and continued in the Whig interest until the beginning of the campaign of 1854, when it became a coalition paper with the newly-formed Republican party first in interest, and the new ally of that party, second. No. 1, Vol. III, was issued May 19, 1855, as an 8-page 24-column paper neatly printed. It was reduced from its former size, owing to the fact that instead of 600 paying subscriptions, only 100 were registered, and, of that number, not more than 25 paid in advance. In its pages is noticed the cholera which scourged the town in 1854; the packet sloop "Sweeper," plying between Perrysburg, Maumee and Toledo, and the Perrysburg Bank, of which J. S. Norton was cashier (opened in October, 1854). In May, 1856, Higgins & Holt became owners of the *Journal*, purchasing it of Silmon Clark. They enlarged it, and offered it to subscribers at one dollar per annum. On May 7, E. A. Higgins announced that he assumed editorial control, and would make his work thoroughly Republican, as he did on the *Forest City Visitor*, of Maumee, from October, 1855, to that date. On May 3, 1860, J. W. Bailey succeeded Higgins. No. 1, Vol. IX, of *The Weekly Perrysburg Journal*, bears the date of May 9, 1861, and the name of J. W. Bailey, editor. In his editorial of October 17 he shows very plainly that all was not peace on the Maumee: "Several parties have visited us during the past week, and by threats and braggadocio attempted to intimidate us in the matters of selections for our columns. Now we have no disposition to be frightened by any such contemptible swaggering, for if these individuals really wanted to fight they would go to war. We shall invade no gentleman's premises for the purpose of raising a muss, and we shall endeavor to protect ourselves in every instance." On October 22, 1862, F. J. Oblinger and H. S. Chapin succeeded Bailey as owners. In May, 1865, Mr. Chapin sold his

interest to Oblinger, and in July, Oblinger, and Guyer were the publishers. Mr. Guyer retired in January, 1866. The long and aggressive term of James Timmons followed, and he was editor from January 3, 1868, to April 12, 1889. In his valedictory, he speaks of having purchased the remaining interest of F. J. Oblinger, January 3, 1868, and of re-associating with him on June 1, that year. About the same time he and H. S. Chapin, now of Bowling Green, owned a job office at Toledo, but so soon as Mr. Chapin determined to establish the *Sunday Journal*, later the *Toledo Bee*, Mr. Timmons dissolved the partnership. On January 15, 1869, he was again sole owner of the *Perrysburg Journal*, and continued so, until he sold to Mr. Blue. Of this young successor he speaks thus: "Ed. L. Blue is a young man who commenced at the age of fourteen years, in this office, to make a printer out of himself; who remained nine years with us, and has succeeded in what he started to accomplish. He was born and raised here, and is as well known as ourselves in this community. We trust all will give him a liberal and healthy patronage, without which a paper cannot well succeed." To-day, April 12, 1895, after six years' trial, Mr. Blue is in possession of more than his predecessor asked for him. A venerable journal with a fair subscription list, good advertising patronage and well-equipped office is his, with valuable files dating back to 1869.

*The Wood County Packet*, a well-edited, newsy Democratic paper, was launched in 1838, No. 28 of Vol. I bearing date March 27, 1839, and the names of Gordon & Smith, publishers. This paper ceased publication in May, 1839, or, as the *Ohio Whig* put it, it was "swartwouted." While edited by Mr. Allen it was on amicable terms with its Whig contemporary, but under Gordon & Smith it made many enemies, among them the *Whig*, who wrote a congratulatory editorial on its death.

*The Democrat*, another Perrysburg venture of 1844, was the second paper in the Democratic interest. Hickory clubs and Democratic journals were rising up everywhere, and Wood county could not afford to be an exception, although the prospects for victory here were poor, indeed. Moody and Frank Case were the publishers, during its short reign, from the fall of 1844 until after the election of 1845.

*The Democratic Post* was issued from the court house in 1846, but its lease of life was short.

*The Northwestern Democrat* was established May 22, 1853, by Albert D. Wright, to combat the threats of the Know-Nothings, and oppose

itself to the dissatisfied Democrats, who did not know whether to become Whigs, Abolitionists, Free Soilers or Know-Nothings. Wright was an earnest fellow, who, instead of flying from the cholera scourge of 1854, remained at the case until the dread disease seized upon him. He died at his post, and with him died the third or fourth Democratic journal established at Perrysburg.

*The Maumee Valley Democrat* was issued January 22, 1854, as the successor of the *Northwestern Democrat*. No. 23, Vol. I, bears date June 5, 1854, and the imprint of Lewis C. Stumm, publisher. There is only one file of this journal in possession of the county auditor—that for 1854; but its publication was continued until August 23, 1857, when the office was reorganized and the name of the paper changed the following week to the *Democrat*.

*The Republican*, issued at Perrysburg in 1856, was a short-lived affair, as the *Journal* served all the interests of that party.

*The Democrat*, No. 1, Vol. I, was issued at Perrysburg September 3, 1857, by Edward M. Grimes and Edward L. Moon, from the third story of J. A. Hall's building. "An independent treasury for Ohio. No more union of banks with the treasury," was its motto. On December 3, that year, E. A. Munger and W. R. Carr became owners, and February 25, 1858, Mr. Carr became sole owner. On October 7, 1858, it passed into the past.

*The Independent* was established at Perrysburg in 1862 by E. A. Higgins. The office was destroyed by fire in May, 1863; but Mr. Higgins recuperated at once, and published his paper until 1866, when the office was moved to Toledo and the *Democratic Record* issued there.

*The People's Press* was issued at Perrysburg in 1857. On March 8, 1859, No. 21, Vol. II, was printed by J. R. Knapp, Jr., whose salutatory tells of his first love—Democracy—and of his adherence to the principles of its greatest apostle, Thomas Jefferson. In a business notice he asks that all debts due the *Press*, prior to March 8, be paid to W. R. Carr.

*The Advocate* was issued at Bowling Green May 18, 1866, under the motto, "Be Just and Fear Not," as an aid in the county-seat campaign. It may now be said that this journal did not omit one point in favor of Bowling Green, as the proper place for the Seat of Justice. Its opposition to Perrysburg was so earnest and logical, for a time, that it exhausted itself, after the election on the question, and ceased publication. The men whose names are identified with the bond given for the construction of suitable county

buildings at Bowling Green, may be named as its directors, while R. F. Hickman and John R. Melloy were its publishers. On July 18, 1866, S. D. Howells & Co. became publishers; in August, 1866, S. D. Howells was sole publisher. E. A. Higgins became editor in July, and continued in that position until November 30, 1866, when the *Advocate* ceased.

*The Sentinel* comes next to *The Advocate*, being issued February 22, 1867, by Frank C. Culley. From its beginning it has been a serious exponent of Bowling Green's interests, and championed the town and county against the whole outside world. The motto adopted March 22, 1867, was "Be just to all mankind, and fear not the malice of the unjust."

Number 1, Vol. II, of the *Bowling Green Sentinel*, was issued February 20, 1868, by Frank C. Culley. The first editorial of this volume dealt with the offer made by Bowling Green to build a court house, provided the removal of the county seat would be authorized. The editorial also referred to the rejection of the bond given by Bowling Green. On December 10, 1868, William L. Myers purchased Culley's interest in the *Sentinel*, and on January 14, 1869, R. W. Travis signs his name as publisher, and Myers as editor. On January 1, 1870, or rather on the last night of the old year, Mr. Myers died, having been editor down to October, 1869. Meanwhile the publication was continued by R. W. Travis until March 31, 1870, when the name of C. W. Evers appears as editor. Mr. Travis died April 24, 1871, before which event Mr. Evers purchased Travis' interest. The sale of the office by C. W. Evers to M. P. Brewer, took place June 20, 1872. On June 18, 1873, A. W. and W. H. Rudolph became owners. In 1874 A. W. Rudolph became sole publisher; his father, J. R. Rudolph, became owner of the interest of W. H., but his name never appeared as one of the publishers. On November 11, 1875, C. W. Evers purchased the interest of J. R. Rudolph, and merged his *Wood County News* into and under the name of the *Sentinel*. In 1875 the subscription list and good will of the *Weston Avalanche* was purchased. On March 8, 1880, Mr. Evers became sole owner and editor, and continued in this position until early in 1884, when A. W. Rudolph repurchased the office. M. P. Brewer reinterested himself in this paper on September 1, 1884, and, in November, 1886, E. W. Poe, now the State Auditor, purchased an interest with Brewer and Rudolph. In January, 1888, Mr. Brewer became sole owner, Mr. Rudolph selling his interest in December, 1886, to take

charge of the *Gazette*, which he purchased at that time, Mr. Poe remaining until 1888. In the winter of 1888-89, A. W. Rudolph merged the *Gazette* into the *Sentinel*, under the title, *Sentinel and Gazette*, and was equally interested with Mr. Brewer in the publication of this hyphenated journal. On May 1, 1890, Samuel E. Vail purchased a third interest. On September 15, 1893, Mr. Rudolph sold his interest to J. M. Hoffa, and the firm of Brewer, Vail & Hoffa was formed. By a change in 1896, the firm is known as Brewer, Vail & Co. In March, 1896, John M. Hoffa retired from the *Sentinel*, and assumed editorial management of this paper, his present incumbency.

*The Weekly Sentinel* has always been Republican in political affairs. It is the mother of modern journals in the Wood county of *post-bellum* times, and for almost thirty years has held the highest place among the newspapers. Its services to Bowling Green have been of the most useful character, and, to the county at large, incomparable in substantial results.

*The Fair Daily*.—The first daily paper issued at Bowling Green, and, indeed, in Wood county, was the *Daily Sentinel*, printed on the Fair Grounds, from October 3, 1882, to the close of the fair, by C. W. Evers. It was a neat folio of sixteen columns, filled with local news—nearly a column being devoted to the preparations, and hanging of Carl Bach. It was only a shadow of the greater daily of 1890.

*The Daily Sentinel* was founded June 21, 1890, by Messrs. Brewer, Rudolph & Vail, at the outset, rather as an experiment, but from the first it has had a vigorous, healthy existence.

*The Buckeye Granger* was issued at Perrysburg, November 10, 1874, by N. H. Callard & Son, as a Democratic journal in general, but non-partisan in particular, always supporting good men of other parties rather than bad men of its own party. The office was well equipped, and the subscription list of 1,200 embraced readers in this and adjoining counties. In the issue of November 11, 1875, the editor said: "Although the columns of our paper have been mainly used in advocating the principles of the Grange, yet three-fourths of our patronage has been derived from outside sources." Notwithstanding this, Mr. Callard stood by the Grange until the last, sinking a large sum of money, and exerting his best energies in the attempt to bolster up what he believed to be a useful organization.

*The Wood County Democrat* was founded October 3, 1874, by J. D. Baker, acting as agent for the proprietor, but subsequently was published

by J. D. Baker & Son. In February or March, 1875, they sold the office to a Bowling Green syndicate, which established a newsy, aggressive journal, known as the *Wood County News*.

*The Wood County News* was issued May 5, 1875, by Manville, Evers & Co., its motto being: "The Greatest Good to the Greatest Number." It was a non-partisan journal, intensely local and always ready to defend Wood county against all her enemies, within and without. Messrs. Evers & Brewer made this paper the redoubted champion of Bowling Green. The establishment of this paper was noticed in the *Sentinel* of April 30, 1875, in a paragraph of which the following is a copy: "NEW PAPER.—C. W. Evers, E. W. Merry and Dr. A. J. Manville have purchased the material of the *Democrat* office of this place, and intend starting the publication of a paper of some kind, though what it is to be, politically, morally, religiously or otherwise, we have as yet failed to ascertain." The *Sentinel* did not, evidently, look with pleasure on this new aspirant for public favor; but when the first number was issued the older journal learned its true character, and seldom challenged its editors. From the salutatory the following sentence is quoted: "On all important questions of county-seat removal, which will afford material for an animated canvass this fall, the *News* will be found early in the battle line in behalf of the right. We do not view the contest as a mere squabble between Bowling Green and Perrysburg. It embraces questions of broader scope and graver interests than attach simply to these towns as such." The *News* acted closely on this pronouncement until the revived claims of Perrysburg to the county seat were denied, and Bowling Green was left in undisputed possession of the coveted prize. The *News* was consolidated with the *Sentinel*, or rather the *Sentinel* with the *News*, on November 11, 1875, Manville, Evers & Co. signing the agreement on the part of the *News*.

*The New Baltimore Enterprise* was established in March, 1875, on the 3d or 10th of the month, but the writer has been unable to find a file of North Baltimore's first journal. The *Perrysburg Journal*, speaking of this paper under date of April 21, 1875, says: "This is the name of a new paper, just started at North Baltimore, this county, by Wiseman & Peters. It is an eight-column paper, and makes a great appearance, considering the hurry in getting out the first issue. Mr. Wiseman, from whom we received a call on Tuesday, is a member of the Art Preservative, &c., and Mr. Peters is an old citizen and large property owner in the new and

enterprising town, whose interests they propose to represent." In June, 1875, Wiseman moved to Fostoria, purchased the *Press* office and commenced the publication of the *Fostoria Herald*. After three years and eight months Mr. Peters moved his office to Bowling Green, and named the journal *The Bowling Green Democrat*.

*The Bowling Green Democrat* (successor of *The Enterprise* of 1875) was issued December 26, 1878, by D. E. & B. L. Peters. In their salutatory, they speak of the desire of the party to have a Democratic journal at the county seat, and, continuing, say: "We are thankful for the liberal patronage with which we were blessed while publishing the *New Baltimore Enterprise* for nearly four years, \* \* \* and hope they will continue their patronage as we launch out in this our new field of labor. The valedictory of D. E. Peters appeared October 14, 1880, and the salutatory of William B. and Russell T. Dobson on the same date. On July 23, 1889, Henry Holterman purchased the *Democrat*, and issued his salutatory on July 26. The purchase of the office by Henry S. Chapin took place September 1, 1890, and on September 12 his salutatory was published—M. G. Marron being then reporter. In June, 1892, the indefatigable D. C. Voorhis became a reporter on this journal, a position he continues to hold. The circulation exceeds 3,300 copies weekly, and altogether the *Democrat* holds a high place as a newspaper and party journal.

*The Daily Democrat* (No. 1, Vol. I) was issued June 4, 1894, by Henry S. Chapin, continued until November 10, 1894, and closed with No. 138, after a short but vigorous career.

*The Bowling Green Journal* was edited by B. C. Eberly until November, 1880, when he issued his valedictory.

*The Wood County Republican* was issued by G. W. Hill & Co., in September, 1884. B. C. Eberly was the editor. In November, following, his name appeared also as publisher, and so continued during the short life of the *Republican*.

*The Bowling Green News* was issued by "Allie" M. Higgins, January 24, 1883. It was a little sheet devoted to local news and advertising.

*The North Baltimore Beacon* was issued November 27, 1884, by A. H. Balsley & Co. The advocacy of the best interests of the village was the object of the publishers, rather. On December 11, John A. Sutton signed his name as editor. On October 28, 1886, John A. Sutton issued his valedictory, saying that he sold his interests in the *Beacon* to George W. Wilkinson, who became sole proprietor on November 6, that year.

*The Illustrated Beacon* was issued April 19, 1889, and toward the close of that year, editor Wilkinson's enterprise suggested the *Daily Beacon*, No. 9 of which bears date January 1, 1890. The office of the *Beacon* is a model one in equipment and furnishings, quite in keeping with the most progressive era of the town's history.

*Wood County Agitator* eked out a brief existence, about the year 1884, as an advocate of the Greenback party. It was published at Bowling Green, by Drs. G. W. Vail and J. M. Barbour.

*The Reporter*, a people's journal, was issued at Bowling Green early in the "eighties" by George A. Darke. This paper continued for a year, and was absorbed by the *Sentinel*.

*The Wood County Gazette* was established here in October, 1884, by Anson B. Smith, now editor of the *Deshler Flag*, as a Democratic organ, to oppose the paper published by the Dobson Brothers. He moved the office from North Baltimore, where he had conducted a journal for some time, and carried it on here until December 6, 1886, when he sold the material to A. W. Rudolph, who published the *Gazette* until it was consolidated with the *Sentinel*. Herman J. Rudolph was interested in the paper from the fall of 1887.

*The Daily Gazette* was issued subsequently by Rudolph Bros., but the people were not then prepared for a daily journal, and that first *bona fide* attempt in this field was abandoned within seven months.

*The Wood County News* (not that of 1875) was established by Anson B. Smith, after his sale of the *Gazette* office to Mr. Rudolph. Going to Chicago, he purchased a new outfit, which he brought hither, and not only issued a weekly journal, but also a daily paper for a few months. He sold the plant of the *Daily News* to A. W. Rudolph, and moved that of the *Weekly News* away.

*The Wood County Freie Presse* suspended publication in January, 1888. Henry Holderman was editor, but W. B. & R. T. Dobson were the publishers. The *Freie Presse* was a venture to obtain the county printing, or rather to create a German branch of county printing; but the commissioners, seeing that it had no general circulation, refused to countenance the scheme, and hence the suspension. At one time it was printed at Perrysburg, again at Bowling Green, Mr. Lally, now one of the compositors on the *Journal*, being one of the type-setters on the paper.

*The Bairdstown Times* was established, in 1887, by G. G. Grimes, in the interest of that

village. Some two or three years after, he moved the office to North Baltimore, where the paper was issued under the title—*North Baltimore Times*.

*The North Baltimore Times* is the successor of the *Bairdstown Times*, which was established at Bairdstown, by G. G. Grimes, in 1887, as a small advertising sheet. On his removal to North Baltimore, he found that the *Times* could not be made a self-supporting newspaper by him, and he sold to J. E. Schatzel, in May, 1892. C. L. Huddle purchased the office July 1, 1893, and has made this journal one of the best Democratic newspapers in northwestern Ohio. The office is commodious and well equipped.

*The Bloomdale Derrick* was issued December 28, 1888, by M. G. Marron, as an independent journal. On July 12, 1889, the Derrick Publishing Co. appear as owners—Messrs. Richard, Campbell, Emerson, E. S. Bryant and Easley forming the company. On July 26, 1889, W. S. Richard issued his salutatory as editor, and January 5, 1893, W. A. Hurrell's partnership with Mr. Richard was announced. The senior editor was practically sole owner of the office from 1891 to January, 1893, and has dictated the policy of the *Derrick* since 1889, making it an independent, reliable, newsy journal, deserving the large patronage extended to it. It is safe to say that of all the men who engaged in newspaper work in this county, not one could boast of so few enemies and so many friends as the senior editor of the *Derrick*.

*The Wood County Tribune* was issued October 3, 1889, by C. S. Van Tassel, Rufus B. Moore and Alanson L. Muir, with the first named as editor. A good deal of the printing material was purchased from A. B. Smith, who had ceased to publish the *News*, and, with this modest equipment, the foundations on which the present weekly paper was built up were placed. In December, 1889, Muir and Moore sold half of their interests to Grant Baird, who was, previously, in charge of the composing room. In May, 1890, Van Tassel and Baird became owners, and in 1892 they established the *Evening Tribune* as an adjunct to their weekly journal.

*The Evening Tribune* was established August 22, 1892, by C. S. Van Tassel and Grant Baird as a Republican daily journal. At that time Edwin C. Lossing was appointed reporter, and with Mr. Van Tassel attended to editorial and local work. In October, 1892, Mr. Baird disposed of his interest to Mr. Van Tassel, who became sole owner. A company was organized in May, 1893, and incorporated on May 8, that

year, under the name "Wood County Tribune Co.," with George W. Helfrich, president; Edward Beverstock, vice president; C. S. Van Tassel, secretary and general manager, and John R. Hankey, treasurer. A. L. Muir, Joseph G. Starn and A. Graham, with the officers named, formed the directory. On January 1, 1894, Mr. Helfrich was elected secretary and manager, *vice* Van Tassel elected president, while E. C. Lossing was appointed associate editor. A. L. Muir purchased C. S. Van Tassel's interest on August 27, 1894, and took his place as president and editor, with Mr. Lossing, associate editor, and George W. Helfrich, secretary and general manager. At a meeting of the company, held January 7, 1895, W. H. Milliken was elected a director, *vice* Starn, and B. J. Froney, *vice* Muir, who was elected president. On the organization of this corporation, the office was re-equipped and, the same year, the *Tribune* building was erected at a cost of \$6,000. The increase in the circulation and influence of this young journal has been highly gratifying to its proprietors and friends.

*The Weston News* was issued May 1, 1874. In the salutatory it is written: "We are the first *living* editor that ever penned an editorial for a paper published in Weston (if there is any *dead* one, who ever did, and our prayers can be of any avail to him where he is, he is welcome to them). Henceforth it shall be our aim to keep everybody in the path of rectitude, and no fear of slander suits or pistols shall deter us from our aim." It was a four-page journal, each page  $12\frac{1}{4} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and very primitive in appearance. The proposition to tax the Weston school district for building a school house, and other local affairs, were discussed on its pages. Within a month it made way for *The Weston Avalanche*.

*The Weston Avalanche* was issued June 3, 1874. In October of that year, when T. B. Oblinger retired from the partnership, the *Perrysburg Journal* said: "He mounts a siege gun on the barbet principle in his valedictory, and slaughters his enemies by the thousands. One shot was aimed at this office, but the force was spent before it reached its destination." In October, 1874, Dr. G. B. Spencer became editor, and Tom Harper publisher. In 1876 *The Avalanche* came down. Dr. Spencer retired from the editor's chair January 5, 1876. Shortly after *The Sentinel*, of Bowling Green, purchased the office, and a way was cleared for the *Free Press*. In the carriers' address, written by Dr. Spencer, December 29, 1875, the following quartette occurs:

Hope on brave men, who gave your riches  
To build these railroads, dig these ditches,  
The town you reared up from the water  
Shall be Wood county's fairest daughter.

*The Free Press* was issued March 22, 1876, by S. J. Harper & Son, with Dr. G. B. Spencer editor, as an independent weekly journal. The salutatory is a long one. A paragraph speaks of a former journal, and gives the relation of the new to the old newspaper: "We this week mail the *Free Press* to all the old *Avalanche* subscribers, whom we deem worthy—that is whom we think would pay for the paper if they took it." L. B. Keller came as proprietor in the fall of 1876, Dr. Spencer continuing in the position of editor for a year or so after, or almost to the time when Mr. Keller sold the office.

The Centennial bee-hunt was reported in the *Free Press* of November, 1876. The editor stated that it was so named "because it will be a hundred years before any of us have as much fun again, and also because there were well on toward a hundred of us Stark Bee Hunters."

*The Weston Reporter* was issued November 12, 1877, by G. A. Darke, who promised to make it an independent local newspaper, devoted to Weston's interests. "Weston," he says, "has starved out two newspapers within two years;" but this did not deter him, and his courage, for a time, was well rewarded. In 1878, or early in 1879, he moved the office to pastures new.

*The Weston Herald* was first issued April 12, 1879. The salutatory of W. H. Mitchell, publisher, and L. S. Smith, editor, was issued on that day. It simply stated that "The *Weston Herald* is now in existence, and it comes before the public of this vicinity in modest appearance, and with no large pretensions." On May 17, 1879, E. D. Moffett became publisher, continuing as such until May 17, 1884, when he sold the office to S. E. Burson. On July 31, 1891, Charles B. Saxby and J. D. Conklin purchased Mr. Burson's interest. On December 4, that year, A. S. Coward bought Conklin's interest, and the present firm of Saxby & Coward was formed. The *Herald* is well managed, has a large circulation in its territory, and champions Weston against outer darkness.

*The Pemberville Independent* was a production of the Centennial year, when J. P. Jones issued a journal under that name.

*The Pemberville Brick Block* was issued by Froney & Bruning and Hobart & Bowlus in 1878. They were the proprietors of the only brick business building in the village of that day. A. H. Davidson, who afterward published the *Independent*, was the editor.



*The Pemberville Reporter* was established in 1885 by A. H. Davidson, who was a printer and at one time publisher of the *Independent*.

*The Wood County Index*, the successor of the *Reporter*, was issued by C. R. F. Berry, who purchased the office from A. H. Davidson, and carried it on until April 22, 1889, just before it had reached No. 27 of Vol. IV. A Mr. Pugh was a partner of Berry down to February 8, 1889, when he sold his interest to the senior partner, who in turn sold to Speck.

*The Pemberville Leader* may be said to have been established by George H. Speck, who purchased the *Index* on April 22, 1889, and, on May 3, that year, changed the name to *Pemberville Leader*. He introduced modern methods in the news and business departments, and made it a good local newspaper, worthy of the patronage extended to it.

*The Pemberville Presbyterian* was issued in 1890 by Rev. G. C. Gerlach in the interest of his society.

*The Farm and Fireside* was issued by G. Ouderkirk, at Grand Rapids, in the spring of 1882, was published here for less than a year, when the owner moved to Toledo and thence to Detroit, Mich., where he continued publication under the same name.

*The Grand Rapids Triumph*, which was issued in 1883, for some years was known as *Thompson's Triumph*, and was published by C. K. Thompson, assisted by William Sheffield, from the summer of 1883 to September 2, 1887, when he sold the office and moved to Toledo, where he died in 1890 or 1891. On September 2, 1887, Frank Dodge and John Doyle purchased the office of *Thompson's Triumph* and changed the name to *Grand Rapids Triumph*. They issued No. 1, Vol. V., on the date given. On February 10, 1888, F. A. Crosby and A. J. Fries became owners and published the *Triumph*, regularly, until August 16, 1889, when F. A. Crosby became sole owner. E. H. Eckert, of Toledo, purchased the office in December, 1889, and carried on the *Triumph* for one year, when he sold to Floyd Huffman, who issued his salutatory, December 26, 1890, saying: "With this issue of the *Triumph* we assume charge, and will continue to grind out the news as our former predecessors have done. We will do the best we can, and expect your help; will take no part in politics, but will encourage any new enterprise that comes under our notice." The *Triumph* is still fighting the battles of the old village at the Head of the Rapids.

*The Cygnet Globe* was published in 1891 by

Arthur Campbell, who claimed 800 inhabitants for his village. This claim aroused the editor of the *Triumph* to claim for Grand Rapids a population of 5,000 and twenty-six miles of sidewalk. The *Globe* is gone the way of all things earthly.

*The Cygnet Gusher* was another weekly paper of the same class, about which less may be written. Its course was short and tortuous.

*The Christian Review*, a semi-monthly journal, was issued in the interest of the Disciples or Christian Church, from the office of *The Observer*, of Prairie Depot—Rev. A. McMillan being the publisher. When he left Freeport, in September, 1895, the *Review* ceased to be issued.

*The Tontogany Weekly Herald* was issued August 16, 1890, by George W. Grames and Willie L. Munson. Its life was short (six weeks) and uneventful, but the *Herald* won sufficient attention to have its requiem sung by village wits on the day of the editor's departure.

*The Weekly Graphic* was established at Bradner December 26, 1890, by George W. Grames, who had previously founded the *Herald* at Tontogany. It was a little journal of a few days, neatly printed, and full of local items and advertisements.

*The Bradner News* was issued by A. C. Gorsuch, after the *Graphic* ceased publication, but its lease of life was as short as that of its predecessor.

*Prairie Depot Observer*, No. 1, Vol. I, was issued September 19, 1894, by Geo. C. Williams. He speaks of the *Observer* as the first and only newspaper ever published in the village, and trusts to make his venture successful. The issue of October 4, 1895, was a very creditable one, containing, as it did, illustrations and descriptions of Freeport, with the ordinary local items of the week.

*The Bradner Advocate* was founded October 26, 1894, by D. H. Runneals, as an independent weekly journal. He bought the material new, introduced a new era in local journalism, and made the *Advocate* worthy of the prosperity it had won, even before Volume II was commenced in October, 1895. The owner is a progressive business man who carved a road to success among strangers within a year.

The newspapers of to-day in Wood county appear to offer fair compensation for the labor expended, fair interest on the capital invested, and a fair prospect of being permanent institutions. All the files obtainable from 1833 to 1895, were searched, and from this search result many of the thousands of incidents described in this volume.



## CHAPTER XVII.

PIONEER PHYSICIANS—SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE COUNTY BETWEEN 1816 AND 1845—REMINISCENCES OF OLD PRACTITIONERS—APPEARANCE IN THE COUNTY OF LATER PHYSICIANS—THE CHOLERA—ROLL OF PHYSICIANS WHO SETTLED IN THE COUNTY IN RECENT YEARS, TOGETHER WITH SOME BRIEF PERSONAL SKETCHES—MAUMEE VALLEY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION—WOOD COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY—WOOD COUNTY PHYSICIANS' ASSOCIATION.

THE family physician's very calling brings him into closer intimacy with his fellow men, than does that of any other profession. The pioneer physician was in a great number of instances less refined than the medical doctor and surgeon of to-day, but his unselfish, self-sacrificing and fearless devotion to duty has not been and never will be excelled. The modern physician knows more than the pioneer doctor did. His field of influence is wider, his opportunities are unbounded. As morals, manners and customs changed, the physician changed; so that to-day, in the small villages of the land, we find men equipped by medical education, and with mechanical means, to cope with all the peculiar demands of modern practice.

When the first physician located opposite Fort Meigs, in 1814 or 1815, the Indians were afflicted with the same diseases as the pioneers. Fevers and ague were part and parcel of existence then. Dr. Manville, in speaking of his early days in Wood county, draws an accurate picture of sanitary conditions, between 1816 and 1845. "The early settlers," he says, "of what is called the 'black swamp,' had a great deal of sickness, mostly fever and ague, which was very prevalent in an early day. So much water on the surface of the land caused so much malaria, that biliousness, chills, fever and ague were the results. Whenever a new family made their appearance and settled down, we all would say, 'there is another family with whom we can divide the shakes.' It took from three to five years to get acclimated; every year, from about the first of July, until frost and cold made its appearance, the people had the ague, and they looked for it just as much, and it came with the same regularity that the summer and fall came. It was not of the same kind that we have in this country latterly. It took hold of a person and literally shook him up. I have seen fellows go to bed with the ague, and when the shake came on the

very bed and floor would rattle. So violent was the disease that at times their teeth would rattle. Many times, whole families would be down at one time, so that one could not give another a drink of water. The ague usually came on every other day, and when there 'was not people enough they had to have it every day, for sometimes there appeared to be about two agues for one man; and oftentimes they had to have it twice in one day. The well day, as we used to call the day we missed it, men would be able to do some light work, and it may seem strange, but the day the chill was to come on you could look out from 10 A. M. until 2 P. M., and you could see the boys come in to take their shake, as much so as to take their dinners. We were not troubled much in those days from any disease of a malignant form. Aside from the ague, we had some bilious, intermittent and remittent fevers. We had no need of a doctor to bleed the patient, for the pesky mosquitoes did all the bleeding that was necessary."

If we except the military surgeons who accompanied Hull, in his march through this county in 1812, or those who were in Harrison's army in 1813, the honors of the pioneer physician must be accorded to Dr. Barton. He located near the Foot of the Rapids after the war of 1812, and, for four or five years, attended reds and whites alike, with little regard to financial compensation. He was at Maumee in 1816, when Dr. Conant arrived, and was still inhabiting a cabin there, when Dr. J. Thurstin arrived in 1817. Neither Conant nor Thurstin refer to his going, but it is known that he had left the village prior to the removal of the county seat to Perrysburg, for, in 1823, when Dr. Walter Colton settled there, Dr. Barton's cabin was vacant. Dr. Conant exercised jurisdiction as justice of the peace for Michigan Territory, on the Maumee, even down to the organization of this county, and for many years was the county's most in-

fluent citizen. Little is known of Dr. Thurstin, but it is known that Dr. Colton moved to Monroe, Mich. in 1827, where he died of cholera a few years after. William Wood, the first resident physician within the present county, located at Perrysburg in 1828; Oscar White settled across the river in 1829, but practiced on both sides of the river. He died in 1883.

Hundreds of reminiscences of the old physicians might be given, stories of heroic practice and startling adventures related; but such items belong to romance rather than to sober, matter-of-fact history. One incident, however, may be told. It is based on the authority of one of the witnesses, and substantiated by Dr. Conant himself. While the Ewings resided at Wolf Rapids, the oldest son, Anthony, was bitten by a rattlesnake, and by the time Dr. Conant got there the boy was horribly swollen, as spotted as a leopard, and in great agony. Conant could do nothing for him. About this time, an old Indian came over from the village opposite Ewing's, and, after sullenly looking at the boy for a time, proposed to cure him for a gallon of whisky. Ewing, now hopeless of saving the boy's life, told the Indian he would do it. The Indian soon got some herbs and administered to the boy, relieving him immediately, but he carefully concealed all his operations from the white medicine man. Conant afterward gave the Indian three gallons of whisky for a receipt for the cure, but there is no evidence that the old doctor ever instructed his contemporaries in the Indian method of treatment.

Dr. Daniel Brainard, of Fremont, began practice there in 1819, and when the first settlements were made on the Portage, he it was who was called to aid the fever-stricken pioneers.

Dr. Cossage, called by the first settlers "a frontiersman," located at Risdon, in 1829, and for three or four years acted as guide, wagoner, dentist, doctor and man of all work. Dr. Fletcher settled in Perry township as early as 1833; Dr. Kinnaman, of whom mention is made in the history of Montgomery, came into the southeast quarter of the county a year or so later, performed the surgical operation credited to him in the chapter on Montgomery, and built up a fine reputation in a short period. Harvey Burritt, who located at Grand Rapids, in 1833, was a redoubtable pioneer physician, whose treatment of disease and wounds was always heroic. He moved to Maumee in 1852. William Durbin located at Rollersville in 1834. Nathaniel Dustin and Daniel Cook, of Maumee, and E. D. Peck, of Perrysburg, began practice as early as

1836, and became well-known physicians and merchants. Dr. Peck came in 1834; while Eli Manville, who located northwest of Bowling Green, in 1834, was recognized as a physician of ability. Dr. Thomas resided at Portage until 1842, when he left the country; his contemporary, Manson Rice, was a surgeon, and died from blood-poisoning at a later date. B. S. Woodworth, of Providence, settled there in 1837; Dr. Patterson, at West Millgrove, the same year. Dr. Lathrop was in Washington township, John Wolverton and Drs. Fuller and Ballard at Bowling Green, with a few others scattered here and there along the county boundaries.

During the decade ending in December, 1849, a number of disciples of Æsculapius made their appearance in the wilderness, for be it known that in the "forties" the territory known as Wood county was in a most primitive condition. The population had almost doubled since 1839, and yet no attempt was made to improve sanitary conditions. It is not to be wondered at, then, that everyone suffered from malarial diseases, or that physicians multiplied. Bradford Hutchins, T. S. Carman and E. Ranger located at Freeport, the latter in 1842 (where he resided until he moved to Weston in 1864 or 1865); M. Parks located on the site of North Baltimore; Dr. Owens practiced at Otsego from 1840 to 1852; Welcome Pray in the Miltonville and Waterville district; William R. Peck, or "The Little Doctor Peck," taught school and practiced medicine; Chauncey Matthews died at Maumee, in 1847. Dr. Eli Manville preceded G. J. Rogers at Bowling Green; Dr. Wiley, of Henry township and Henry Buck, of Perrysburg, were here prior to the close of 1846. Justus Wright, David Scott and Alexander Anderson, of Maumee; Vander Haden, Russell and Hiram Burr, of Bowling Green, Dr. Nieblung, the *soi disant* planter, near Tontogany, William Bailey, of Weston, Breese, of Grand Rapids, and Osborne, of the central townships, came in before the close of 1848. Walter and Thomas Hutchins are said to have resided at Freeport for short periods in the "forties," while Dr. Robertson was a partner of Dr. Peck, at Perrysburg. Dr. Howell came in 1858. Quinine and whisky were the great medicines of the period. Every physician believed in their efficacy for the ills of the patient and the doctor. The instruction of Vander Haden to his patients was to eat everything, save a blacksmith's bellows or an iron wedge. He prohibited the first as an article of food, because it was too windy, and the second, because it was too heavy for the stomach. His pleasantries were so numerous,

that the people appreciated him and patronized him very liberally.

The decade ending in 1860 witnessed the increase of population from 9,157 to 17,886 in 1860. Among the new-comers were many physicians—some good, some indifferent, some bad. There was a harvest awaiting them. The people had undertaken the great work of draining the county, for it was evident that, with this population, sanitary laws must be observed. The physicians were the strongest friends of drainage. Many of them served throughout the Black-Erysipelas epidemic of September, 1846, which carried away at least fifty persons in the Bowling Green neighborhood, among the number being Ruth Tracy, Mrs. Chloe Pike, the wives of James and Frank Maginnis, and Mrs. Brown. In other neighborhoods the terrible disease played havoc. Now, the repetition of such a plague had to be prevented. Drainage appeared to be the great preventative. Work was entered upon, but during its progress malaria assumed stronger hold upon the people. This is proved by contemporary newspaper accounts and by the records of the old Agricultural Association; so that when the sanitary and social conditions of the time are compared, one is not surprised to learn that disease rushed over and through the barricades built or suggested by the physicians.

*The Cholera.*—The epidemic of 1854 was incomparably the most severe scourge which ever fell on any Ohio town. Judge Dodge, speaking of it before the board of health in February, 1893, said that the extent of the mortality will never be accurately known. A few months before, the *Journal* published a list of 141 known victims, but the Judge believes that it might easily be increased to more than 200. Dr. E. D. Peck, one of the heroes of the epidemic, assured the Judge more than once that all would fall victims to the terrible disease. Of the 1,300 inhabitants, credited to the town on July 1, 1854, only 600 remained, and, of that number, one-third are said to have fallen victims to the disease. N. H. Callard, who, like Judge Dodge, remained with the people, gives a graphic description of the advent and progress of the disease, telling how the mayor delegated his authority to Judge Dodge and fled, and how his example was followed by councilmen and their constituents in a wholesale manner. From his history of the epidemic, the following paragraph is taken:

On July 4, 1854, a pic-nic was held in a small grove a little south of the old court house. The citizens, both from town and country, had provided ample provision for having a good time. The tables were laden with provisions. The atmosphere was intensely hot, and exhibited a blueish, hazy

condition. Early in the day it became noised abroad that a child had died from cholera on the evening previous. This cast a gloom over the people, and the country people soon returned to their homes, leaving considerable provisions to be distributed among the needy citizens. The Lucas family received a good supply. On the 6th of July the first death in that family occurred. The mother of the child had then no assistance. She sent for me to go over and help them to bury their dead. On passing into the house, I observed in an open cupboard, exposed to the contaminated atmosphere of this cholera-infected house, remains of food that had been taken from the tables on the Fourth of July. The children were under no restraint and had no doubt ate of this food whenever they saw fit. In the Williams house adjoining, the cholera prevailed, and the frequent vomits of the so-called rice water was, as a matter of convenience, thrown on the ground between the two houses, and it was speedily absorbed by the dust and dried up by the heat. In this condition the poison-germ of cholera was readily floated by the current in the atmosphere, and through the open window of the Lucas house, brought in contact with the food therein exposed. That was the condition of matters when I entered that house on the 6th of July. There is no doubt but the water drunk by this family was polluted in like manner. By this process of contamination seven out of eight members of this family were swept from existence. In most cases there were no proper facilities existing either for handling the sick or in providing suitable food for them. Had there been qualified auxiliaries to the physicians in attendance on the sick in their second stage of the disease, there is but little doubt that many lives would have been saved.

The important lessons of that period have had a due influence on the citizens of Perrysburg. Since that period the streets of the village have been thoroughly drained, and due regard has been had to the removal of all substances that are regarded as detrimental to the public health.

This incident, though properly belonging to the history of Perrysburg, is introduced here to account for the number of medical men who flocked toward the lower Maumee Country. In 1851, Dr. Williamson located at Freeport; in 1853, A. J. Gardner located at Grand Rapids; in 1854, Dr. Robertson, a partner of E. D. Peck, died while combating the cholera, and Dr. H. A. Hamilton came that year to take his place. Dr. Frederick labored in the midst of the danger as well as Dr. W. H. Smith; the physicians, Philo and W. M. Bell located in Weston in 1854; L. L. Gorsuch practiced at Freeport; John F. Clayton purchased Dr. Wiley's interests in Henry township, located on the site of North Baltimore after the war, but moved to Missouri in 1871 or 1872; J. D. Whitacre located near Scotch Ridge in 1855, Henry Buckland at Stony Ridge about the same time, and C. R. Rosendale at West Millgrove; Ozias Baird was in Bloom, Beardsley and Watson at Grand Rapids, E. B. Emerson at Eagleville, Kerr, Seward, Reynolds, Hobson and J. J. Dahlen at Perrysburg, J. B. Smith and William G. Lamb at Bowling Green, and Dr. Peters at Pemberville, with Dr. Koeble following him that year or the next at the Forks of the Portage.

The population increased to 24,553 by June, 1870. During the decade ending in December,

1869, the profession received many recruits. J. F. Meeks located at Portage as early as 1860, though he resided at Custar in 1867; Kellogg, Ballard and Squires had occupied the Tontogany field, and, perhaps, Dr. Gilbert, who was there from 1863 to 1866, preceded Dr. B. F. Davis in practice, for it is said that Dr. Davis did not locate at Tontogany until 1865. H. R. Potter was at Potterstown as early as 1864; A. J. Manville and Dr. Howells were at Bowling Green in 1866. Geo. W. Bell at Grand Rapids, Wm. Bell at Weston, R. Laney in Portage township in 1864, Charles Whisler at North Baltimore down to 1868, G. W. Vail at Bowling Green from 18— to 1885; C. A. Henry read medicine in Perry township in 1865, Dr. Henry at Pemberville, and Dr. Forbes at Weston in 1866; J. H. Rheinfrank practiced at Perrysburg; Dr. McCormick at Pemberville, 1867-71; Geo. W. Moore, at Tontogany; Alexander Brown, Albert Claypool and James Lathrop at Weston; A. Sterling, R. C. Hunter, and A. Evans at Weston; E. D. Powers and McCray, of Perrysburg, were in the county in 1869, and perhaps prior to that year.

When Dr. George B. Spencer, of Weston, located there in 1870, many of the physicians named were still residents of the county. J. M. Telford settled at North Baltimore; in 1871, but A. G. Henry succeeded him as early as 1873, the same year in which Robert L. Souder located there. Dr. Hughes settled at Custar in 1872, E. W. Schooley, the same year. W. W. Perry at Perrysburg in 1872, S. E. Chapman, a homeopath, began practice at Perrysburg in 1873, and Dr. Rausch at Portage, the same year; while H. P. Eaton moved to North Baltimore in 1874. T. J. Klussman located at Tontogany, J. H. Ogle and R. J. Simon (the latter in 1873) at Pemberville, Avery McClaran (who died in 1887) at North Baltimore, Worline and Slaughter at Custar, S. S. Bronson at Jerry City, James Colter at Bairdstown, and J. M. Ricketts, at Bowling Green. In 1876, J. H. Gibson was at Bairdstown, while in 1877 and 1878 A. L. Davis was at Tontogany, Francis Strain at Perrysburg, O. H. Sullivan at Bowling Green, and Thomas R. Morrison at North Baltimore. The names of J. C. Lincoln, the late B. F. Leet, Dr. Thomas, A. M. Chilcote, Edward H. Chilcote, and others, who began in the "seventies," are given in the records of the Medical Society and the Association.

The roll of physicians, who settled here in recent years, embraces the names of a few of the older men, and a brief sketch of some of their lives is given.

*Perrysburg.*—Erasmus D. Peck—deceased—was a native of Stafford, Conn., and descended from one of the old Colonial families. His birth occurred in 1808, and his education was received in the schools of Munson, Mass., and at Yale College, from the Medical Department of which he was graduated in 1829. After his graduation Dr. Peck came to Ohio, and in 1834 to Perrysburg, at which place he practiced medicine for upward of forty years. He was a man of commanding influence in all lines of effort, and took a prominent place in the councils of the Republican party, which he entered on the disorganization of the old Whig party. From 1855 to 1857, he served in the General Assembly of the State, and was a representative in Congress in the Forty-first and Forty-second sessions. His death occurred December 25, 1876.

H. A. Hamilton descended from a long line of physicians and surgeons. In speaking of his ancestry the Centennial edition of the Hartford County Medical Association says: "One of the most distinguished names upon the roll of physicians in our locality, whether during the last or the present century, is that of Hamilton. \* \* \* " He was born at Somers, Conn., in 1829, was educated at Suffield, Conn., and in the Medical Department of the University of New York, graduating from the latter in 1852. He practiced three years in Springfield, Mass., and in 1854 came to Perrysburg and commenced practice along with the late Dr. Peck. Dr. Hamilton is a man of unusual robust physique, and is one of the oldest and most honored of the profession.

J. H. Rheinfrank is a native of Bridgewater, Mich., born in 1840. In boyhood he attended the graded schools of Ypsilanti, Mich., and, in 1861, was graduated, and entered the Literary Department of the University of Michigan. Later he was a student in the Medical Department of the same university, and was graduated in 1864. Soon after taking his degree he located in the practice at Perrysburg, where he has made for himself a high standing in the profession and a citizen of prominence.

I. S. Bowers is a native of what is now the province of Ontario, but passed his boyhood in the State of Michigan, and there, in the district schools, and high schools at Petersburg and Monroe, received his elementary education. At an early age he began reading medicine with an uncle at Fond-du-Lac, Wis., and on his father's removal to Perrysburg, in 1876, he subsequently furthered his medical studies under the direction of Dr. Rheinfrank, of that place. In 1881 he

was graduated from the Detroit Medical College, and at once began practicing at Perrysburg. At this time he is president of the board of pension examiners for Wood county.

H. R. Roether is a native of Perrysburg, and in the public schools of the town received his education, being graduated therefrom in 1886. He then taught school for several years, and in 1893 was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan. After his graduation he was for a time the assistant surgeon at the Aragon mines, at Norway, Mich. He then returned to Perrysburg, where he has been actively and energetically engaged in the practice of medicine, and where his ability and influence are recognized. In 1895 Dr. Roether was elected to the office of treasurer of Perrysburg township. The Doctor is of the Regular School in distinction from Homeopathy.

J. E. Brainard is a graduate of the Cleveland Homeopathic Hospital College, class of 1889.

W. H. Rheinfrank, who is associated in the practice with his father, J. H. Rheinfrank, was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan, in 1894.

*Grand Rapids.*—Andrew J. Gardner is a native of Ohio, born in 1827 at Hubbard, where he resided until ten years of age, and then went with his father to Youngstown, where he received the rudiments of an education. He read medicine for some time under Drs. Woodbridge & Garlick, and then entered the Medical Department of the Western Reserve College, graduating in 1848. He practiced for a short time at Sharon, Penn., and for five years at Youngstown, and Cleveland, Ohio, then, in 1853, came to Grand Rapids. He has since resided here, and for thirty-five years has conducted a drug store.

J. A. Backus was graduated from the Cleveland Homeopathic Hospital College in 1880; J. Heller from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan in 1874; L. G. Ennis from Long Island College Hospital in 1889; J. N. Mead.

*West Millgrove.*—Charles R. Rosendale is a native of Yorkshire, England, and with his father's family came to the United States at the age of nine years. During the winter seasons he attended the district schools in the vicinity of Wellington, Ohio, and the high school at Elyria. At the age of twenty he began the study of medicine with Drs. Smith and Johns, of the former place, and subsequently studied under Dr. McKenzie of Litchfield. He was graduated from the Cincinnati Eclectic Institute in 1856, and that year located at West Millgrove, where he

has had a most successful career. An extended notice of the Doctor's life appears elsewhere in this volume.

T. T. Rosendale, a son of Dr. Charles R. Rosendale, is a successful physician of Fostoria. He is a native of West Millgrove, in which village he received his early schooling. He afterward was in attendance for three years at the Northern Indiana Normal School, but had previously read medicine under his father and Dr. Henry, at Fostoria. In 1890 he entered the Western Reserve Medical College at Cleveland, and was graduated in 1893, and the same year located at Fostoria.

C. B. Hatfield was born in Perry township, this county, and during youth and early manhood remained on his father's farm. In the fall of 1889, at the age of twenty-seven years, he entered Western Reserve Medical College at Cleveland, Ohio, but in 1891 was compelled to leave on account of poor health. Later he was a student in the Kentucky School of Medicine at Louisville, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1893. In June of that year he located at West Millgrove.

Dr. Kirkham visited this settlement as early as 1837.

*Prairie Depot.*—Edwin R. Sage is a native of Connecticut, born in 1825. When he was aged eleven years the family came to Ohio, and when he was fifteen his father died. Young Sage then learned the shoemaker's trade, and followed it for three years. He studied medicine under Dr. H. W. Curtis, at Chagrin Falls, Ohio, but had previously read some with Dr. Hutchins, at Prairie Depot. In the summer of 1857 he located permanently at the latter place and began the practice of medicine the following year, in which he has been successful. Dr. Sage has been twice elected to the General Assembly of Ohio, the first time in 1875. An extended sketch of his life appears elsewhere in this volume.

I. V. Wirebaugh is a native of Ohio, and was reared as most farmers' sons, working through the summer season and attending the district schools in the winter. In 1886 he began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Chesney, of Bucyrus, Ohio, and the following year attended a course of lectures at the Western Reserve Medical College, from which he was graduated in March, 1890, after having completed the three-years' course and continuing his studies with Dr. Chesney. He began practice at Tiro, this State, at which place he was also en-

gaged in the drug business. In March, 1893, he removed to Prairie Depot.

Joseph E. Burnham is a native of the State of New York, and grew to manhood in his native town—Potsdam. He attended the public schools, and later the Normal school at that place for a period of two and one-half years. He followed teaching for several years. In 1889 he began the study of medicine in the office of Dr. H. D. Brown, and in the fall of 1892 he became a student in the Cleveland Medical College, from which he was graduated with high honor in the class of 1895, standing second in a class of forty-two. He practiced for a short time at Port Clinton, Ohio, and in November, 1895, located at Prairie Depot, and has since been associated with Dr. Sage. The Doctor belongs to the Homeopathic school of medicine.

J. G. Howell was graduated from Maumee College, in 1878. H. C. Black. In the early history of West Millgrove and Fostoria mention is made of first physicians; while in the township chapter Dr. Kinnaman and others are noticed. W. H. Palmer, J. E. Brooks.

*Bowling Green.*—A. J. Manville is a native of this county, born in 1834. His early years were passed in rural pursuits, and he had but meager educational privileges. He studied medicine under the direction of Dr. G. J. Rogers, of Bowling Green, and they together carried on a drug store. A year later, in 1864, Dr. Manville entered the medical college at Ann Arbor, Mich., where he remained one year, and subsequently was in attendance at Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York City, from which he was graduated in 1866, receiving the degree of M. D. Among his professors at Bellevue were some famous men in their profession, such as Drs. Austin Flint, Surgeon-General Hammond, Lewis A. Sayers and Frank H. Hamilton. After graduation the Doctor returned to Bowling Green, and sustained the same relations with Dr. Rogers as previously, and became a partner in the practice of medicine. He was in the drug business from 1863 to 1896, and is one of the most widely known men of the county.

J. C. Lincoln was born in Albany, N. Y., though his boyhood was passed in Wisconsin and Minnesota. He had read medicine some when the late Civil war broke out, and became assistant surgeon in the First Minnesota Regiment, he having recruited upward of three hundred men, of which that regiment was composed. He was seriously wounded at the battle of Fair Oaks, and on recovering returned to his home and subsequently was for three years a student in Law-

rence University at Appleton, Wis., and for one year studied medicine with Dr. Ford, of Winona, Minn., then was in attendance at Rush Medical College, Chicago, from which he was graduated, with the degree of M. D., in 1871. He began the practice of medicine in Franklin county, Iowa; then, for a time, practiced near Fostoria, Ohio, and in 1873 located at Bowling Green, where he has since been actively engaged in the same, and where he is carrying on an extensive drug business.

J. H. Whitehead is a native of this county, born near Bowling Green. He was educated in the neighborhood schools, and in the high schools at Bowling Green and Perrysburg. In 1871, he began reading medicine with Dr. John Osborn, near Portage, this county, and subsequently entered the Cleveland (Ohio) Homeopathic College, from which he was graduated in 1874, and since which time he has practiced his profession at Portage and Bowling Green.

J. W. McCracken, a graduate of the Medical Department of the University of Michigan, in 1866, practiced at Portage for several years.

W. M. Tuller is a native of this State, where he grew up on a farm. He was educated in the district schools, and at Central College in Franklin county, Ohio. After completing the course at the latter institution he was engaged for six years in teaching school. He then began reading medicine with Dr. H. Hendrickson, of Columbus, Ohio, and subsequently took a course of study in the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, from which he was graduated in 1876. He immediately located at Bowling Green, and has since been actively engaged in practice at this point.

W. B. Bryant is a native of this county, born at Prairie Depot. In 1872 he began the study of medicine, and for two years was in the offices of Dr. Goodrick, at Freeport, and Dr. Rosendale, of West Millgrove. In 1875, he was graduated from the Cincinnati Eclectic Medical Institute, and began the practice of medicine at Freeport. He remained there two years, and then removed to Jerry City. In 1891 he came to Bowling Green, having been elected sheriff of the county in the fall of 1890. He served two terms as sheriff.

C. S. St. John is a native of this county, and was educated in the schools of Fostoria and of Valparaiso, Ind. He taught school for a number of years. He was for a time a student in the Columbus (Ohio) Medical College, and in 1883 was graduated from the Medical Department of Wooster University. He located in Bowling

Green and after a practice of one year went to McComb, and, after two years practice there, returned to Bowling Green, and has since followed his profession here.

Marcus A. McKendree was born in Erie county, Penn. He attended the high school at Conneaut, and read medicine at home and later with Dr. Schooley, of Weston, Ohio. He was graduated from the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, in June, 1884, and for two years thereafter was associated in practice with Dr. Schooley, at Weston. He then located at Bowling Green. Since 1893 he has been one of the board of U. S. pension examining surgeons.

Mrs. Lydia McKendree is a native of New York City. She read medicine with her husband, and in 1893 was graduated from the Toledo Medical College.

E. O. Richardson was graduated from the Columbus Medical College in 1884, Emily A. Hill from the University of Michigan in 1886, and L. E. Sanglier from the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery in 1889. E. R. Thomas.

Frank W. Rogers is a native of Norwalk, this State, and in that place began the study of medicine under Dr. Gill. Subsequently for two years he was a student in the Medical College at Ann Arbor, Mich., and then entered the Chicago Homeopathic College, from which he was graduated in 1888. He began practice at Bowling Green, and later took a course in the New York Post-Graduate School, and at both made a special study of the diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat. Dr. Rogers has also an office at Toledo, in the Spitzer building.

J. C. Snyder is a native of Pennsylvania. He took a four-years' course of study in the University at Lock Haven, Penn., graduating with the degree of B. A. He then took a course in the Medical Department of Michigan University from which he was graduated in 1881. Subsequently he took a special course in the Medical College at Buffalo, N. Y., and, after some years of practice in Michigan and Kansas, he attended Rush Medical College of Chicago, taking his degree in 1891, since which time he has been a practitioner of Bowling Green.

*Custar.*—Herman Mannhardt is a native of Wurttemberg, Germany, entered the common schools of his country at the age of five years, the Latin or high school at seven, and completed the course when fourteen years old. He then immediately began the study of medicine with his father, Dr. F. Mannhardt; at sixteen he entered the standing army, was promoted from step to step to assistant surgeon, in which capacity

he served during the Austro-Prussian campaign of 1866. He took his discharge in 1867, and immediately came to Galion, Ohio, where he practiced medicine with his father until 1868, when he came to Custar, and has resided and practiced his profession there ever since. In 1876 he went to Cincinnati, took a course of lectures and graduated.

James F. Noble was graduated from an Eclectic Medical College in 1891; and Dr. Michael Worline located here about 1868.

*North Baltimore*—Albert G. Henry is a native of Ohio, and was graduated from the Ada (Ohio) Normal School. He read medicine under Drs. Baldwin and Yoder. In 1873 he graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan, and commenced practicing medicine at North Baltimore in June of the same year. In 1881 he completed a post-graduate course in Columbus (Ohio) Medical College. The Doctor has been closely identified with the growth of North Baltimore, and is extensively interested in the business of the place.

W. P. Eaton was graduated from Willoughby University in 1845, and located in 1874.

W. T. Thomas was born in this State, and was ten years of age before learning to speak the English language. He then went to a select school at Weston, and later attended one at South Toledo, and when seventeen years of age began teaching. He followed this occupation for eleven years, studying medicine in the meantime. He was graduated from Starling Medical College, Columbus, Ohio, in May, 1881, and soon after located in the practice at North Baltimore, where he has been a successful practitioner. He served for four years as postmaster at North Baltimore. In 1893, after resigning the postmastership, the Doctor attended the Chicago Polyclinic, in which he took a post-graduate course.

D. W. Reddin was born near Findlay, Ohio, and remained on his father's farm in Hancock county until he was thirteen years of age, since which time he has been self supporting. For two years he attended the high school at Findlay, and for two years was a student of Simpson College, Iowa. He was also for a time a student at Valparaiso (Ind.) Normal School, and at the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio. He read medicine for a year and a half in the office of Dr. T. C. Ballard, of Findlay, and at the age of twenty-one was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan. He then spent a year in the hospitals of New York City and Philadelphia, and after a year's travel he located at Findlay, where he practiced



two years. In 1886 he came to North Baltimore, and has since made that city his home.

J. R. Archer is a native of this county. He taught school for five years, and at the end of that time took up the study of medicine. He was graduated from Starling Medical College at Columbus, Ohio, in 1887, and located in the practice at Holgate, in Henry county. He remained there one year, and then came to North Baltimore.

J. G. Ames was graduated from Hahnemann Medical College of Chicago, in 1889; Dr. Peters, formerly of Pemberville; Charles L. Tilton and J. H. Stoner located in 1891, and H. T. Somers in 1893.

J. E. Sommers was born on board of a ship on the Atlantic ocean, while his parents were on their way from Germany to this country. He grew up in this county, and in 1889 began the study of medicine under Dr. Bryant, of Toledo. In 1892 he was graduated from the Cincinnati Medical College, with the degree of M. D., and began his professional career in North Baltimore soon after his graduation.

*Weston*—Geo. B. Spencer is a native of New York State, and grew up in Huron county, this State. He served for three years in the late Civil war, and on his return home attended Oberlin College one year, then began the study of medicine with Dr. Sykes, of Plymouth, and completed his preparation for the profession at the Western Reserve Medical College, graduating in 1867, with honors—being the valedictorian of the class. He first located at Tiffin, then practiced for a time at Shiloh, Richland county, and in 1870 permanently located at Weston. The Doctor has served two terms as a member of the General Assembly of the State, and has held a number of minor offices in Weston.

E. W. Schooley was graduated from an Eclectic Medical Institution in 1872.

James W. Williams is a native of this State. He early prepared himself for teaching, and while so engaged began the study of medicine. For a time he was associated with his uncle, Dr. Ephraim Llewellyn, in the drug business at Delaware, Ohio, and with him furthered his medical studies. In May, 1875, he was graduated from a medical school in Cincinnati, and in June of that year located at Weston. In 1884, he took the practitioner's course in Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital, at Chicago.

W. W. Hill is a native of the township in which he now resides, and at the age of ten years started out to do for himself, and at the age of fifteen years, in the fall of 1862, entered the

army and served with honor to himself and credit to the nation until the war closed. He was three times wounded and lost his left leg by amputation as a result of a wound received August 20, 1864, at Jonesboro, Ga. On his return from the war he attended the schools at Weston. He taught school for a time, and was a clerk in a store. In 1880, he became a student in the Western Reserve University at Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1883 at the Toledo Medical College, and was graduated from the latter in July of that year. He began practice at Weston, where he has met with success. He is a skillful surgeon, and an able physician. He has been the mayor of Weston, and served in other official relations. A family sketch will be found elsewhere.

J. M. C. Cook located in 1894.

*Pemberville*.—Rubellus J. Simon was born on a farm in this county. His parents had both been teachers, and his early schooling was received under them. He was in attendance for nine months at the Poland Union Seminary. He then received a teacher's certificate, and for a period taught school. Subsequently he attended the high school at Findlay, and later was two years at Oberlin College. He studied medicine under Dr. S. B. Emerson, of Eagleville, and, in 1873, was graduated from the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, and in August of the same year opened an office at Pemberville, where he has since been actively engaged in the practice of medicine, and is a successful physician. Dr. Simon has been a member of the board of education for six years, and was for four years one of the city council.

David B. Brown is a native of this State. The first seven years of his life were passed on the home farm near Mt. Gilead. In 1859 he became a resident of Wood county. After some years spent in the district and public schools he taught school for a time, and in 1872 commenced the study of medicine at Freeport under Dr. N. W. Goodrick, with whom he remained two years. In 1874-5 he attended lectures in the Cincinnati Medical College, and was graduated in 1876. He first practiced for several years at Sherwood, in Defiance county, and in 1881 came to Pemberville, where he continues to give his attention to his profession.

D. S. Williams, who located in 1873, died in 1879; L. L. Loomis, who was a physician near Scotch Ridge for many years, moved to Pemberville in the "eighties;" W. S. Loomis, of Toledo, formerly practiced here. W. D. Stewart was a graduate from Wooster University in 1874. Dr. Allen came in later years.



S. S. Dilley was born in Ohio. His early schooling was received mainly at Jerry City. He for a time followed barbering, and then began the study of medicine with Dr. Bryant, ex-sheriff of the county. He was in attendance one term at the Medical College at Fort Wayne, Ind., and two terms at the Cincinnati Eclectic Medical Institute, from which he was graduated in 1894. He at once located in Pemberville, where he still follows his profession. The Doctor is a contributor to the New York Medical journals.

*Tontogany.*—B. F. Davis is a native of the State of New York. Until sixteen years of age he attended the usual district schools, then a select school at Centerburg. At the age of nineteen he began teaching, and, later, was one term a student in the college at Iberia, Ohio, and one term at the college at Delaware, Ohio. In the spring of 1859 he began reading medicine in the office of Drs. Russell & Thompson, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio; in the winter of 1861–62 he attended lectures at Ann Arbor, Mich., and in 1862–63 at Starling Medical College, Columbus, Ohio, from which latter he was graduated in February, 1863. The following March he was commissioned assistant surgeon of the 44th Regiment O. V. I., and served throughout the war. On being mustered out in 1865 the Doctor located in practice at Tontogany. In 1872, in connection with his brother, he opened a drug store in the same village, and is still in the business.

George W. Moore and Mary J. Bailey advertised as physicians in 1872.

A. Eddmon was born near the city of Philadelphia, Penn. He received a liberal education, graduating from Halle University, Germany, in the departments of literature and medicine. He was the assistant surgeon on the steamer "Limenia" and visited several of the countries of South America, the Society Islands, and Tahiti, a French port. He was in the drug business for a time in San Francisco and also in Germany, and in the latter country was an assistant to an old surgeon. Subsequently he was graduated (1877) from Physio Eclectic Medical College, at Cincinnati, Ohio, and the same year located at Custar, this county, and in December, 1877, came to Tontogany. He was mayor of Tontogany for six years, has served as clerk, and has been a notary public since 1879. He is also engaged in the drug business.

*Bloomdale.*—E. H. Chilcote is a native of this county, a farmer's son. He attended the district schools, and later the schools at Fostoria, and for a time was engaged in school teaching,

and then entered Miami Medical College at Cincinnati, and was graduated in 1871. He began practice at Van Buren, and three years later moved to Bairdstown, where he remained two years. In 1890 he came to Bloomdale.

A. M. Chilcote, a brother of E. H., located in the practice at Bloomdale in 1875.

Howard H. McClaran is a native of Ohio. At the age of nine years his parents removed to North Baltimore, in the public schools of which place young McClaran received his education. He became a telegraph operator, which vocation he followed for some time, and was also a book-keeper and accountant for a time. He attended Starling Medical College at Columbus, entering in September, 1891. Later he was a student in the Nashville (Tenn.) Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1893. He returned to North Baltimore, and there practiced for a short time, and then located at Bloomdale.

R. B. Hubbard and W. C. McCrill located here in 1883, George H. Riley in 1887; W. A. Dickey and a few others who remained only a short time.

*Bradner.*—T. S. Carman, one of the old pioneer doctors of the county, was born in Queen Anne county, Md., in 1808, and in early boyhood was taken to Baltimore by his parents. His father, before the war of 1812, was a prosperous business man of that city. The war brought failure to the father, and at the age of eleven years the son was left fatherless and thrown on his own resources. Later on he learned dentistry, and for a time followed the profession. Along in the latter part of the "thirties" he located in Wood county and practiced medicine, and was at the same time engaged in other lines. Later he was in business, and practiced medicine at Prairie Depot. He finally, in 1889, settled at Bradner. He has been a shrewd business man and a good financier, and is a man of means. An extended sketch of his life and family appear elsewhere.

Dr. Johnson was graduated from the Starling Medical College, of Columbus, in 1881, and came to succeed Dr. Taggart, the first physician of the settlement. Dr. Caris has been in practice since 1867. Dr. Schnetzler came in 1886, and in 1888 removed to Wisconsin. J. E. Furste, a graduate of the Northwestern Ohio Medical College, in 1888. As hitherto stated, the pioneer physician of Fremont came into this district as early as 1832.

*Risingsun.*—H. L. Byington is a native of the State of New York, born on a farm. He grew up as the usual farmer's son, and after the district schools studied for a time in Franklin

Academy, and also at Malone, N. Y. He taught school several terms, beginning at eighteen years of age. Soon after he became of age he came West, and later took a preliminary course of study with Dr. Knestrick, of Bloomingville, Ohio. In February, 1876, he was graduated from the Physio-Medical College at Cincinnati. He began his professional career in Fostoria in the fall of 1876, and in the fall of 1880 he located at Risingsun. He has served six years as a member of the council, and in 1893 was appointed one of the board of pension examiners.

J. H. Burnett was born near Forest, Ohio. He attended the high school of Forest, and then the Northwestern Ohio Normal School, at Ada. He began teaching at seventeen. Later he studied medicine with Drs. Lillibridge and Gammel. In June, 1881, he was graduated from the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati, and in August following began the practice of medicine at Risingsun.

*Stony Ridge.*—H. Buckland located here in the "fifties."

H. E. Noble is a native of the State of New York; came with the family to Huron county, Ohio, at the age of five years. At the age of eleven years his father's family removed to Lucas county. The son's literary education was received in the common schools of these counties, and completed at the Delta high school when he was eighteen, after which he began the study of medicine and entered the Detroit Medical College in 1877. He completed the course in 1879, then located at Swanton, in Fulton county, and there practiced until 1883. He then entered the Toledo Medical College, from which he was graduated in 1884, and then located at Stony Ridge. Subsequently he attended special lectures in New York City, and was graduated from the New York Institute in 1891. The Doctor removed to Toledo, Ohio, in 1896.

*Portage.*—With the old physicians named in former pages were Dr. Merriam and Dr. J. W. McCracken, who were here in the "seventies." Later came A. C. Canfield, who moved to Toledo. W. E. Hughes was graduated from the University of Buffalo, N. Y., in 1875.

Thomas W. Knight was born in Taunton, England. In 1861 his father and family came to America, and in 1876 to Wood county, Ohio. He attended a French school on the Isle of Guernsey, and learned to speak the French language fluently. He attended the public schools of Sandusky City, and later taught school. He took up the study of medicine under the direction of his mother, who had been a practitioner

for many years. In March, 1893, he was graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, and located in Portage in the practice of his profession in May following.

Emerson Webster Fisher is a native of Pennsylvania. He attended the schools of Selin's Grove, the place of his birth, until the family's removal to Nebraska. He was in the neighborhood schools of that State, and later continued his studies in the academy at Homer, and one term in a Nebraska college. In the winter of 1888-89 he was a student in the Midland College at Atchison, Kans. He was graduated in March, 1892, from Rush Medical College, of Chicago, and at once began practicing at Ponca, Neb., and four months later came to Wood county. For a short time he was in the office with Dr. Snyder, of Bowling Green, and in December, 1892, located at Portage.

*Luckey.*—G. F. Peabody is a native of Michigan. He completed his literary education in the high school of Portland, Mich. In 1890 he was graduated from the Toledo (Ohio) Medical College, and began the practice of medicine at Smithfield. He remained at the latter place until coming to Luckey in 1892. Dr. Peabody was a matriculate of the Michigan College of Medicine in 1888, and is a registered pharmacist by examination in 1893.

E. C. Houston was graduated from the Louisville Medical College in 1888, now in Tennessee; W. S. Loomis, now of Toledo.

*Jerry City.*—J. M. Grau is a native of Ohio. At the age of nineteen he entered Geauga Seminary at Chester and was there for three years. He had been self-supporting from an early age, and was a school teacher for a time. He began reading medicine under Dr. W. I. Lyman, of Chester Cross Roads, and in the fall of 1889 became a student at the Western Reserve College, Cleveland. Later he was a student in the University of Vermont. He was graduated from Starling Medical College, Columbus, in March, 1892, and in July following located in the practice at Jerry City.

J. F. Wollam was born in this county, and in the schools of Bloom and Portage townships, and in the Normal School at Ada, received his education. He was for fourteen years a school teacher in this county. He began reading medicine under Dr. J. H. Whitehead, of Bowling Green. He later attended Hahnemann Medical College, of Chicago, and in 1892 commenced practice at Jerry City.

Charles Goodrick, licentiate; W. R. Legron, a graduate of W. R. Medical College in 1888.

*Hoytville.*—Miner Wadsworth was born in Ohio, and grew up on a farm. At the age of eighteen years he entered the public schools of Scio, in Harrison county, and remained one year. He then taught two years. In 1876 he came to Wood county and taught for a time, then took up the study of medicine and carried on a small drug store in Hoytville. Later (in 1882) he was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Keokuk, Iowa, and now has a good practice at Hoytville.

*Bairdstown.*—Z. T. Housman, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1870, moved to Fostoria in 1894; Dr. and Madam Bell and Dr. Alsdorf.

*Cygnct.*—E. W. Heltman, Toledo Medical College, Drs. Mercer and F. H. Shuey.

*Dunbridge.*—Dr. Pope.

*Haskins.*—E. J. Greenfield, W. R. Medical College, 1881; Fred. L. Meagley, of Toledo, born near Haskins, graduated as a physician in 1889 and established himself at Toledo.

*Milton Center.*—A. L. See, Cleveland Medical College 1878; W. L. Robinson, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1886; Grattan F. Starr, University of Maryland, 1889; G. W. S. Austin, 1879; H. E. Noble.

*Scotch Ridge.*—J. D. Whitacre, 1855; Dr. Loomis moved to Pemberville.

*Le Moyne.*—Dr. Gardner. Berlie W. Mercer, of Liberty township, received a common-school education, then was two years in attendance in the Normal School at Ada, Ohio. He subsequently taught school for two years in this county. In 1894 he entered the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, preparing to practice medicine.

In this list a few names may have been overlooked, for there is no register of physicians to be found in the court house, and the Ohio Medical Directory is not complete, nor do the records of the old or modern medical societies pretend to cover all the names. Enough has been given, however, to show the beginnings of the profession in this county and its development.

*The Maumee Valley Medical Association* was organized at Maumee, June 6, 1842, with Dr. Horatio Conant, president *pro tem*. The permanent officers were E. D. Peck, of Perrysburg, president; Harvey Burritt, of Maumee, vice-president; Cornelius Matthews, of Toledo, secretary; Oscar White, of Maumee, treasurer; Calvin Smith, of Toledo, and Horace Green, of Sylvania, with John H. Van Avery, C. L. Ramsay and Nathaniel Dustin, censors. Among the unofficial constituent members were Dr. Conant, George R. Perkins, H. S. Woodworth, Charles McLean,

John Mosher, Justus Wright and William St. Clair. All of the physicians named practiced in Wood county, Doctors Conant, Peck and Burritt being the pioneers of the profession, best known among the early settlers. Dr. Conant, as told in the chapter on the Bench and Bar, and in that on Political affairs, was closely connected with the administration of Wood county from 1820 to 1835, and, prior to 1820, held the commission of justice of the peace for Erie county, from the Governor of Michigan Territory. Dr. Burritt settled at Grand Rapids in 1833, and was the postmaster, druggist and physician of that district until 1852, when he moved to Maumee, while Dr. Peck may be said to have passed his life at Perrysburg, except during his Congressional services at Washington, D. C.

*The Wood County Medical Society* was organized March 7, 1877—Dr. J. W. McCracken presiding, with Dr. J. C. Lincoln, secretary. On that day the temporary officers named were elected to hold their respective positions for the ensuing year, while Dr. J. H. Rheinfrank was elected vice-president, Dr. A. J. Manville, treasurer, and H. A. Hamilton, librarian. The constitution, as drafted by the secretary and treasurer, was adopted, and the society became an accomplished fact. The roll of membership embraced the following named medical men: J. C. Lincoln, who graduated from Rush Medical College, Chicago, February 1, 1871; J. W. McCracken, a graduate of Michigan University, March 28, 1866; W. M. Tuller, from Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, February 17, 1876; Andrew J. Manville, from Bellevue Medical College, New York, February 24, 1866; Charles R. Hume, from University of Michigan, March 25, 1874; J. L. Heller, from same college on same day; B. F. Leet (deceased), University of Buffalo, in February, 1860; George F. Wright, from Miami Medical College, Cincinnati, March 4, 1873; John H. Norris, from Wooster College, Cleveland, February 28, 1877; J. L. Tracy, from Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, in February, 1877; W. D. Stewart, from Wooster College, Cleveland, February 28, 1874; J. W. Rudolph, from Columbus Medical College, February 27, 1877; George B. Spencer, from Western Reserve Medical College, in February, 1867; William E. Hughes, from Buffalo University, in February, 1874; W. C. McKrill, at Cleveland in February, 1877; G. Higgins, at Cincinnati, in 1856; O. H. Sullivan, at Indianapolis, in 1874; J. H. Rheinfrank, from University of Michigan in 1864; H. A. Hamilton, from University of New York, in 1852; J. S. Bowers, from Detroit Medical Col-

lege, 1881; G. W. Pennington, from Kentucky School of Medicine, in 1881; C. S. St. John, from Wooster College, Cleveland, in 1883, and J. B. Alford, from Western Reserve and Wooster Colleges, Cleveland, 1881. In May, 1877, Samuel Downs was named as an honorary member. Dr. J. F. Robertson was admitted a member in June, and Drs. McCracken and Davis appointed delegates to the State Medical Society's convention to seek recognition for the Wood County Society.

The election of January, 1878, resulted in the choice of Dr. McCracken for president; Charles R. Hume, vice-president; J. C. Lincoln, secretary; W. M. Fuller, treasurer, and J. H. Norris, librarian. In October, Dr. Chapman, of Toledo, was elected an honorary member. Dr. J. H. Carothers, named at that time, located in the county, while Drs. Thom and Colamore, of Toledo, were chosen honorary members. In February, 1879, Dr. Lincoln was elected president; Dr. A. J. Manville, vice-president; Dr. George W. Wright, secretary, and Dr. G. B. Spencer, treasurer, with Drs. Tuller, Hume and Heller a board of examiners.

In June, 1879, Dr. Tuller was appointed secretary, *vice* Wright removed from this county. Dr. H. H. Callin was admitted at this meeting. In October, Dr. Hughes, of Portage, with Dr. Mead, were regular members, and Dr. Hagg, of Texas, Henry county, named as an honorary member. The officers of 1879 were re-elected in February, 1880. In 1881 Dr. Hughes took the former treasurer's place, the other officers being re-elected. In November, 1882, Horace Babcock, of Maumee, and S. F. Forbes, of Toledo, were chosen honorary members. During the three years, ending that month, many valuable essays were read before the society, and a large number of surgical and medical phenomena brought to the attention of the members. In January, 1883, W. M. Tuller was elected president; J. L. Heller, secretary; J. H. Rheinfrank, vice-president, and J. C. Lincoln, treasurer. On that date a by-law admitting dentists to membership was adopted. For several causes, the society slept from that time until April 23, 1886, when Dr. G. W. Pennington was elected president; Dr. Bowers, vice-president; Dr. Higgins, secretary, and Dr. Lincoln, treasurer. A month after the society assembled at Weston, and appointed Doctors Hamilton, Rheinfrank, Lincoln and Tuller to the State Medical Society's convention. In May, 1887, Dr. Alford, of Grand Rapids, was chosen president; Dr. Higgins, vice-president; Dr. St. John,

secretary; Dr. Tuller, treasurer, and Doctors Sullivan, Tuller, Alford and Lincoln, delegates to the medical convention. In April, 1888, Doctors Alford and Tuller were appointed delegates to the Cincinnati Meeting of the American Medical Association, and Doctors Lincoln, Spencer, Rheinfrank and Stewart to that of the State Association. This was the last meeting of the old Medical Society; but the record tells of a meeting, ordered to be held in June of that year, of which there is no further notice taken. Dr. E. O. Richardson, admitted in April, 1888, was the last member to sign the roll.

*Wood County Physicians' Association* may be said to date back to August 27, 1889, when Drs. Hughes, E. P. Thomas and Canfield, of Portage; Tuller, Whitehead, McKendree, Hill, Sanglier, Richardson and St. John, of Bowling Green, met in Dr. Richardson's office, with the object of organizing a society of medical men for mutual benefit. E. O. Richardson presided, with C. S. St. John, secretary. On September 10, a second meeting was held here, whereat were present Doctors Spencer and Hill, of Weston, Greenfield, of Haskins, and the physicians who were present at the first meeting. The constitution was adopted, and within a short time bore the signatures of the following named members: L. E. Sanglier, J. H. Whitehead, E. O. Richardson, Willis M. Tuller, F. W. Rogers, Emily A. Hill (the first female physician), J. C. Lincoln, C. S. St. John, G. Higgins, J. A. Estill, W. S. Wells, P. Kendall, M. A. McKendree, and J. C. Snyder, all of Bowling Green; E. P. Thomas, A. E. Canfield and W. E. Hughes, of Portage; George B. Spencer, J. W. Williams and W. W. Hill, of Weston; W. B. Bryant, of Jerry City; A. Eddmon, of Tontogany; W. D. Stewart, D. B. Brown and L. L. Loomis, of Pemberville; J. H. Rheinfrank and I. S. Bowers, of Perrysburg; W. S. Loomis, of Luckey, and F. P. Brunthäver, of Dowling. In October, 1889, E. O. Richardson was elected president; C. S. St. John, secretary; and J. H. Whitehead, treasurer. A schedule of fees, or rates for medical services, was then adopted. In 1890, Dr. Higgins was elected president; Dr. Williams, vice-president; Dr. McKendree, secretary; and Dr. Whitehead, treasurer. Dr. Houseman was then a member of the association. In October, 1891, Doctors Williams, Canfield, Sanglier and Rogers, were elected to the respective offices. Dr. Garner (or Gardner) was admitted a member in 1891, but other physicians, such as Doctors Schooley, Riley, Chilcote and Pope, were not then enrolled, though invitations to become mem-

bers were extended to them. In addition to the physicians named, more than one native of this county entered the profession—among them being James L. Tracy, a resident of Toledo

since 1873, and Dr. Hollington, both natives of Bowling Green. J. D. Archer, of Holgate, Parker Baker, of Findlay, Cloyse McMurray, who died in Wayne county in 1894, and a few others.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

WOOD COUNTY IN THE WAR OF THE REBELLION—FIRST WAR MEETING—FIRST COMPANIES—REGIMENTAL SKETCHES—ROSTER OF WOOD COUNTY SOLDIERS—LOCAL MILITARY MATTERS—CONCLUSION.

OHIO may be justly proud of the soldiers sent out from this county, to give battle to the brave men marshalled under the Confederate flag, and to shatter, forever, the Machiavelian doctrine, in which they believed, and for which they fought.

The population of Wood county, in 1860, was 17,886. The county was just emerging from pioneer conditions when the tocsin of war sounded and resounded through the settlements, calling the young men to arms and warning all, even the old, to prepare for war.

The call was promptly answered, the county sending forth more men than the State could equip, or the United States receive, under the first call of the President. A month satisfied the government that the Confederacy was a fratricide, aiming at nothing else than the conquest and subjection of the Northern States, and the total annihilation of the Abolitionists and their principles. Realizing the gravity of the situation, the call of April 15 for 75,000 men was supplemented, May 3, by one for 42,034 men to serve three years, and overshadowed by that of July 1, 1862, for 300,000 men. Under the first and third calls, Wood county sent out over 740 men, the majority of whom served three years. The draft brought others into service, while the liberal bounty offered by the county, and the liberal aid tendered to families of soldiers, urged many to enter the ranks of the regiments, and thus Wood county furnished to the Union army a full quota, equal to about one in every ten of the population of 1860.

*First War Meeting.*—In the issue of the *Perrysburg Journal* of April 11, 1861, the end of the Perrysburg post office contest by the appointment of Nelson Darling, master, is noticed, but there is not a word in the local columns about

civil war. In the next issue, April 18, Bailey refers briefly to the Sumter affair, placing little reliance on the reports, though, in the editorial page he prints Lincoln's proclamation calling out 75,000 militia. The next day, April 19, he was the secretary of the Perrysburg war meeting, over which J. F. Price presided. H. H. Dodge, Asher Cook, Jesse S. Norton, J. R. Tyler, E. Graham, F. R. Miller, Rev. G. A. Adams, James W. Ross, W. V. Way, and Gen. W. Houston addressed that meeting, when the following resolution was adopted: "That the citizens of Wood county will stand by the government of the country in any emergency, and that we pledge ourselves, our property and sacred honor to the support of the government. That we will ever be faithful to the families of those who fall in their country's service. That we pledge ourselves to maintain the families of those who shall volunteer in obedience to the call of the country's present emergency." F. Hollenbeck was the first to guarantee \$8 a month to the family of any person who was prevented from volunteering for want of proper means for the support of his family; others followed this example, and immediately the work of organizing the Fort Meigs Rifles was entered upon. On the 20th the council appropriated \$500 to defray the incidental expenses of organization. Joshua Chappel, whose grandfather and father fought in the Revolution, and himself in the war of 1812, said that his son would serve in this war; Asher Cook suggested that the ladies would present a flag to the first company, and thus the tocsin of war was sounded in the county for the first time since 1835.

*First Companies.*—On April 27 the Perrysburg volunteers left on the steamer "Belle" for Cleveland, under the title "Fort Meigs Rifles." Miss Ella Baird presented the flag. Seven young

men from Hull Prairie also left for the camp, while 109 men, forming the "Gilead Worth Guards," under Capt. Carr, Lieut. J. J. Vorhes and 2nd Lieut. J. E. McGowan, left on the same day. On April 23, recruiting was carried on at Bowling Green, where fifty men were enrolled by the night of the 24th, and, in every section of the county, the work of enlistment and preparation was carried on.

The Webster township military company, on returning from camp, in May, 1861, where there was no room for them, organized a cavalry company, under Capt. M. Brewster, and encamped at Bowling Green to await orders. By the close of August there were forty-seven mounted men enrolled, and early in September sixty-five men were reported ready. In August, 1861, Lieut. McMahan entered upon the work of enlisting, and early in September opened camp at Findlay. At Perrysburg, a war-meeting was held, under the presidency of G. E. Guyer, with J. W. Bailey, secretary; while throughout the county young men were preparing for the service. The Bowling Green meeting was addressed by Messrs. Reed, Poe and others, and the Jackson township meeting by Dr. Philo, J. R. Apger and James Ferguson. In Henry, Bloom, Perry and Montgomery, trade and agriculture rested, while the people discussed the war and its consequences, and expressed themselves in favor of the United States, let its policy be wrong or right.

#### REGIMENTAL SKETCHES.

Wood county was largely represented in nine regiments of Ohio volunteers, including the Third Cavalry and Second Heavy Artillery; fairly represented in eight Ohio commands, and sparsely in six Ohio regiments. Natives or residents of the county entered the Regular Army, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, Iowa and, even, Kentucky regiments; while, at least, one native was found in one of the most gallant of the great Louisiana commands of the Confederate service.

The history of the Ohio regiments is National rather than local. It was first compiled as early as 1868, under the direction of White-law Reid, from whose work these regimental sketches have in a great measure been taken. In May, 1884, the Legislature of Ohio, by joint resolution, authorized the Roster of Ohio Soldiers, 1861-66, which has been issued in eleven large volumes. The record of individual soldiers is an index to the service of the regiment. This record has been compiled, after the expenditure of much labor and money, and with

the following regimental sketches make up an exhaustive history of the part taken by the men of Wood county in the War of the Rebellion.

*The Twenty-first Infantry.*—In this regiment there were many Wood county men, represented principally in Companies B, C, H and I. Capt. Arnold McMahan's 107 men, and Capt. Milo Caton's 102 men, were all residents of the county. The names and records of the soldiers are given in the roster which follows.

The regiment was organized at Camp Taylor, near Cleveland, on April 27, 1861, Jesse S. Norton, Col.; J. M. Neibling, Lieut.-Col.; A. J. Taylor, Major; three-months' service. Then Jesse S. Norton, James M. Neibling, Arnold McMahan, Cols., successively; James M. Neibling, D. M. Stoughton, Arnold McMahan, W. B. Wicker, Lieut.-Cols., successively; Samuel A. Strong, D. M. Stoughton, Geo. F. Walker, Arnold McMahan, Isaac Cusac, John C. Martin, Majors, successively. Of these officers, Jesse S. Norton, Arnold McMahan and William B. Wicker, were Wood county men.

Among other commissioned officers from Wood county in the 21st, during its term of service, were: Asher Cook, Omar C. Carr, Silas S. Canfield, James W. Knaggs, James L. Curry, Edward L. Baird, J. E. McGowan, J. J. Worhes, Ara C. Spafford, John Patterson, John S. Mahony, William Pryor, Robert Buffum, Elihu H. Mason.

The regiment moved on May 23, passing through Columbus (where it received its arms) to Gallipolis, where it went into camp and remained until July 3, when it moved to Ravenswood, by order of Gen. McClellan, to re-enforce the 17th Ohio, then expecting an attack from O. Jennings Wise, whose forces lay at a little town called Ripley. The Federal force, under Col. Norton of the 21st Ohio, disembarked at eleven o'clock, made a forced march to Ripley, surprised the Rebels and drove them from the place. A day or two after this, Col. Norton captured forty prominent Rebel citizens as hostages for the good treatment and safe return of some loyal Virginians captured by the notorious Jenkins.

On the 11th of July Gen. Cox took command of the brigade consisting of the 11th, 12th and 21st Ohio, the 1st and 2nd Kentucky, Cotter's 1st Ohio Battery of two guns, and Capt. George's cavalry, and marched to Red House, on the Kanawha river. At this place Col. Norton was ordered to make a reconnoissance for the purpose of discovering the Rebel position. Company F,

Capt. Geo. F. Walker; Company H, Capt. A. M. Blackman, and Company G, Capt. Lovell, with a portion of Capt. George's cavalry, started under command of Col. Norton early on Sunday morning, July 14, moving on three different roads, all terminating at a little village on Scarey creek, where it empties into the Kanawha river. After marching some eight miles the enemy's pickets were encountered in a church, from which they fired, and fell back on their main body. Skirmishers were thrown out by Col. Norton, which developed the enemy in force on the opposite bank of the creek, occupying a strong position with a full battery.

After developing the strength of the Rebels, the Federal troops fell back two miles, and at twelve o'clock that night were re-enforced by the remaining companies of the 21st Ohio, and part of the 2nd Kentucky, under Lieut.-Col. Enyart; but, lacking artillery, Col. Norton thought it best to fall back and await the arrival of the main body. On the 15th the main body, under Gen. Cox, arrived, and on the morning of the 17th Col. Lowe was placed in command of a force, consisting of his own regiment; Company K, Capt. S. A. Strong, and Company D, Capt. Thomas G. Allen, of the 21st; Capt. Cotter's two rifled guns, and a portion of Capt. George's cavalry, as an attacking column, and ordered to drive the enemy from his position. The fight opened at great disadvantage to the Federals, from the fact that their old United States smooth-bore muskets did not carry far enough to reach the enemy, who were stationed in the bed of the creek, and protected by high banks. Col. Norton seeing the disadvantage, determined to drive the enemy out of the creek with the bayonet, and, as a preliminary movement, sent a flanking force to turn the enemy's left, and divert his attention from the contemplated charge in front. The charge was successfully made by Col. Norton, with two companies of the 12th Ohio, the enemy being lifted out of the creek, and the whole Rebel force driven back. Col. Norton was painfully wounded in this affair, but remained on the field, hoping to be supported by Col. Lowe. Three messengers were dispatched to Col. Lowe, one of whom was killed, but the needed support was not given. In the meantime the enemy received re-enforcements, and, discovering that the Federal force was not properly supported, again advanced their column and, in turn, drove them, capturing Col. Norton, and Lieut. Brown of the 12th Ohio, who had remained with Col. Norton and the other wounded. The loss in this engagement was nine

killed, including Capt. Allen and Lieut. Pomeroy, of Company D, and seventeen wounded.

On the evening of the battle, Col. Woodruff, and Lieut.-Col. G. W. Neff, of the 2nd Kentucky; Col. Chas. A. De Villiers, of the 11th Ohio, and two Kentucky captains rode up to the battle-ground by a different road from that on which the troops were retreating, and were instantly made prisoners by the Rebels.

The 21st was mustered out August 12, 1861. It was again re-organized on September 19, 1861, for the three-years' campaign, and mustered into service at Findlay, Ohio. It received marching orders a few days thereafter, was supplied with arms at Camp Dennison October 2, and marched the same day for Nicholasville, Ky. It remained there ten days, and was then ordered to march to McCormick's Gap to join Gen. Nelson, then in command at that point. The affair at Ivy Mountain, Ky., November 9, 1861, followed. In December the regiment was in Buell's army, with which it went into winter quarters on Green river. Early in 1862, it participated in the work of driving the Confederates from Bowling Green, Ky., and in the capture of Nashville, on March 13. Moving to Huntsville, the 21st furnished a quota of the twenty-four men under Andrews, known as the "Mitchell Raiders," and otherwise took a leading part in the stirring affairs around Huntsville on April 11, 1862, and in the radical movements carried out by Gen. Mitchell, in which Co. C, under Capt. Arnold McMahan, and Co. F, under Capt. H. H. Alban, carried the war into Alabama, fighting at Bridgeport. The capture of Co. H, by Morgan, while returning from Nashville, was a most unfortunate affair, even as the formation of the nucleus of the 1st Alabama Loyal Regiment, at Athens, by Capt. McMahan, was a most conciliatory one. On September 2, 1862, the regiment arrived at Nashville, where it was attached to Negley's division, and where it remained until the siege was raised on November 7, being engaged meantime in the affairs of Lavergne (where the 3d Alabama Regiment was captured), White's Creek, Wilson's Bend, and Franklin Pike, and meriting special notice of Gen. Rosecrans. The advance toward Murfreesboro was commenced December 26, 1862, on the 31st the battle was begun, the 21st Regiment crossing Stone river, charging a battery and capturing three brass guns. Capt. McMahan, who was the leader in that extraordinary charge, was reported for promotion as soon as the smoke of battle cleared away, and, shortly after, was commissioned major. The regiment was otherwise honored by being given the advance in entering



Murfreesboro on January 4, 1863. From that date to June 24, 1863, this command was on duty in and round the conquered city. On the date given, it moved toward Tullahoma, and followed the enemy until September 19, when it formed part of the line of battle on Chickamauga creek. There, on September 20, Lt.-Col. Stoughton was wounded, and Major Arnold McMahan took command, guiding his regiment through the thick of the fight, collecting the cartridges from the dead and wounded, and, as a last resort, charging the heavy Confederate lines with the bayonet, driving back the enemy and taking nine prisoners. Immediately after, the Rebel officers realized the fact that McMahan's command was without ammunition, took courage from this knowledge, fell on the remnant of the valiant regiment, captured twelve officers and 120 men (of whom one officer and fifty-nine men died in prison), and left the remainder to escape in the darkness. During the battle the Colt's revolving rifles of the 21st played such havoc that the enemy turned attention toward wiping it out of existence. This is shown by the fact that toward sun-down, on the 20th, Bragg ordered a full battery to play upon it, and, under cover of the smoke, urged on charge after charge, until the dry leaves and brush of the forest were set on fire, lapping up the life of the dying and wounded, whose comrades were making such an heroic fight against great odds. The men who escaped from this valhalla at Horse-shoe Ridge, with Lt.-Col. Neibling, found a way to their retreating army, and thence to Chattanooga. In November following they participated in the affair at Mission Ridge, on January 1, 1864, re-enlisted as veterans, were furloughed, and, on March 6, 1864, were once more at Chattanooga. From that point it moved to Ringgold, Ga., and thence, on May 7, with Sherman's army to the sea.

The new life of the old regiment opened at Buzzard's Roost, May 9, 1864. It was present at Resaca, May 15, and at New Hope Church on May 28. While advancing to position on the last date, the right arm of Col. Neibling was fractured, and Major McMahan, who had just arrived from Libby prison, assumed command. The fighting Major pushed forward his regiment, captured a ridge that commanded the enemy's position, and held it until the enemy withdrew. On June 7, the 21st Regiment met the Confederate forces at Kenesaw Mountain, held the front line at Bald Knob for twelve days and nights, later followed the retreating Rebels toward the Chattahoochie river, and on July 9, McMahan led the celebrated charge against the position

held by the 4th Mississippi and 54th Louisiana Infantry, captured the rifle-pits, thirty-three stand of new English rifles, seventeen prisoners, and drove the enemy into their principal works. The regiment lost fifteen men killed, with two officers and thirty-seven men wounded, in this affair, but won the reward of holding the pits, and, in a manner, the principal works, until the enemy withdrew on July 10. Within a day or two the Chattahoochie was crossed, and on the 19th and 20th battle was given to the Confederates at Nancy's creek and Peach Tree creek. From July 22 to the night of December 1, this regiment was under fire daily. At Jonesboro, Ga., it lost five killed and thirty wounded, and its total losses from May 7 to the capitulation of Atlanta, on September 2, 1864, two officers and thirty-two men killed, and five officers and 119 men wounded, many of whom died from their wounds. The pursuit of Hood led the command to Galesville, Ala., by October 20, but, returning to Atlanta by November 15, it remained there until next morning, when the advance toward Savannah was ordered. At Lumpkin Station, on December 4, the enemy was encountered, and from December 12 to 20 was on service before Savannah, forming the vanguard entering the city on December 21, 1864. The campaign in the Carolinas followed, Lt.-Col. McMahan guiding the regiment in a line of successes. The affairs at Rocky Mount, S. C., at Averysboro and Bentonville, N. C., brought additional laurels. During the battle of Bentonville, McMahan was assigned to command the brigade, and Capt. Samuel F. Cheney to command the regiment; but the war was virtually over. On May 26, 1865, the 21st participated in the grand review at Washington, proceeded to Louisville, Ky., where it was mustered out, and thence to Columbus, Ohio, where the men were paid and discharged July 28, 1865.

The record of the regiment is a brilliant one. The dash and spirit displayed on more than one field are remembered by the people of Ohio, and form the basis of the many stories of heroism which veterans of other regiments tell of the gallant 21st Ohio Infantry.

*The Mitchell Raiders* was organized in April, 1862, under J. J. Andrews, with the approval of Gen. O. M. Mitchell, to destroy the bridges on the Georgia State railroad, between Chattanooga and Atlanta. Andrews, who was then a secret-service agent, suggested the organization, volunteered to lead it himself, and met his twenty-one select men at Shelbyville, Tenn., April 7, 1862.



Three of the volunteers are residents of Wood county to-day. It is due to them, as well as to the other survivors and the dead, that a sketch of this daring expedition into the very heart of the enemy's country should be given, for the twenty-two Ohioans volunteered to accomplish, by secret means, what in open warfare might call for the presence of an army corps, and possibly the loss of hundreds of lives on both sides.

The names of the raiders are E. H. Mason, Co. B, John M. Scott, Co. F, Robert Buffum, Co. H, William Bensinger, Co. G, Wilson W. Brown, Co. F, Robert F. Bonham, Co. F, William Knight, Co. E, John A. Wilson, Co. C, John R. Porter, Co. G, and Mark Wood, Co. C, 21st Ohio Infantry; Marion A. Ross, Co. A, Charles Perry Shadrick, Co. K, George D. Wilson, Co. B, and William Pittinger, Co. G, 2d Ohio Infantry; M. J. Hawkins, Co. A, William Riddick, Co. B, John Wollam, Co. C, Samuel Robinson, Co. G, D. A. Dorsey, Co. H, and Jacob Parrott, Co. K, 33d Ohio Infantry; with William Campbell, a Kentuckian, Samuel Slaven and J. J. Andrews.

The adventurers arrived at Chattanooga April 11, and early on the morning of the 12th at Marietta, Ga., where they represented themselves as Kentuckians, and where they were to begin in earnest the work which Andrews had designed. On the morning of the 12th, the men, except Hawkins and Porter, boarded the north-bound train for Big Shanty, where a stop was made for breakfast. Andrews, knowing that there was no telegraph office there, determined to begin the execution of his plans. Believing that three box-cars, with the engine and tender, would be enough to handle, he uncoupled the train, and with Brown, Knight and J. A. Wilson, jumped on the engine, while the other raiders took their places in the cars. Knight played engineer, while Scott looked after the important duty of cutting the telegraph wires. At the first station the self-appointed train crew took on wood and water, and began the work of track destruction. At Marengo, where the south-bound train was due, Andrews stated he was running a train of powder through to Beauregard's headquarters, and, on this explanation, received the switch key and a train-schedule from the agent. The schedule showed but one train, but the advance of Gen. Mitchell's division to Huntsville, Ala., drove the Confederates to preparations for entering Georgia. This necessitated many special trains, so that the red flag was carried on each new train, a common and unwelcome sight to the small band engaged in the large and terrible enterprise.

Hope battled against reason in their breasts; they urged the locomotive to its greatest speed, stopped at some places to remove rails and ties and load them on the box-cars, again make up time, Wilson playing fireman and Brown engineer, halt to destroy a culvert, push forward again, and so on until the crews of passing trains and station agents began to look upon the trainmen of the so-called powder train as so many *fra diavolos* gone wild.

Meantime, the railroad authorities at Big Shanty awakened to the fact that a part of the train was stolen, and that the bandits had cut the telegraph lines. A hand-car crew went in pursuit, took possession of the first locomotive, and pushed on faster, repairing the track as they moved forward. Between Adairsville and Kingston, this crew gave up hope of repairing the work of the destroyers, abandoned the locomotive and walked until they met a down freight. They related the story to the engineer, urged him to sidetrack his cars and give them the locomotive. Agreeing, the pursuers jumped aboard, at Calhoun they pressed a telegraph operator and soldiers into their service, and then, with valve wide open, renewed the race after the dare-devils. Soon, they came in sight of their prey, saw it stop in the distance, for the raiders halted at intervals to remove the track, and knew that the fugitives would soon be overhauled. The raiders were also on the look-out, beheld the approaching train with some alarm, but never lost an opportunity of destroying the track, until the smoke of the pursuer told them that flight was their only hope. Then began that terrible railroad race, through Resaca, Tilton, Dalton and Ringgold. Beyond Dalton, Andrews ordered a halt, to cut the wires, but he was two minutes late, for a message had just passed on to Chattanooga. Fuel and oil were exhausted about the moment Ringgold was passed, and then Andrews ordered a halt, reversed the engine, so as to wreck the pursuing train, and with his volunteers fled into the forest, each man seeking safety for himself. The troops at Ringgold were put on the *qui vive*, infantry and cavalry scoured the country for the fugitives, and, within a week, all the daring men, save Wood and Wilson, were in the hands of implacable enemies, even Hawkins and Porter, who failed to board the train at Marietta, being among the prisoners. Within three weeks Wood and Wilson were made prisoners.

To speak of the treatment of these gallant men, by the Confederates, is a matter of history. Confederate officers condoned acts of barbarism worthy only of the lowest mob of fanatics ever

gathered in America, ignored the claims of the men as regular soldiers, detached for a service of which they knew nothing, flogged the youngest soldier almost to death with the hope of wringing from him information, and then after the leader, Andrews, stepped forward and acknowledged himself as leader, took the gallant fellow and six of his men to the gibbet, at Atlanta, where they were executed. The others, awaiting death in the Atlanta prison, seized their jailor, when he brought in their suppers, took the prison keys, overpowered seven armed guards, and made a way toward liberty. Six of them were recaptured and confined in Libby and Castle Thunder, until March, 1863, when they were exchanged at City Point. The men executed were John M. Scott, June 18, 1862; Marion A. Ross, June 16, '62; Charles Perry Shadrick, June 18, '62; Geo. C. Wilson, June 18, '62; Samuel Robertson, June 18, '62, Samuel Slavens, William Campbell and J. J. Andrews, June 16, '62. The resolution of Congress, adopted in July, 1862, provided that medals be struck for the survivors of the expedition, which medals were duly presented, Elisha H. Mason, of Pemberville, receiving the second, and young Parrott, of Hardin county, the first.

*The One Hundredth Infantry*—(three years).—Wood county was represented in several different companies, Company A being almost, if not exclusively, a Wood county command. Col. Patrick Slevin and Maj. John A. Shannon were from the county, as were also some six or eight other commissioned officers of the regiment, some of whom were promoted to high positions in other regiments. The regiment was organized at Toledo during the months of July and August, 1862, and was mustered into the service September 1 following. Its principal officers, successively, were: John C. Groom, Patrick Slevin, Edwin L. Hayes, Cols.; Patrick Slevin, Edwin L. Hayes, Franklin Rundell, Lieut.-Cols.; Edwin L. Hayes, John A. Shannon, Henry D. Taylor, Franklin Rundell, Majors. On the 8th of September the regiment moved to Cincinnati, for the defense of that city. On the 9th it went into position on Covington Heights, a few rods in front and to the left of Fort Mitchell.

The regiment marched for Lexington, Ky., on the 8th of October, and remained there, undergoing a thorough course of instruction, until about the 1st of December, when it moved to Richmond. It was engaged in work on the fortifications until the 26th of December, when it moved to Danville, and on the 3d of January,

1863, it moved to Frankfort. Toward the last of February it marched to Lexington to intercept a Rebel raid, and from that point marched to Crab Orchard, Mount Vernon, Somerset, and to various other points where the presence of the enemy rendered it necessary. On the 13th of August, the regiment went into camp at Danville, preparatory for the march of East Tennessee. Upon arriving at Knoxville a portion of the regiment was sent up to the Virginia State line to guard the railroad. The detachment, 240 strong, was captured by the enemy on the 4th of September, and was sent to Richmond, Va., a large *per cent.* of them dying in prison. The regiment participated in the defense of Knoxville, and was on active duty during its stay in East Tennessee. Early in the spring of 1864 it marched in the Twenty-third Army Corps to join Gen. Sherman, then at Tunnell Hill, Ga. It moved on the Atlanta campaign, and was present at almost every battle from Rocky Face Ridge to Atlanta. On the 6th of August it was engaged in an assault on the Rebel works in front of Atlanta, with a loss of 103 men out of 300. Thirty-six men were killed on the field, and eight more died of wounds within the next thirty days. The Colonel was disabled for life. This was the heaviest day's work experienced by the regiment. After the evacuation of Atlanta it joined in pursuit of Hood, and participated in the battles of Franklin and Nashville. At Franklin the 100th fought at great disadvantage, having been broken into fragments by the placing of artillery in the battle line at the last moment. Notwithstanding this, some portions of the line of the 100th were held with the most desperate tenacity. Nothing in war could excel the deadly fighting on this line, a part of which was held by the 100th. The color-bearer, Byron C. Baldwin, of Weston, Ohio, was shot, but in his death agonies rolled his body in the flag so that it might be saved from the enemy. This was only one of the pathetic, gallant incidents in the history of the 100th. The regiment moved with the Twenty-third Corps to Wilmington, N. C., and was there actively engaged. It marched into the interior, and moved from Goldsboro to Raleigh with Sherman's army. It next moved to Greensboro, and from there to Cleveland, Ohio, where it was mustered out of the service on the 1st of July, 1865, having served two years and ten months from muster-in to muster-out.

The 100th lost, during its term of service, 65 men killed in action, 142 wounded, 27 died of wounds, 108 died of disease, 325 captured by the enemy, and 85 died in Rebel prisons. It

participated in the battles of Lenoir Station, Knoxville, Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Dallas, Etowah Creek, Atlanta, Columbia, Franklin, Nashville, Town Creek, and Wilmington.

*The One Hundred and Eleventh Infantry* (three years) was organized at Toledo in August, 1862, and mustered in September 5 and 6 of that year. It was an out-and-out northwestern Ohio command, made up of men from Wood, Lucas, Sandusky, Fulton, Williams and Defiance counties.

There were upward of 300 men from Wood county in the regiment, represented mainly in Companies B, D, I, K and A. Lt.-Cols. B. W. Johnson and Thomas C. Norris, of the regiment, were Wood county men, as were also Capt. O. P. Norris, J. E. McGowan (became major 1st U. S. Colored Heavy Artillery), John Yeager, Deming W. H. Day (who later rose to the rank of general), Wesley S. Thurstin (became adjutant of regiment) and William H. Beal. Among other commissioned officers of the regiment from Wood county were: Lieuts. John Bader, George H. Van Blaricum, Rudolph Williams, Daniel W. Poe, Alexander Rowland, Moses Dubbs, John H. Campbell, J. D. Bolles, John M. Woodruff, J. A. Chilcote, Thomas Walter, Lewis Dienst and Myron G. Brown (Constantine Beal became a lieutenant in the 1st U. S. H. Art.). Company B was recruited largely from Milton, Weston, Perry and Middleton townships; Company D, largely from Weston and Washington townships; Company I enlisted in Perrysburg, Plain, Center, Bloom and Perry townships; Company K, mostly from Plain and Center townships.

The leading officers of the 111th, successively, were: John R. Bond, Isaac R. Sherwood, Colonels; B. W. Johnson, Moses R. Bailey, Isaac R. Sherwood, Thomas C. Norris, Lieutenant-Colonels; Moses R. Bailey, Isaac R. Sherwood, Thomas C. Norris, Benjamin F. Southworth, Henry J. McCord, Majors. Five days after muster the command is found at Covington, Ky., and, September 18, at Crittenden, driving out Kirby Smith's cavalry. At or near Frankfort, on October 8, it had another brush with the Confederates, so that, on May 29, 1863, when it was ordered to Glasgow, Ky., to become a part of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps, its members possessed experience in warfare. Beyond the pursuit of Morgan's cavalry, the capture of a detachment of his daredevils, and participation in the affairs at Scottsville and Tomkinsville, the regiment was engaged

only in strategic movements until about the middle of November, 1863, when its long term of brilliant service may be said to have commenced.

After the capture of Morgan the regiment rendezvoused at New Market, Ky., preparatory to the march to East Tennessee. On September 2, it forded the Big Emory river, and arrived at Loudon, Tenn., on the 4th. The regiment remained in Loudon until November 14, and took part in the movement north of New Market to check the Rebel advance from Virginia; it also took part in several forced marches, scouts and skirmishes along the Tennessee and Holston rivers.

The advance of Gen. Longstreet's army appeared in front of Loudon on the 22nd, and considerable skirmishing was kept up between the two armies. On the 14th of November, the command marched to Lenoir; but meeting reinforcements here, a countermarch was ordered, and the Second Brigade was ordered to march to Huff's Ferry, three miles below Loudon, and prevent the crossing of Gen. Longstreet's troops. Owing to the almost impassible condition of the roads, it was nearly dark before arriving at the ferry. On a high bluff, about half a mile from the river, a brigade of Rebels was encountered. The Second Brigade was immediately formed in single line, and ordered to charge. The charge was successful. In it the 111th lost only a few wounded, as it was on the right flank of the brigade, and partially under cover of dense woods. The brigade stood to arms all night in the pelting rain, without food or shelter. At daylight, the entire division fell back, and the 111th covered the retreat. At Loudon creek a brisk skirmish took place between the regiment and the 6th South Carolina Sharp Shooters, composing Gen. Longstreet's advance. The stand was made to enable Henshaw's Illinois Battery to get its caissons up a hill above the creek. In this engagement the 111th lost four killed and twelve wounded. On this night all camp and garrison equipment and transportation were destroyed, and on the morning of the 16th, at three o'clock, it moved out for Knoxville, Tennessee.

At daylight on that morning, Lieut. O. P. Norris and fifty-two men, of Company B, of the regiment, were captured by the Rebels while on picket. Of these fifty-two stalwart men, thirty-six died of starvation and exposure in Andersonville prison. Campbell's Station was selected by Gen. Burnside as the point to which to give battle to Gen. Longstreet. In this engagement the 111th occupied the first line, directly in front of two batteries of Rebel artillery, and was for

six hours exposed to the shells of the enemy's concentrated fire. The loss in killed and wounded was very light, as the enemy used percussion shells, which mostly fell in the rear of the first line. The regiment marched with the command into Knoxville, a distance of six miles, having been three nights without sleep, food or rest, and having participated in three separate engagements. It passed through the siege of Knoxville, occupying the fort on College Hill, and lost six men killed and wounded. After Gen. Longstreet's retreat, it took part in the skirmishes at Blain's Cross Roads, Danville, and Strawberry Plains, and occupied an outpost six miles in front of the city when Gen. Schofield fell back the second time on Knoxville. It protected the crossing of the Second Division at Strawberry Plains, on the 21st of January, 1864, losing one man killed. On February 9, Gen. Schofield arrived at Knoxville, and took command of the department. On the 24th of February, the Second Division marched to Strawberry Plains; on the 27th crossed the Holston river, and, marching some distance, counter-marched at night as far back as Mossy creek. On the 14th of March, the regiment moved to Morristown, East Tennessee. On the following day it was on the picket line, and had a brisk skirmish with the Rebel cavalry. The 111th was moved back to Mossy creek, and there remained until April 26, when it was marched to Charleston, a distance of one hundred miles. This it accomplished in four days, arriving at Charleston on the 30th. From this point it marched to Red City, Ga., arriving May 6. At this point the Army of the Ohio united with the left wing of Gen. Sherman's army to participate in the Atlanta campaign. It marched to Tunnel Hill, May 7, and on the following day skirmished into a position in front of Buzzard's Roost. On the 9th, in the advance on Rocky Face Mountain, the regiment was assigned the front line of the skirmishers, and during an advance of three-quarters of a mile lost nine men killed and wounded.

On the evening of the 15th, the regiment arrived in front of Resaca. The brigade made a charge on the enemy's works the next day; the 111th had but seven companies engaged, three companies being in the rear, guarding transportation. Out of the number engaged, seven men were killed and thirty wounded. The regiment took part in the second day's fight at Resaca. After an unsuccessful assault at midnight upon the Federal lines, the Rebels retreated. On May 16 the regiment participated in the pursuit; had a skirmish with the Rebel cavalry, on the 20th,

and captured six prisoners. On the 27th a brigade of Rebels made an advance on the Federal lines, the 111th was ordered on double-quick, made a charge, and broke the Rebel lines. In this engagement the regiment lost fifteen men, killed and wounded.

It took part in the entire siege against Atlanta; was actively engaged in the siege of Kennesaw, the battles of Pine Mountain, Lost Mountain, Dallas, on the Chattahoochee river, near Nicotack Creek, Decatur, Peachtree Creek, and in the siege of Atlanta and the skirmishes at Rough-and-Ready, Lovejoy's Station and Utoy Creek. It started on the Atlanta campaign with 380 men, and of this number lost in killed and wounded 212. It moved from camp at Decatur, Ga., October 4, against Gen. Hood's forces. During its camp at Decatur, it had made a reconnoissance to Stone Mountain, where it encountered Rebel cavalry, and lost a few of its men. Its line of march was to Allatoona Pass, thence into Alabama, going south as far as Cedar Bluffs, where in a skirmish with Rebel cavalry one officer and three men of the regiment were captured on picket. It next marched to Rome, Ga., where a brisk skirmish took place; thence moved to Resaca, arriving November 1, 1864.

At Resaca the regiment took the cars and moved to Johnsonville, where it remained until November 20, when it was again moved by rail to Columbia, Tenn., to assist in checking Gen. Hood's advance. It participated in the skirmishes at Columbia, and was detailed to remain in the rear to guard the fords of Duck river while Gen. Thomas' army fell back on Franklin. The regiment guarded a wagon train to Franklin, and was twice attacked, but each time it repulsed the enemy. The regiment at night marched by the outposts of Gen. Hood's army in bringing up the rear. It arrived at Franklin on the morning of November 30, and was immediately assigned to the front line of works, on the left flank of the Second Division, 23d Army Corps, to the right of Franklin turnpike. In the fight on that day the regiment, out of 180 men engaged, lost 22 men killed on the field and 40 wounded. Many were killed by Rebel bayonets. The contest was so close that once the flag of the regiment was snatched from the hands of the color-sergeant, but the bold Rebel was killed instantly. The troops on the immediate left of the 111th fell back during the charge, and the Rebels, holding this part of the line for an hour, poured an enfilading fire along the line of the whole brigade. Owing to the large loss of officers in this and

previous engagements, a detail from other regiments was necessary to command the companies.

On December 1, the 111th marched back to Nashville, where it was assigned a position in the line of defenses on the left. It was severely engaged during both days of fighting in front of Nashville. In a charge on the second day it captured three Rebel battle-flags, and a large number of prisoners. The loss was seven killed and fifteen wounded. The regiment took part in the pursuit after Gen. Hood. It was marched to Clifton, Tenn., where, January 17, 1865, it took transports to make the campaign of North Carolina. It took an active part in the capture of Fort Anderson, and in the skirmishes at Mosby Hall and Goldsboro. After the surrender of Gen. Johnston, the regiment was removed to Salisbury, N. C., where it remained until ordered home for muster-out. The 111th re-enlisted as veterans, in February, 1864, in East Tennessee. Again, in October, 1864, after the Atlanta campaign, more than two-thirds of the regiment re-enlisted as veterans. The strength of the regiment at muster, in September, 1862, was 1,050 men. During its long term eighty-five recruits were assigned, making in all 1,135. Of this total, 252 were killed, or died of wounds, 200 died of disease, 234 were discharged for disability, and 401 were mustered out, a few men being unaccounted for.

*The Sixty-seventh Infantry* (three years) originated in the consolidation of the nucleus of the 45th and that of the 67th. It was mustered in between October 2 and December 17, 1861, and on September 1, 1865, received the remnant out of the 62nd Infantry, so that at muster-out, December 7, 1865, it represented three regiments. The officers of the regiment, successively, were: Otto Burstenbinder, Alvin C. Voris, Cols; Alvin C. Voris, John R. Bond, Henry S. Commager, Lewis C. Hunt, Henry West, Lt.-Cols; John R. Bond, Henry S. Commager, Edwin S. Platt, Lewis Butler, Thos. J. Platt, Majors. Many of the flower of Wood county's young men served in the 67th, represented mainly in Companies H, B, and K. Among the commissioned officers from the county were Capt. John B. Spafford, and Lieuts. John J. Parsons, Geo. N. Parsons, Henry J. Carter, Peter Bell, J. H. Whitehead and C. D. Lindsay.

Entering West Virginia, in January, 1862, the men received their first lessons in war, so that in March following, under the dashing Gen. Shields, they were able to render good serv-

ice at Winchester, against Ashby's Rebel cavalry. On March 22nd the regiment reported to Gen. Banks, in Winchester, and soon engaged the enemy, driving them till past night fall, as far south as Kernstown. The regiment lay on their arms all night, and on the next morning were the first to engage the enemy. After the infantry fighting had been fairly opened, the 67th was ordered to re-enforce Gen. Tyler's brigade; to do which it was necessary to pass over an open field for three-fourths of a mile, exposed to the enemy's fire. The regiment executed the movement on the double-quick, and came into action in splendid order. It lost in this action fifteen killed and thirty-two wounded. Until the last of the next June, the 67th endured the hardships of marches up and down the valley, over the mountains and back again, from the Potomac to Harrisonburg, from Front Royal to Fredericksburg, from Fredericksburg to Manassas, from Manassas to Port Republic, and from Port Republic to Alexandria.

On June 29, the regiment embarked on the steamer "Herald" and barge "Delaware," and started for the James to re-enforce Gen. McClellan. In the night of the 30th, when near the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, in a very heavy gale, the hawser, by which the barge was towed, parted, leaving the barge to toss about in the trough of the sea. Men, horses, arms, and camp and garrison equipage, were carried overboard and lost. At Harrison's Landing the regiment campaigned with the Army of the Potomac till the evacuation of the Peninsula, when it went to Suffolk, Va., with only 300 men for duty out of 850 which composed the regiment at the organization. The regiment enjoyed here its first opportunity for rest and drill; and, in the last of December, was transferred to North Carolina, and then to Hilton Head, where it arrived February 1, 1863. The regiment shared in the Charleston expedition, landing on Cole's Island, April 2. For seven months the regiment heroically endured all the hardships, privations and dangers of the siege, taking part in the attack on Fort Wagner, and sustaining heavy loss. The regiment re-enlisted, and returned to Ohio in February, 1864. At the expiration of their furloughs the soldiers of the 67th returned to the field, reaching Bermuda Hundred, Va., under Gen. Butler, May 6, 1864. On May 9th, the 67th was detached to guard the right flank of the 10th Corps, that had gone to the railroad at Chester Station to destroy it from there to Petersburg. A section of artillery was sent with the regiment, and they were placed on the turn-

pike from Richmond to Petersburg, about eleven miles from the former place, with orders to hold the position at all hazards. During the night re-enforcements arrived, and next morning the Rebels made a general attack upon them. The 67th maintained its position from first to last, presenting an unbroken front to four successive charges. A section of the Federal artillery, for a short time, fell into the hands of the enemy, but was recaptured by a portion of Company F. May 10, 1864, will always be remembered as a sad but glorious day, by the 67th. Seventy-six officers and men were killed and wounded in that battle.

On May 20, a portion of the Union lines having fallen into the hands of the Rebels, the 67th, with other regiments, was designated to recapture it, which was done by a charge, in which the 67th lost sixty-nine officers and men killed and wounded. The Rebel Gen. W. H. S. Walker was wounded and captured, his sword passing into the hands of Col. Voris as a trophy. On August 16, four companies of the 67th charged the rifle pits of the enemy at Deep River, and at the first volley lost a third of their men; but before the Rebels could reload the rifle-pits were in the possession of the Federal troops. On October 7, 13, 27, and 28, the regiment engaged the enemy, with a loss of over one hundred men. During the spring, summer and fall of 1864, the 67th confronted the enemy, at all times within range of their guns; and it is said by officers competent to judge, that during the year it was under fire two hundred times. No movement was without danger; firing was kept up for days, and men wore their accoutrements for weeks at a time. Out of over 600 muskets taken to the front in the spring, three-fifths were laid aside during the year on account of casualties.

In the spring of 1865, the 67th participated in the assault on the Rebel works below Petersburg; on the 2d of April it was foremost in the charge on Fort Gregg, and at Appomattox C. H. was in at the death, bearing her battle-flag proudly in the last fight the Union forces made against the army of Northern Virginia.

*The One Hundred and Forty-fourth Infantry* (one hundred days' service) was organized at Camp Chase, Ohio, May 11, 1864, out of the 64th Battalion O. N. G., of Wood county, and the 19th Battalion O. N. G., of Wyandot county, with Samuel H. Hunt, Col.; Frederick R. Miller, Lieut. Col.; and Marquis D. L. Buell, Major.

Miller and Buell were both Wood county men, and also Quartermaster John H. Reid. Company C was mainly a Wood county organization, composed of men principally from Bowling Green and vicinity (Plain and Center townships). Its officers were Capt. Jeremiah Kitchen, 1st Lieut. Samuel J. Lamb, and 2nd Lieut. Thos. J. Avery. Company F was composed of men mainly from Perrysburg, with some from Middleton and Webster townships. Its officers were Asher Cook, Capt.; Andrew Bloomfield, 1st. Lieut.; and Frank S. Tyler, 2nd Lieut. Company B was mainly from Washington, Plain, and what is now Weston townships. It was commanded by Capt. Luther Black. Company E, commanded by Capt. Philip Smith, assisted by 1st Lieut. Abraham Keefer and 2nd Lieut. John D. Muir, was made up of men principally from Freedom, Webster, Bloom and Perry townships. Company I was made up of men, in main from what is now Grand Rapids and Weston townships, and was officered by John McKee, Capt.; Geo. Weddell, 1st Lieut.; and Geo. Kimberlin, 2nd Lieut. Company K—of which Philo W. Hathaway was captain; Benj. Bacon, 1st Lieut; and Dr. Edwin R. Sage, 2nd Lieut.—was made up of men chiefly from Montgomery township.

Ordered to report to Gen. Wallace, at Baltimore, Md., the command was moved rapidly, and, arriving at rendezvous, Companies G and K were detached for duty on the fortifications, and the other companies quartered at Fort McHenry. Thence Company E was sent forward to Wilmington, Del.; Company B to Camp Parole, near Annapolis, where, a few days later it was joined by Companies G, and I. This battalion remained at camp under the command of Capt. L. Black until July 7, when it was ordered to join Gen. Wallace at Monocacy Junction. On July 9, Companies B, G and I were present at Monocacy Junction, when Gen. Early's advance was checked, losing in the engagement about fifty men in killed, wounded and prisoners. Wallace was defeated there, and, in every particular, the affair was very discouraging to the gallant Ohioans, whose *esprit de corps* deserved better fortune. The regiment moved to Washington, on July 13, thence to Leesburg, *en route* to Winchester, Va. At Snicker's Gap, orders were received to return to Washington, but it was immediately dispatched to Shenandoah. On the day that Hancock and Birney were repulsed at Deep Bottom, Va., a detachment of this regiment was attacked near Berryville, Va., by Mosby's guerrillas. The two field pieces, worked by Mosby's skilled artillerists, created consternation in the

ranks of the new regiment, but the men rallied, returned the fire and drove the guerrillas to flight. In this affair, the 144th lost five killed, six wounded and sixty prisoners. The muster-out took place August 24 and 31, 1864, when it was reported that the regiment lost 125 killed, wounded and prisoners, during its short term of service, and that many of the captured men had died in Andersonville and other prisons.

*The Forty-ninth Infantry* (three years) was organized at camp Noble, Tiffin, from August 15, to September 22, 1861. Its leading officers, successively, were: William H. Gibson, Joseph R. Bartlett, Colonels; A. M. Blackman, Levi Drake, Benj. S. Porter, Samuel F. Gray, Luther M. Strong, Joseph R. Bartlett, Milton F. Miles, Lieut.-Colonels; Levi Drake, Benj. S. Porter, Samuel F. Gray, Luther M. Strong, Joseph R. Bartlett, Milton F. Miles, J. Kessler, Geo. W. Pool, Majors.

Wood county was largely represented in Company H, and had men in Companies A, C, K and F, and likely some few in others. In the command were a number of commissioned officers from Wood, among them: Lieut.-Col. Miles, Capt. Francis R. Stewart, and Lieuts. John J. Fry, Silas W. Simons and Geo. W. Vail. The regiment was mustered August 20, 1861. Company C, mustered September 1; E, August 22; F, August 26; G, September 3; H, August 30; I, August 26, and K, September 9. All came in after the regiment was received into the U. S. service. By September 21, 1861 (the command being then eleven days in Camp Dennison), it moved to Louisville, Ky., being the first organized volunteer regiment to enter that border State. On September 23 it was at Muldraugh's Hill, where it remained until October 10, when it entered Camp Nevin. As a part of the Sixth Brigade, Second Division, Army of Ohio, it moved to Munfordville December 10, and, near that point, on Green river, December 17, met Hindman's Arkansans and Terry's Texas Rangers, whom they repulsed with the aid of the 39th Indiana Infantry. On February 14, 1862, it moved to Bowling Green, and thence to Nashville; but on March 16 marched for Pittsburg Landing, or Shiloh, where it arrived in time for the battle of April 7, "going in" at 11 o'clock A. M. under Lt.-Col. A. M. Blackman, and maintaining a position on the left until 4 o'clock P. M., when the enemy retreated. During the five hours it changed front twice, each time under a heavy fire. From April 30 to May 29 it was a participant in

the siege of Corinth. Twelve hours after the gallant men under Beauregard evacuated the town the 49th Ohio marched in, and thence proceeded in pursuit of the flying Confederates, through Iuka to Florence (Ala.), whence it marched to Battle Creek (Tenn.). Following came the terrible thirsty march after Bragg, ending at Louisville September 29. Next was the march to Frankfort, where the command arrived October 5, dispersed the Confederate forces there, and prevented the inauguration of Capt. Dick Hawes as Confederate governor.

On the 8th it was present at Perryville or Chaplin Hills, to aid McCook in the repulse of Bragg, and next day at Lawrenceburg and Dog Walk made a good fighting reputation, under Lt.-Col. Levi Drake. In November it was among the regiments advanced against Forrest and Morgan, in the Nashville affair, and on December 30, found itself in line, at Murfreesboro, or Stone River. During that well-fought battle, on the 31st and succeeding days, the 49th did extraordinary service, but lost heavily in officers and men. On June 24, 1863, the regiment was in the advance on Liberty Gap, where it assaulted the enemy's works, driving him back a mile to an equally strong position, which was captured on the 25th, leaving the route clear to Tullahoma, where the regiment camped on July 1. In August, the command marched toward Chattanooga (crossing the river near Bellefonte on the 31st), and thence to Chickamauga, where, on the morning of September 19 it held a position on the extreme right of the army. Before drawn into battle, the position was changed to the extreme left, where at two o'clock in the afternoon it engaged the enemy, capturing two guns. During the evening, and away into the night, the command was closely engaged, giving and receiving blow for blow. On the 20th it was a factor in saving the Federal center, and was the last to retire from the bloody field that night. At Rossville temporary works were constructed, but on the night of the 21st the command fell back on Chattanooga, where it rested until the 24th, when the movement on Mission Ridge called it again to the front. Next day it planted its colors on Mission Ridge, and won new laurels on November 25, 1863. Its advance to the aid of Burnside at Knoxville, which followed, proved a greater test of endurance than any battle. Without food, clothing or shoes, with snow below and an air extremely cold, the soldiers pushed forward leaving bloody foot-marks to show their route and their condition. At Strawberry Plains they learned of Federal successes,



and returned to Chattanooga. When the term of enlistment expired, the majority of the survivors re-enlisted and returned to Ohio on a thirty-days' furlough. At the close of this short vacation, the men reported at Cleveland, Tenn., then headquarters of the Fourth Army Corps, and went into the Atlanta campaign with the grit of young patriots, taking part in the affairs at Rocky Face Ridge, May 5 to 9, 1864; Resaca, May 13 to 16; Cassville, May 19 to 22; Pickett's Mills, May 27; Kenesaw Mountain, June 9 to 30; siege of Atlanta, July 28 to September 2, and Lovejoy Station, September 2 to 6, 1864, taking in the Georgia campaign almost in all its details. On November 30, it participated in the battle at Franklin, Tenn., having previously (from November 24 to 28) been present at Columbia, Tenn. From December 15 to 16, it was engaged at Nashville, and subsequently in the pursuit of Hood's army to Huntsville, Ala., where it was in camp until March, 1865. On June 15, 1865, it moved to Texas via New Orleans, where it was engaged in guard duty until mustered out there, November 30, 1865. The number of names enrolled down to that date was 1,552, of whom 127 men and eight officers were killed in battle, seventy-one men and six officers mortally wounded, 165 men died of disease, seven died in Rebel prisons, while 616 were discharged for wounds or disability. Other losses were also entailed, so that at muster-out, the gallant 49th was only a fraction of its original self.

*The Fourteenth Infantry* was raised in the Tenth Congressional District of Ohio, in and around Toledo. In less than three days after the President's proclamation for 75,000 men, the 14th Ohio was ready for the field, and on April 25, 1861, it started from Toledo to Camp Taylor, near Cleveland, where it was thoroughly drilled and its organization completed. On May 18, the regiment was transferred from the State to the General Government, its leading officers being James B. Steedman, Col.; Geo. P. Este, Lt.-Col., and Paul Edwards, Major. Wood county was represented in the 14th, its men serving mainly in Company A, to the captaincy of which Joseph B. Newton, who was from the county, rose step by step. He was transferred to the field and staff, becoming adjutant.

The regiment left Cleveland, May 22, for Columbus, thence to Zanesville, thence to Marietta, remaining at Camp Putnam until May 27, when it left for Parkersburg, Va., at which place, for the

first time, the regimental flag was unfurled in the enemy's country. Immediately after its arrival one company was "double-quickened" along the line of the B. & O. R. R., the bridges of which were being destroyed by retreating Rebels. The railroad was diligently guarded to prevent further destruction. On the 29th the regiment moved forward until it reached Clarksburg. On June 2, it left Clarksburg by rail for Webster, and thence marched to Philippi, a distance of thirteen miles, and surprised a force of 2,000 Rebel cavalry at 5 A. M. The enemy were routed; they scattered to the hills, leaving stores, arms and munitions behind them.

The regiment was engaged before the enemy at Philippi June 3, Laurel Hill July 8, and Carrick's Ford July 14, with a loss of eight brave men killed and many wounded. It remained in camp on Laurel Hill until July 22, when, its term of enlistment (three months) having expired, it returned home. The regiment was dispersed, and after a few days rest at home the men re-assembled, and again volunteered in a body for three years or during the war. On August 23, 1861, the 14th received orders and moved from Toledo to Cincinnati, and on the morning of the 25th crossed the Ohio to Covington, Ky., where it took the cars for Lexington and Frankfort. Remaining at Frankfort two days, it moved by cars to Nicholasville, thence to Camp Dick Robinson, arriving on the evening of October 2. Thence the regiment, with Barnett's 1st Ohio L. Artillery, started at once for Wild Cat, Ky., there being rumors that the Federal forces were there surrounded by the Rebels. They reached there on the morning of the 21st. Barnett's Artillery was placed in position, and the enemy shelled. Five companies of the 33d Indiana were on a wild knob almost completely surrounded by the Rebels. Under cover of a brisk fire from Barnett's battery, two companies of the 14th with picks and shovels, crawled through the bushes over a ravine, and reaching the knob fortified it in such manner that the enemy shortly abandoned the siege, and retreated toward London, Ky., leaving on the ground about thirty of their number killed and wounded.

At Logan's Cross Roads the Rebels, under Zollicoffer, were met on December 31st of that year, and defeated. Only one company (C, Capt. J. W. Brown, of Toledo) of the 14th participated. Following up their success, the Federal troops pursued and drove the Rebels from their fortifications at Mill Springs. The night of the 19th of January was consumed in cannonading the enemy's works. Early on the morning of the 20th a



general assault was ordered and executed, the Rebel works carried, twenty pieces of artillery, all the camp equipage, and one regiment captured.

The Federal forces remained at Mill Springs until the 11th of February. Then, with five days' rations, the line of march was resumed toward Louisville, arriving on the 26th. The 14th was placed on board of transports, and in company with 20,000 other troops left for Nashville. Remaining in and around that city, building fortifications and perfecting the drill of the men, until the 20th of March, the necessity of re-enforcing Gen. Grant's forces at Pittsburg Landing being apparent, Gen. Buell marched with the greater part of his army, reaching Savannah on the 6th of April. Taking steamers, a portion of the troops were landed on the field, at Pittsburg Landing, on the morning of the 7th of April, in time to participate in the engagement of that day, turning the tide of battle in favor of the Union army. The 14th did not come up in time to participate.

In the summer of 1862, while the troops were on a march from Tusculum, Ala., to Nashville, Gen. Robert L. McCook was murdered by guerrillas near Waynesburg, Tenn., and Col. Steedman, of the 14th, succeeded him. Lt.-Col. Este was made colonel July 17, and Major Edwards was promoted to lieutenant-colonel on the same day. Capt. Henry D. Kingsbury, of Company A, was promoted to major, and December 27, 1862, to lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. Capt. Albert Moore, of Company A, was made lieutenant-colonel in 1864, and Capt. John W. Wilson, of Company E, was made major in 1863.

On September 19, 1863, at Chickamauga Creek, the 14th, under command of Lt.-Col. Kingsbury, was engaged in hot and close contest with the enemy from 9 A. M. to 4 P. M. Being then relieved, it replenished its ammunition boxes, and again entered the fight, continuing in it until sundown. That night it fell back one mile and went into camp. The next morning at nine o'clock the regiment again entered the field, and had a desperate encounter with a portion of Longstreet's Rebel division. On September 21 the regiment, with its brigade and division, was in line of battle all day. The regiment went into the battle with 449 men, out of which number it lost 233, killed, wounded and missing. Fourteen enlisted men were captured by the enemy. Of fourteen officers, eight were severely wounded. In the brilliant assault on Mission Ridge the 14th bore a gallant part, charging and

capturing a Rebel battery of three guns, which Gen. Hardee in person was superintending, losing sixteen killed, ninety-one wounded and three missing. The regiment was reviewed at Chattanooga by Gen. Grant, December 1, 1863. On December 17, of those that were eligible, all but thirty men of the entire regiment re-enlisted for another term of three years.

The regiment performed hard duty at Ringgold, in March, 1864. On May 9 it moved with its brigade on Dalton, driving in the enemy's videttes to the vicinity of Tunnel Hill, there encountering the enemy in force. At this point commenced that long, fatiguing campaign for the possession of Atlanta, the "Gate City" of the extreme south. The 14th, in all the marches and the almost incessant skirmishes and flanking movements of that campaign, bore an honorable part. It lost heavily in men and officers. While lying in front of Atlanta the regiment lost twenty men killed and wounded.

At Jonesboro, September 1, 1864, the Third brigade, in command of Col. Este, of the 14th Ohio, was drawn up in line of battle in the immediate rear of a regular brigade, of Gen. Carlin's division, which had just made an unsuccessful charge on the Rebel works in the edge of the woods on the opposite side of a large cornfield. Col. Este, with his brigade, consisting of the 14th and 38th Ohio, 10th Kentucky, and 74th Indiana, stood ready for the fight. Col. Este gave the order: "Battalion, forward! Guide center!" and Gen. Baird waived his hand for the "forward"—the lines moved steadily forward amid a shower of balls. A battery opened with grape and canister, but the brigade moved steadily on. The edge of the timber was gained, and with a yell and a charge the Rebel works were gained, and a hand-to-hand conflict ensued. The Rebels belonged to Gen. Pat. Cleburne's division, and contested the ground with great stubbornness and bravery. It was not until many of them were killed with the cold steel that they (the Rebels) would surrender. The 14th took nearly as many prisoners as the regiment numbered, a battery of four guns and several stands of colors. All of this was not accomplished without sad cost. The brigade lost thirty-three per cent of its number. One hundred members of the 14th, whose time had expired, went willingly into the fight, some of whom were killed and many wounded. The 14th joined Sherman's forces at Atlanta, and participated in the "March to the Sea;" then came the march through the Carolinas to Goldsboro and Raleigh. It participated in the Grand Review at Washington.

*The Fifty-seventh Infantry* (three years) was organized at Findlay, Ohio, in September, 1861, and mustered in between September 2, that year, and February 5, 1862. Company K, the last mustered, completed organization at Findlay, February, 1862.

Its officers successively were: William Mungen, Americus V. Rice, Samuel R. Mott, Cols.; William Mungen, Americus V. Rice, Samuel R. Mott and George D. McClure, Lieut.-Cols.; Silas B. Walker, John McClure and Squire Johnson, Majors. Company B was recruited from Hancock, Seneca, and Wood counties, Lieut. Wm. S. Bonnell, of "B," was a Wood county man.

On February 10 the new regiment had 956 men and thirty-eight commissioned officers, who set out for Paducah, Ky., eight days after. On March 8 the command left Paducah for Fort Henry, on the Tennessee, whence it proceeded to Savannah, Tenn., and to the mouth of Yellow creek, with the object of seizing the railroad at Iuka, Miss. High water militated against success, so that by the 16th the command reported at Pittsburg Landing. From that date to April 6, the command was engaged in a series of little expeditions sent out from camp at Shiloh Church. On the 6th it was, with its brigade, swept back by the furious assaults of the Confederate hosts, and only regained their camp after two days' participation in one of the bloodiest battles of the war. On the 8th the 57th took part in the pursuit of the retreating enemy, and suffered further loss, the total in three days being, 27 killed, 150 wounded (16 mortally) and 10 prisoners. During most of the summer and fall after the Corinth campaign, the regiment was on duty in West Tennessee, with headquarters at Memphis part of the time. In the Yazoo and Chickasaw campaign the 57th lost 37 men, killed and wounded.

On January 11, 1863, the attack on Arkansas Post was led by this regiment, it being for two hours within 270 feet of the embrasures in the parapet, before the works were surrendered. In this affair the 57th lost thirty-seven killed and wounded. After this campaign the regiment joined in the operations against Vicksburg until May 1, when Grant's soldiers took boats and floated down to Grand Gulf, where the 57th took part in the brilliant campaign which preceded the capture of Vicksburg, including the siege, in which the 57th took a gallant part.

In November, 1863, the 57th, with the rest of Sherman's command, after a toilsome march from Mississippi to Chattanooga, Tenn., arrived in time to take a hand in the successful assault on Mission Ridge.

In May, 1864, the regiment entered on the Atlanta campaign, having, on March 29, arrived at Nashville, after a long furlough, following the re-enlistment in January. It was present at Snake Creek Gap, May 8; at Resaca, from May 13 to 16; at Dallas, May 25 to June 4; at Kennesaw Mountain, June 9 to 30, where, on June 27, it lost fifty-seven killed and wounded. On July 22 it was a stern wall opposing Hood's sortie from Atlanta, recapturing the works in its front three times, and holding its position. From July 28 to September 2 it was engaged in the siege of Atlanta, took part in the affairs at Jonesboro on August 31 and September 1; at Statesboro on December 4, and at Fort McAllister, December 13, 1864, losing, in the bayonet charge at the last named place, ten killed and eighty wounded. On March 13, 1865, at Fayetteville, and on March 19-20 and 21 at Bentonville, N. C., it was in the thick of battle, and remained in the front until after Johnston's surrender. It participated in the grand review at Washington in May, 1865, and moving to Little Rock, Ark., it was mustered out, August 14, 1865. On August 25 it was discharged at Camp Chase, Ohio. Of the 1,594 men enrolled, only 481 were living on date of muster-out.

*The Seventy-second Infantry* (three years) was organized at Fremont in the last quarter of 1861, with the majority of its members from Sandusky, and some from Wood and Medina counties—in all about 900 strong. The Colonels of the regiment, successively, were: Ralph P. Buckland, Leroy Crockett, Charles G. Eaton; Lieut.-Cols.: Herman Canfield, Leroy Crockett, Charles G. Eaton, Eugene A. Rawson, Samuel A. J. Snyder; Majors: Leroy Crockett, Charles G. Eaton, Eugene A. Rawson, Samuel A. J. Snyder, James C. Fernald.

Wood county was represented in companies C, E, I, F, and D, the men going principally from Montgomery, Freedom, Troy and Lake townships. Capts. John H. Blinn and Charles D. Dennis of Company E; Lieuts. Morris Reese, of D, Albert Bates, of I, and Daniel W. Huffman, of C, were from Wood county; also the chaplain of the regiment, A. B. Poe. The battalion left for Camp Chase on January 24, 1862, and there Company K, or the Medina company, was disbanded, the privates distributed among the other companies, and the officers discharged. Then a company, enlisted for the 52nd Infantry, was assigned to the 72d as Company K, and, the regimental strength thus attained, the

command was ordered to report at Paducah to Gen. Sherman, where it was assigned to Col. Buckland's brigade, with the 48th and 70th Infantry Regiments. In March, 1862, the movement up the Tennessee and thence to Eastport, Miss., was carried out, the men suffering severely during their voyage on the "Baltic," and from the effects of bad water at Pittsburg Landing. On April 4, 1862, they met the enemy at Crump's Landing, Tenn., and on the 6th and 7th at Shiloh, where the brigade held the position against a heavy Confederate force, and where it participated in the charge which cleared the field, and in the pursuit as far as Monterey. In this initiatory work, there were two officers and thirteen soldiers killed, three officers and seventy men wounded, and one officer and forty-five men missing. The siege of Corinth, Miss., continued from April 30 to May 31, 1862. There Col. Buckland resumed command of the regiment, was present at Russell House, Miss., May 17, and at the entry into Memphis July 21, 1862, where it remained on garrison duty until November 26, when it was ordered to the Tallahatchie country. Later it encountered Richardson's guerrillas near Moscow, Miss., and on January 16, 1863, arrived at Corinth.

The command was kept moving from place to place, without adventure, until May 14, 1863, when it participated in the decisive affair at Jackson. Arriving before Vicksburg on the 18th, it for the two succeeding days rendered effective aid in assaulting the strong works at that point. After lying down before the city for a little while, it proceeded toward the Big Black, to intercept Joe Johnston's Rebel command; then moved against him at Jackson, and pursued him to Brandon. During the balance of the year it participated in the marching and counter-marching between the Pearl river and Memphis, and in January, 1864, in the Meridian expedition, and the affair at Hickahala Creek, Miss., of February 10. On February 28, 1864, the remnant of the veterans arrived at Freimont, on furlough, but on April 5 moved to Cleveland, recruited to a strength of 500 men, thence to Paducah, where it skirmished with Forrest's command on April 14, and thence south to its old camp grounds on Wolf river and round Memphis, meeting the enemy at Guntown, or Brice's Cross Roads, on June 10, at Harrisburg July 13, at Tupelo July 14, and Old Town Creek on July 15. The Guntown affair was disastrous to the Federal force. The officer in charge, seeing defeat inevitable, gathered the cavalry around him, and left the infantry to the tender mercy of Forrest's veterans.

Eleven officers of the 72d and 237 men were killed, wounded or captured, while nine officers and 140 men ran 100 miles in forty-one hours to seek refuge at Germantown. In September, the 72d entered Arkansas and Missouri to aid in opposing Price, but recrossed the Mississippi in November, and, on December 6 or 7, took part in the affair at Little Harpeth, Tenn., where it lost eleven men killed and wounded. On December 15 and 16 it took part in the brilliant fighting at Nashville, and from December 17 to January 1, 1865, was engaged in the pursuit of Hood. From March 26 to April 9, 1865, it was engaged in the siege of Spanish Fort, Ala. In April forty veterans received honorable discharge, and September 11, 1865, the command was mustered out at Vicksburg, Mississippi.

*The Sixty-eighth Infantry* (three years) was organized in October, November and December, 1861. Defiance, Williams, Paulding and Fulton counties each furnished one company, and Henry county furnished the majority of the men in the other companies. The officers of the regiment, successively, were Samuel H. Steedman, Robert K. Scott, Geo. E. Wells, Cols.; Samuel H. Steedman, Robert K. Scott, John S. Snook, Geo. E. Wells, Arthur C. Crockett, Lieut.-Cols.; and Robert K. Scott, John S. Snook, Geo. E. Wells, Arthur C. Crockett, Robert Masters, Majors. Wood was about equally represented in Companies H and I, the men going mainly from Grand Rapids, Freedom, Milton and Lake townships. Lieuts. William A. Wood, of Company H, and Lewis F. Dubbs, of Company I, were from Wood county.

The regiment rendezvoused at Camp Latta, in Henry county, in the winter of 1861-62, moving on January 21, to Camp Chase, and from there it moved to Fort Donelson, Tenn., arriving on the 14th. The regiment was assigned to Gen. Charles F. Smith's division, and was constantly engaged in skirmishing on the left of the lines during both days' operations. After the surrender, the regiment camped near Dover until March 15, when it moved to Metal Landing, on the Tennessee, and from there by boat to Pittsburg Landing. The health of the regiment until this time had been remarkably good; but now bad weather, bad water, and bad rations, reduced its strength from 1,000 to less than 250 men. The regiment was assigned to Gen. Lew Wallace's division, and during the battle of Pittsburg Landing was engaged in guarding ordnance and supply trains. During the operations around Corinth,

the regiment was constantly engaged in building roads, bridges, and intrenchments. After the evacuation, the 68th, with the 23d Indiana, was stationed at Bolivar, where they rebuilt the bridges across the Hatchie, and formed the guards along the railroad. The regiment participated in the battles of Iuka and Matamora, and for gallantry in the latter engagement was complimented in general orders. It closed its part in the campaign of 1862 by forming the advance of an expedition which attempted to penetrate the interior of Mississippi to Vicksburg. During the campaign the regiment was assigned to the Second Brigade, Third Division, 17th Army Corps, and continued to serve with them until the close of the war.

While at Richmond, La., in the spring of 1863, Lieut. J. C. Banks, of Company C, and privates John Snyder, of A, Joseph Longberry and William Barnhart, of C, volunteered to take one of the transports—a common river steamer—past the Vicksburg batteries. They accomplished their undertaking successfully on the night of April 21. On April 23, the regiment began its march for the rear of Vicksburg. It marched more than seventy miles over low bottom lands, still partly submerged, crossed innumerable bayous on bridges hastily constructed, and reached the Mississippi at Grand Gulf. It participated in the battle of Thompson's Hill, May 1, 1863, and was engaged in the battles of Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills, and Big Black which followed. The regiment sustained considerable loss in these engagements, and especially at Champion Hills. The 68th engaged in an attack on the Rebel works in the rear of Vicksburg, May 18, and it participated in the assault on Fort Hill on the 22nd. During the early part of the siege the regiment was almost constantly in the trenches, and it also furnished large details of sharpshooters. It participated in the engagements at Jackson on July 12. On February 5, 1864, it participated in the fight at Baker's Creek, while moving on the Meridian raid.

The regiment was one of the first in the 17th Corps to report three-fourths of its men re-enlisted, it having done so December 15, 1863. On June 10, 1864, the 68th joined Sherman's main army at Ackworth, Ga. During the remainder of the Atlanta campaign the regiment was under fire almost constantly. It was on the advance line for sixty-five days and nights, and was engaged at Kenesaw, Nicotack and Atlanta, July 22 and 28, and at Jonesboro and Lovejoy. After the engagement at Lovejoy, the regiment moved in pursuit of Hood. The return march

from Gaylesville, Ala., was by way of Cane Springs and Lost Mountain to Smyrna camp-meeting ground, and at daylight on November 15, from Atlanta, commenced the march to the sea. It reached Savannah on December 10, and assisted in throwing up a heavy line of works, and furnished two companies daily as sharpshooters. On January 5, 1865, the regiment embarked at Thunderbolt bay for Beaufort, and from there to Pocotaligo, and two weeks later the troops moved on the campaign of the Carolinas. The regiment participated in the Grand Review at Washington, May 24, 1865.

*The Twenty-fifth Infantry* was organized at Camp Chase June 28, 1861, being composed of men from almost every section of the State. It was officered, successively, by James A. Jones, W. P. Richardson, Nathaniel L. Haughton, Cols.; William P. Richardson, George Webster, James F. Charlesworth, Jeremiah Williams, Nathaniel Haughton, and E. C. Culp, Lt.-Cols.; and William P. Richardson, John Coons, George Webster, James F. Charlesworth, Jeremiah Williams, John W. Bowlus, Nathaniel Haughton, C. E. Randall, E. C. Culp, and Luther B. Mesnard, Majors. Of these Major Randall was from Wood county. Company E was composed largely of men from Wood county, principally from Montgomery township. Major Randall was 2d Lieut. of the company, was promoted to 1st Lieut. of G, then to Capt. and then to Major of the regiment. Second Lieut. Elisha Biggerstaff, of E, became 1st Lieut. in A, and finally became a captain in the regiment. Lieut. Andrew J. Hale, of E, became regimental quartermaster. Wm. P. Scott was promoted from 2d Lieut. of K to the captaincy of A. Jesse C. Chance, of E, was made 2d Lieut. of the Fifth U. S. Colored troops. These men were all from Wood. This county had also some men scattered through other companies.

On June 29 the regiment proceeded to Western Virginia, and was stationed along the B. & O. R. R. from Oakland to the Ohio river, and broke up several gangs of bushwhackers. On August 21, the command reported to Gen. Reynolds at Beverly. It then marched to Cheat mountain, and encamped on the summit where the troops suffered severely during the fall and winter. They were continually on duty either in the fort or on the picket-line; sleet or snow fell almost daily; the men of the 25th were totally unprovided with overcoats, and many of them were without shoes or blankets. On the

morning of September 12, a wagon train was captured, and it was soon discovered that the enemy was not far distant in force under command of Gen. Lee. Preparations were made for a strenuous defense; every available man was placed on picket duty, and for eight days the skirmishing was continuous. At the end of this time troops from the valley succeeded in breaking through the Rebel lines, bringing with them to the summit supplies, and the Rebel commander, seeing the futility of his efforts, withdrew.

On October 3, 1861, Gen. Reynolds marched from the summit of Cheat mountain to assault the Confederate works at Greenbrier, but the expedition was fruitless. On November 25, the headquarters were moved into the valley, whence, on December 11, Col. Jones led 460 men against Camp Baldwin, and on the 12th and 13th, attacked Camp Alleghany, driving the enemy to their cabins repeatedly, but at last had to retire for lack of ammunition, leaving nine killed and seventy-five wounded on the field. The Huntersville raid was undertaken on December 31, and finished on January 4, with the destruction of Rebel stores, and a march of 106 miles effected in five days. Later Company D was detached and formed into a battery, equipped with Wiard's steel guns, and after March 17, 1862, was known as the Twelfth Ohio Battery. The scout toward Seneca began on April 1. At Monterey another scout joined the Twenty-fifth, and on the 12th Johnston's attack on that point was repulsed, and fell back before the re-enforced, scouts to Staunton, the Federals holding McDowell until May 7, when Johnston and Jackson's corps returned to give battle. On May 8 Gen. Schenck's brigade came as a reinforcement, and offered battle at Bull Pasture mountain, credited in the reports as the battle of McDowell. The Federal forces carried the fight on until long after darkness, and then fell back on Franklin, leaving nine killed and fifty-six wounded on the field. The pursuit of Jackson, under Fremont, followed, and on June 8 the affair at Cross Keys took place, the regiment losing eight killed, fifty-four wounded and two missing. In July it was on duty on the Rappahannock, and Rapidan. On August 23, 24 and 25 it took part in the affair at Freeman's Ford, and on the 30th in the second battle of Bull Run, the regiment losing ten men killed, seventy-eight wounded and twenty-two missing. Having, on the 28th, learned that Phil Kearney defeated Jackson's rear-guard at Centerville, the regiment fell back on that town after Manassas, and on September 3 moved to Upton Hill.

From the 1st to the 4th of May, 1863, it was engaged in the battle of Chancellorsville, losing seventeen killed, 120 wounded and thirty-seven missing.

The regiment was in the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Division of the 11th Army Corps. On June 27 the 25th started on the Gettysburg campaign with Gen. Barlow in command of the Division, and Gen. Ames in command of the brigade. The 11th corps arrived at Emmettsburg on the 29th. On the 1st of July the corps moved toward Gettysburg, with Barlow's division in advance. Upon reaching the town the division was placed in position, and became engaged almost immediately. The 25th was also engaged on the 2nd and 3rd. Several of the officers had been killed or wounded, and the regiment was commanded by a 1st lieutenant who had been wounded in the first day's battle. The 25th went into action with 220 men, and lost 20 killed, 113 wounded, and 50 missing. The regiment on July 5, moved with the division in pursuit of the Rebels, and in the Hagerstown skirmish supported Kilpatrick. On January 1, 1864, the regiment re-enlisted, and after their veteran furlough (during which the command had been greatly strengthened), March 26, resumed service at Hilton Head, South Carolina.

On November 2, nearly 300 recruits joined the regiment, including one entire company — D. The 25th was engaged at Hilton Head, S. C., November 30, and lost 150 in killed and wounded, including sixteen officers. It was engaged at Deveau Neck and Gregory's Landing, S. C., December 6, 7, 8 and 9, and on the 8th lost 54 in killed and wounded. The troops marched into Charleston February 26, 1865.

The 25th was in the raid on the expedition destroying railroad property in eastern and central South Carolina, engagements were had at Dingle's Mills, Statsburg, Rafting Creek, Boykin's Mills, Swift Creek and Red Hill. Later, the 25th performed duty at Charleston, and at other points throughout South Carolina, and there remained during the winter of 1865-66 and the following spring, not being discharged until June 18, 1866.

*The Eighty-sixth Infantry* (six months) was organized at Camp Cleveland, July 14, 1863, by Maj. Wilson C. Lemert, of the former three-months' organization, who became its Colonel. Companies F and D were pretty well represented by men from Wood county. John H. Reid, of Perrysburg, being Captain of D. The regiment was ordered to Zanesville, Ohio, to join in the chase of John Morgan's raiders. It figured in

the pursuit which resulted in the capture of Morgan's forces.

The 86th returned to Camp Tod, and, August 8, was ordered to Camp Nelson, Ky., there to join an expedition organizing for the capture of Cumberland Gap, East Tenn. The expedition was under command of Col. John De Courcy, and left Camp Nelson August 17, arriving in front of Cumberland Gap September 8. The 86th formed a part of this command. Simultaneously with the arrival of De Courcy in front of the Gap; on the Kentucky side, Major-Gen. Burnside arrived with his forces on the opposite or Tennessee side, thus completely investing the Rebel garrison under Gen. Frazier. On September 9, a formal summons was sent to the Rebel commander for the surrender of the place, which demand was acceded to by Gen. Frazier, thus doubtless saving a great loss of life, as the Gap could have been stoutly defended if the Rebel general had so willed. The 86th immediately marched into the fort and took possession, hoisting the Stars and Stripes in place of the Rebel bunting. The fruits of this affair were 2,800 men, 5,000 stand of arms, and 13 pieces of artillery.

The 86th remained at the Gap as a part of the garrison until its term of service expired. It was mustered out February 10, 1864.

*The Third Ohio Cavalry* was organized between September 3 and December 11, 1861, at Monroeville, Huron county, and mustered for three years' service, officered by Col. Lewis Zahm, Lieut.-Col. Douglas A. Murray, and Maj. John H. Foster. Wood was represented in several companies, probably more largely in L. John Dusing, of Company L, rose from the ranks through the successive steps to 1st lieutenant of the company. Norman Brewster, also from this county, became a lieutenant in the regiment.

On January 14, 1862, the regiment moved to Camp Dennison, thence to a position in Indiana opposite to Louisville, Ky. On March 2, it was ordered to Nashville. On March 29, the command moved to Pittsburg Landing. On the march, April 4, the first battalion met and drove out of Lawrenceburg Biddle's Rebel cavalry, the latter losing one killed, several wounded and six horses captured. The regiment went into camp four miles from the river, at Pittsburg Landing, on April 25. On May 4, the first battalion reconnoitered about Monterey, and crossed Chamber's creek, where it met the enemy, which was driven back to his main body. The 3rd then moved up

with Gen. T. J. Wood's division, to within ten miles of Corinth. A brisk fight ensued, and in the action the Rebels lost twelve killed, among whom was Lieut.-Col. Ingram. On May 27, 1862, the regiment found the enemy in force, west of Corinth, and routed him, killing four of the number. On June 1, the first battalion joined Gen. Wood's division *en route* to Burnsville, Tuscumbia and Iuka, Miss., but on the 19th the remainder of the regiment joined the battalion, at Tuscumbia, and for almost a month marched and counter-marched, under the scorching sun, on both sides of the western line of Alabama. The protection of Shelbyville was entrusted to this command on July 15, but on the 18th it marched to Winchester, near which, on the 29th, it took eighty-nine head of fat cattle from the enemy.

In the latter part of August, Maj. Foster's battalion attempted to cross the Cumberland range to Dunlap, but while *en route* captured five mounted men and dispatches from Bragg to Wheeler (who was then north of McMinnville), continued his journey toward Dunlap, drove in the pickets, killed two and wounded four men, and fell back on division headquarters. In September, however, the real business of war opened for this command, at Munfordville, on September 21, 1862. There a force three times as strong was driven to their works, losing two killed and two wounded, while inflicting a loss on the enemy of thirty-eight killed and sixty wounded, including Lt.-Col. Brown. It joined in the pursuit of Bragg, October 1, and came up with him on the 4th, losing six killed, twenty wounded and seventeen prisoners, near Bardstown.

The second and third battalions, under Col. Zahm, were, meantime, engaged in hunting down guerrillas in Tennessee and Alabama, losing, in that hazardous service, six men killed and a number wounded. Shortly after, the two battalions were attached to the 2d Cavalry Brigade, under Col. Zahm, took part in the battle of Perryville, and doing excellent service until a detachment went into temporary camp at Ashland, while *en route* to Lexington as an escort to couriers. On the morning of October 20, Morgan's men surrounded the little force, robbed the men of their horses and valuables, paroled them and sent them back to their regiment.

The second and third battalions next moved from Danville to Bowling Green, and thence to Gallatin, where, supported by a brigade of infantry of Gen. Wood, they attacked the guerrilla stronghold, captured his camp equipage and many prisoners, and saw the chief retreat beyond the Cumberland. This adventure over, the battal-

ions met another enemy in the first battalion, that had just appeared, and gave battle to the victors. The mistake was soon discovered; but the delay it occasioned gave Morgan an opportunity to make good his escape into the fastnesses. The regiment moved to Hartsville, Tenn., where the first and second battalions were engaged in guarding the fords of the Cumberland, and from which a detachment was sent forward to intercept a drove of mules and a provision train in the neighborhood of Carthage. Capt. Culver, who commanded, led his men twenty-six miles, crossed the river four times, and ultimately captured 146 mules, killed three and captured seventeen of Morgan's men, and the entire train. In December the regiment moved to a point near Nashville where it was attached to the 1st Cavalry Corps of the Army of the Cumberland, and by this means the first battalion became united with the regiment. On December 26 the 3rd, 4th and 1st Cavalry routed the Confederates at Franklin, and killed the celebrated guerrilla, Richard McCann. On the 27th a second attack on Franklin was equally successful, but the enemy coming in force drove the cavalry to Triune, where, on the 28th the Confederates were severely checked. On December 29, 30 and 31, 1862, the 2nd and 3rd Battalions held the right of Rosecrans' position, meeting Bragg's left face to face, recapturing McCook's ammunition train on the 31st, taking 140 prisoners, and entailing severe losses on Wheeler's Cavalry, but losing thirteen men killed and a number wounded. The affair at Stewart's Creek of January 1, 1863, was the repulse of Wheeler's Cavalry by the 3rd Cavalry, 10th Ohio Infantry, and 800 of the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry, then *en route* to Nashville as escort for a train of 4,000 wagons. On January 1, 1863, the regiment was in the engagement at Stewart's Creek with Wheeler's cavalry, and later skirmished at Readyville, and maneuvered about Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

In July, 1863, the regiment moved with Rosecrans' army in Crittenden's corps, charged across Elk river, routed the enemy, subsequently made the three-days' running fight in the Sequatchie Valley, and aided in opening communication between Chattanooga and Knoxville. At Lafayette, on September 19 and 20, 1863, the regiment held the extreme left, and was driven back to Charleston, Tenn.; later, it engaged in the pursuit, coming up with the Confederates at McMinnville, on September 28, and at the Shelbyville pike, near Farmington, on October 7. During the month of November detachments scouted in East Tennessee and around Dalton, Ga.,

near which Capt. Wood was killed. In January, 1864, only 400 effective men of the original 1,300 were left.

The regiment was furloughed in February, 1864, and when in Ohio 1,000 recruits were added. On May 26 and 29 the command was in the engagement at Decatur, Ala.; it was also present at Kenesaw Mountain, June 27; at Vining Station, July 2; Peach Tree Creek, July 20; Jonesboro, August 19 and 20; Lovejoy's Station, August 20—all in Georgia; Franklin, Tenn., November 30, 1864; Selma, Ala., April 2, 1865; Columbus, Ga., April 16, and Macon, Ga., April 20. The command was mustered out August 4, 1865, having served three years and 345 days.

*The One Hundred and Eighty-fifth Infantry* (one year) was organized at Camp Chase, February 25, 1865, with John E. Cummins, Colonel, who was commissioned a day later. Dennis H. Williams was Lieut.-Colonel, and Horatio N. Benjamin, Major.

Wood county had a good representation in Company K, which was commanded by Capt. Luther Black; Lieut. Samuel J. Lamb, of the same company, and Lieut. Daniel W. Peugh, of E, all from this county. The strength of the command on organization was 1,006 men, fifty *per centum* of whom had seen service in the field—some for three years. The officers, too, were veterans in many instances, so that, in every way, it was qualified to take a full part in quelling the Rebellion. The command left camp February 27, for Nashville, but was held at Louisville by Gen. Palmer with the consent of Gen. Thomas, while headquarters were established at Eminence, Ky. Four companies were detached to guard Cumberland Gap, two companies to Mt. Sterling, while other detachments garrisoned posts at Shelbyville, La Grange, Lebanon, Greensburg and other favorite camping places of Morgan's guerrillas. The regiment had no opportunity of showing its fighting qualities, though a Confederate brigade appeared before Mt. Sterling. That brigade came to surrender rather than to fight. The 185th was mustered out at Lexington, Ky., September 26, 1865, the strength being then 889 men.

*The Tenth Cavalry* (three years) was organized at Camp Taylor in October, 1862, by Charles C. Smith, but was not ready for the field until the spring of 1863. Mr. Smith was commissioned colonel of the command February 26, 1863.



Wood county was fairly represented in Company G. Daniel H. Hill and Jared H. Fuller, of G, rose from the ranks to a lieutenancy, the former becoming 2d Lieutenant of Company C, and the latter 2d Lieutenant of Company D.

The regiment, in the spring of 1863, left for Nashville, thence on to Murfreesboro, Tenn., and in the vicinity of the latter place remained and performed picket and scout duty until the Army of the Cumberland opened the campaign against Gen. Bragg at Tullahoma. During the campaign the 10th Cavalry performed a vast amount of marching and countermarching, fighting such Rebel cavalry as it met. At the battle of Chickamauga one company, commanded by Capt. Haynie (then a lieutenant), acted as escort to Gen. Granger, the main portion of the regiment being ordered to guard communications in the rear. After the battle the 10th was ordered up the Sequatche Valley to guard that country against guerrillas under Champ Ferguson. While in the Valley a portion of the regiment accompanied a detachment of the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry on a scout into East Tennessee, under command of Col. Palmer, of the latter regiment. This scout was effectual, and that part of the State was rid from banditti of every kind. The detachment was absent from the regiment about three months, and during that time was almost daily engaged with the enemy. At one time the detachment engaged and defeated a force of 500 Rebels (300 Indians and 200 North Carolinians,) led by Gov. Vance, who was captured, together with a hundred of his men and his wagon-train. On the return of the expedition it found the regiment stationed at Bridgeport, Ala., where it had removed from Rossville, Ga. In the spring of 1864, the regiment went into camp at Lavergne, Tenn. In the long and tedious march through Ringgold, Ga., where the regiment was attached to the 2d Brigade, 3d Division, Cavalry Corps, to Marietta, it was repeatedly engaged with the enemy, and at the Battle of Resaca the 10th, under Col. Smith, led the charge which commenced that fight. In the brilliant dash the loss of the regiment was severe.

The regiment was actively engaged in all of Kilpatrick's movements during Sherman's Atlanta campaign, and several times made raids around Atlanta. On the march to the sea much of the fighting that occurred was performed by the cavalry. The 10th was frequently engaged, encountering the enemy first at Jonesville, Ga., and from that place to Savannah, Ga., scarcely a day passed without encounters with the Rebel Gen. Wheeler's and other cavalry and infantry.

The victory at Lovejoy's Station was mainly attributable to a general charge by the entire division (nine regiments) of cavalry. At Bear Creek Station the 10th engaged the enemy singly behind formidable barricades, using the saber, and put him to ignoble flight. Lieut. James Morgan, of Company F, was killed while gallantly leading his men in the charge. The cavalry command moved on the Clinton and Macon road, intending to demonstrate toward the latter place, as if to attack it. Gen. Kilpatrick brought his men to within a mile of the city, and, under the fire of thirteen pieces of artillery, the 10th Ohio, led by Capt. Hofford, charged the works with drawn sabers, and never halted until the fort was entered and two pieces of artillery were captured; but not without heavy loss in killed, wounded and prisoners. Among the prisoners was Capt. J. Hofford. The enemy was also encountered at Griswoldville, Gordon and Milledgeville.

The 10th bore an honorable part in the encounter with the Rebel cavalry about Louisville, Ga., Waynesboro, and Augusta, in the latter part of November and first part of December, 1864. At Waynesboro the advance squadron of the 10th was led by Capt. Samuel Norton, of D, who was killed at the head of the column while encouraging his men to deeds of daring. The loss on both sides in this engagement was severe. The 10th was actively engaged in the campaign through the Carolinas, meeting the enemy frequently. Gen. Kilpatrick on many occasions expressed his opinion that the 10th Ohio was the best charging regiment he had under his command.

*The One Hundred and Eighty-second Infantry* (one year).—Five companies of it were recruited in the vicinity of Toledo, and organized at Camp Toledo by Lieut.-Col. J. A. Chase. While at Camp Chase five other companies were added, and the organization was completed October 28, 1864, Col. Lewis Butler being placed in command. Some few men from Wood county served in the regiment, mainly in companies A and B. The regiment moved south on November 1, and five days later was attached to Sherman's army at Nashville. There the men were drilled, so that, on December 4, 1864, when Hood circumvallated the city, this command took an important part in the battle which ensued. There it remained on guard and provost duty until July 7, 1865, when it was mustered out. Returning to Ohio, it was discharged at Camp Chase, July 13, 1865.



*The First Light Artillery* (three years) was organized under the militia law of 1860, and formed a part of the Ohio militia. It consisted of six companies, having one gun each. The Colonel was James Barnett. The organization was drilled and disciplined, and at the breaking out of the war took the field, reporting at Columbus April 22, 1861. It went into camp at Marietta, Ohio. On May 28 a part of the organization was sent to Col. Steedman of the 14th Ohio, then stationed at Parkersburg, and the rest went on the following day to Benwood, thence to Grafton, reporting to Gen. T. A. Morris. The two guns sent under Lt.-Col. Sturgis to Col. Steedman participated at Philippi. This was the first artillery fired by the Federal forces in the war of the Rebellion. Later the main command was joined by the detachment under Lt.-Col. Sturgis, and moved with Gen. Morris' forces to Laurel Hill, and joined in the attack made on the Rebels at that place; the Rebels were again attacked at Carrick's Ford, which terminated the three-months' term of the command's service (about July 26, 1861).

The regiment with its twelve light batteries was mustered into the U. S. service for three years, dating from September 3, 1861. The command was organized by batteries at Camp Dennison, and as each battery was filled and equipped it was sent to the field. Each battery had a separate and distinct history. Nearly all the men who went from Wood county served in battery G, and were mainly from Washington, Freedom and Liberty townships. The battery was mustered in at Camp Dennison December 17, 1861. On February 15 it went to Cincinnati, thence into camp at Jeffersonville, Ind., where it remained until the 27th, when it went to Nashville. On March 11 the command was ordered, with Capt. Mendenhall's regular battery, to report to Gen. Crittenden, commanding the 5th Division. It moved with the column, and on Sunday morning, April 6, fifteen miles from Savannah, on the Tennessee river, the troops heard the heavy firing at Pittsburg Landing. The command reached Savannah by 8 P. M. and thence by steamer proceeded to Pittsburg Landing, reaching there at one o'clock in the morning of Monday, April 7, disembarked and took position in line of battle at 6 A. M., supported by Gen. Boyle's brigade of Crittenden's division, and was engaged the entire day. This battery was the only volunteer battery of Buell's army engaged in the battle.

The battery served with General Crittenden's division through the siege of Corinth, and later

took part in the engagement at Stone River. The battery was engaged at Chickamauga September 19 and 20, 1863, taking position on the Rossville road, where it was continually under fire until after the battle of Mission Ridge. On October 9, upon the re-organization of the army, it was ordered to report to Col. Barnett, the commanding officer of the Reserve Artillery. On December 2, it marched for Nashville, and was mustered in as a veteran battery January 4, 1864. In August it moved with the cavalry under Gen. Croxton, in pursuit of Wheeler's forces, which after three or four sharp engagements were driven across the Tennessee river at Florence, Ala. The battery moved to Chattanooga in October; but, in the same month, reported to chief of artillery of the 4th Army Corps at Pulaski. On November 23, it broke camp at Pulaski, and while falling back toward Nashville disputed the ground with Hood day by day. On the 20th it checked Hood's advance into Franklin, and covered the rear of the Federal column moving out, and reached Nashville on the night of December 1. The loss of the battery in killed and wounded at the battle of Franklin was twenty-three. It was highly complimented by Gen. Stanley for gallant services in the field.

On December 14, the battery was in the general engagement between Gens. Thomas and Hood, at Nashville, also it sharply engaged the enemy at Rutherford's creek, being in the advance column of the Federal forces in Hood's retreat to the Tennessee river. In March, 1865, it moved with the 4th Corps into East Tennessee and North Carolina, and in April returned to Nashville. In June it moved to New Orleans; returned in August for Ohio, and was mustered out at Camp Chase, September 1, 1865.

*The Second Heavy Artillery* (three years) was organized at Camp Dennison between the middle of June and the close of September, 1863, and mustered in between August 1 and October 5, that year, with Horatio G. Gibson, Colonel. Company A was mustered July 20; B, August 5; C, August 26; D, September 7; E, September 9; F, September 23; G, September 19; H, I, K and L, September 7, and M, September 9, 1863. Wood county furnished some men for this command, who served in battery L. This battery, on October 8, was moved to Fort Boone, Frankfort, Ky.; thence was transferred, in December of the same year, to Battery Simons, at Munfordville, Ky.; from there, in May, 1864, marched by land to Camp Sedgwick, at Cleveland, Tenn.,

as guard to the regimental wagon-train. On August 3, 1864, it moved to Charleston, Tenn. There it participated in the engagement with the Rebel cavalry under Wheeler, and in the subsequent movements until it reached Strawberry Plains, where it remained up to August, 1865. It was mustered out of service at Nashville, Tenn., August 23, 1865.

*Fifty-fifth Infantry* (three years) was organized at Norwalk, Ohio, between the middle of September and the beginning of December, 1861. The command was mustered September 13, 1861, with John C. Lee, Colonel. There were a few men in the regiment from Wood county serving mainly in Company B, from which Henry J. Pelton rose from the ranks to Second Lieutenant, and Quartermaster of the regiment.

On January 25, 1862, it left for Grafton, Western Virginia, and from there soon moved to New Creek. Its first skirmish was at Moorefield. The next spring it advanced to Romney, where it joined Gen. Schenck's brigade, which moved to Moorefield, and went into camp at a ferry on the Potomac, three or four miles north of the town. In the battle of McDowell, or Blue Pasture Mountain, the 55th constituted the reserve, and served as support to a battery. After the battle, the troops fell back to Franklin in order to avoid being cut off by a flank movement. On this march, and during the stay in Franklin, the regiment suffered severely on account of the scarcity of rations. The regiment was present at the battle of Cross Keys; but was not engaged. The army of Virginia was organized at Middletown, near Winchester, whither, about June 20, the regiment arrived, and stopped for a short rest. The 55th was brigaded with the 25th, 73d and 75th Ohio, and was attached to Gen. Schenck's division. The regiment was at Slaughter Mountain, arriving on the battlefield at 3 A. M., August 9, 1862.

Shortly before sunset, August 28, the regiment was pushed forward from the north of Warrenton, partly deployed as skirmishers, to discover Jackson's position. This was on the old Bull-Run battle ground. On the 29th the two armies were engaged the greater portion of the day, neither party gaining any very decided success. The 55th was under severe artillery fire, but was not engaged with the enemy's battle line. During the 30th the regiment lay in close column, by division, behind a swell of ground, upon which was posted a battery of six steel guns. About an hour before sunset the enemy appeared suddenly on the flank. The regiment deployed

under fire, but after giving a few volleys it returned to the main line, which was about one hundred yards in the rear. Here the regiment was reformed, and it continued to engage the enemy until near dark, when with the brigade it gradually moved to the rear, and after dark it fell back to Centerville. The regiment at the battle of Chancellorsville formed part of the 11th Corps, and in going into position, on May 1, it was in the 2d Brigade from the right. In this engagement, which opened about 5 P. M., on the 2d, the 55th lost 153 men killed, wounded and missing.

About May 15, the regiment became a part of the 2nd Division, and remained in that brigade until the end of its term of service. The regiment was present at the battle of Gettysburg. The division was posted first on Cemetery Hill, but was moved subsequently to the left of the Baltimore pike. The battle line of the regiment was not engaged, but the skirmish line was subject, most of the time, to a severe fire. The 55th lost about fifty men in the battle. At Lookout Mountain, the regiment being on picket, it was not in the early part of the engagement, and sustained no loss. In the battle of Mission Ridge the corps formed line to the left and front of Fort Hood, and, moving forward rapidly, drove the Rebel skirmish line beyond the East Tennessee railroad. On the afternoon of the 25th of November, 1863, the 55th was posted on the extreme left, and guarded the flank during the remainder of the battle.

On January 1, 1864, 319 men of the regiment re-enlisted; and after a furlough returned to Lookout Valley. The 11th and 12th corps were consolidated about this time, and became the 20th, and the 55th formed a part of the 3rd Brigade of the 3rd Division. On May 2, the regiment started on the Atlanta campaign, and participated in all the battles in which the 20th corps was engaged. It suffered severely at the battle of Resaca May 15, losing upward of 90 men. It was engaged at Cassville, Dallas, New Hope Church, Marietta, and Kenesaw; was also engaged at the battle of Peach Tree Creek July 20. During the siege of Atlanta, the 55th occupied a place in the line. The regiment from Atlanta, November 15, moved toward the sea coast, and entered Savannah on the 21st. In January, 1865, it started on the campaign of the Carolinas. At the battle of Smith's farm, March 16, it lost thirty-six men killed and wounded. It was at Goldsboro and at Raleigh, and participated in the grand review. The regiment was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., July 11, 1865.

*The One Hundred and Seventeenth Infantry and First Heavy Artillery* (three years). The regiment was organized as the 117th Infantry at Camp Portsmouth, September 15, 1862, with eight companies, and came under the colonelcy of Chancey G. Hawley. It served in various parts of Kentucky in the fall of 1862, and spring of 1863. In May, 1863, the regiment was changed into the First Heavy Artillery Ohio Volunteers, and recruited to the maximum strength of that organization. A number of men from Jackson and Perry townships, of Wood county, served in Company L of this organization, among whom was John Foreman, who became 1st Lieutenant, and was promoted Quarter-master of the regiment.

The regiment constructed the fine and extensive fortifications for eight miles around Covington and Newport, making Cincinnati one of the strongest fortified cities in the Union. During the fall and winter of 1863-64 the regiment, in battalion detachments, was engaged in guard duty at various points in Kentucky. On February 19, 1864, it started under orders through heavy snow and extreme cold over the mountains to Knoxville, Tenn., arriving there March 9. Through that summer, and until in September, the regiment was engaged in guarding the railroads through Tennessee. It subsequently participated in foraging and fighting guerrillas throughout East Tennessee and North Carolina. It formed a part of the 1st Brigade, 4th Division, Army of the Cumberland, and was engaged in guarding mountain passes, and guarding captured points in Virginia and North Carolina. After the surrender of Lee and Jackson, the regiment saw service in the Carolinas, Georgia and Tennessee. It was mustered out at Knoxville, Tenn., July 25, 1865.

*The One Hundred and Eighty-ninth* (one year) was organized at Camp Chase, Ohio, March 5, 1865, with Henry D. Kingsbury, Colonel. Wood county had a good representation in Company G, of which Thomas A. Gorrill, of the county, was 2d Lieutenant.

The regiment immediately left for Huntsville, Ala. Several companies were placed along the Memphis & Charleston railroad between Stevenson and Decatur, and were engaged in guarding bridges and building stockades. One company was posted at Whitesburg, one at Claysville, and Guntersville, on the Tennessee river, and one remained at Huntsville. On June 20, the regiment was concentrated at Huntsville, and per-

formed post duty until September 25, when it was ordered to Nashville, and there was mustered out.

*One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth* (three years) was organized at Columbus, Johnson's Island, and Camp Cleveland, Ohio, from December 7, 1861, to January 8, 1864, to serve three years. Four companies—A, B, C and D—of the organization, were originally known as the "Hoffman Battalion," raised at different times in 1862, which, before the time of forming the regiment, was under the command of a lieutenant-colonel and major. Six new companies were mustered in at Camp Taylor between the 8th and 15th of January, 1864. The four old companies had been on duty at Johnson's Island nearly all the time since their muster-in; but had frequently furnished detachments for service elsewhere, including a short and very active campaign in pursuit of Rebel troops in West Virginia in 1862. Wood county was represented in the 128th in Companies B, C and D, a few men serving from various parts of the county. Lieut. George W. Hollenbeck, of Companies C and A, respectively, was from Perrysburg. The regiment was chiefly occupied at the frontier posts of Johnson's Island and Sandusky, and its service necessarily involves much of the military history of those posts. It was mustered out at Camp Chase July 10, 1865.

In addition to Wood's representation in the regiments whose history is outlined in the above sketches, her gallant and patriotic sons were scattered through various other Ohio commands, and, as set forth in the introductory remarks, they were found in a number of the organizations of other States. A glance at the roster will reveal that among the other Ohio commands men from Wood were enrolled in the 84th, 179th, 193d, 195th, 197th, 99th, 123d, 66th, 81st, 11th, 101st and 126th.

#### ROSTER OF WOOD COUNTY SOLDIERS.

It will be observed that the following rosters of Wood county's soldiers in the war of the Rebellion have, in main, been prepared by veterans of the county. They have furnished the names of the soldiers, and the records, so far as they could be found, have been added from the Roster of Ohio Soldiers. It has been the purpose to place the names of soldiers in the respective townships in which they lived and were identified at

the time of enlistment. Where men lived close to township lines, and questions arose as to the townships in which they belonged, the men themselves were seen, when living, or were written to, members of the immediate family or near neighbors consulted, and the men placed as it became evident that they should be from such sources of information. Aside from the men whose names are given in the different townships as having been identified with the preparation of each roster, many others have been seen, and still others written to, and all possible efforts made at completeness.

### BLOOM TOWNSHIP.

The names in the following list were furnished by a committee of veterans of Bloomdale, who had the benefit of a record of the soldiers of the township, which were prepared in 1866, by W. S. Richard, a resident of Bloomdale, then a school teacher of the township. Mr. Richard prepared the list of soldiers by school districts, and therefore quite accurately; to the committee's list of names the record of each soldier was added, then all was submitted in typescript, for additions and corrections, to Messrs. Richard, Solether, Shanabarger, Whitacre and others.

John Appel, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir Nov. 16, '63, m. o. June, '65.  
 W. F. Babcock, F, 29, en. Aug., '64, to June, '65, a substitute.  
 Asa Baird, B, 111, en. Aug. 18, '62, m. o. with Co., June 27, '65.  
 Alonzo Beard, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Irvin Baird, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Josiah Beard, H, 49, wounded at the Chattahoochee, July 7, '64, served from Feb., '64, to Nov., '65.  
 Jason C. Baker, E, 21, en. Dec., '63, died July 12, '64, of wounds received in battle of Vining Station, near Atlanta, July 9, '64.  
 Isaac P. Baker, G, 21, en. Feb., '62, died Feb. 6, '63, in hospital at Nashville, Tenn., from a severe cold taken at battle of Stone River.  
 Joseph N. Baker,\* G, 99, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Kenesaw Mountain, '64, tr. June 21, '64, to A, 50 Regt., m. o. June, '65.  
 Joshua R. Bartlett, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed at Huff's Ferry, Tenn., Jan. 7, '63.  
 Frank Boley, enlisted from this township.  
 John A. Bonnell, F, 8, en. June 7, '61, dis. for dis. July 17, '62, at Columbus.  
 Eli Boozer, D, 111, en. Aug. 8, '62, killed in battle of Franklin, Tenn., Nov. 30, '64.  
 John Boozer, D, 111, en. Aug. 14, '62, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 Jeremiah Brandeberry, H, 49, en. Nov., '64, m. o. in Texas, Nov., '65.  
 John C. Brandeberry, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Phillip Brandeberry, E, 49, en. Aug. 12, '61, died at Camp Nevin, Ky., Nov. 5, '61.  
 Thomas C. Brandeberry, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.

\* There were five of the Baker brothers in the U. S. service. In addition to the three whose names appear above, Elisha M. Baker served in Company D, 5th Regiment, Missouri Cavalry, and John C. Baker in Company F, 47th Regiment, O. V. I., enlisting from Hancock county, September 26, 1864; m. o. June, 1865.

Thompson S. Brandeberry, H, 49, en. Feb. 21, '64, m. o. Nov. 30, '65, and dis. Dec. 28, '65.  
 Hiram Bredbenner, said to have died in the service.  
 Daniel Brobst, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed Nov. 14, '63, at Huff's Ferry, Tenn.  
 Samuel S. Bronson, B, 57, en. Oct., '62, m. o. near Vicksburg, Aug., '63, and ser. Co. E, 144.  
 T. J. Campbell, I, 111, en. Aug. 18, '62, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 Hugh Campbell, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, appt'd Cor. Sept. 4, '62, Serg't, March 1, '64, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 John Campbell, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John A. Cupp, H, 49, Corporal, Aug. 15, '61, served to Nov. 30, '65.  
 Philip C. Cupp, H, 49, en. Aug. 15, '61, dis. for dis. April 2, '62.  
 Samuel Cupp, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 James Copus, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John H. Copus, G, 21, en. Sept. 2, '61, served to July 25, '65.  
 Joseph Copus, G, 21, en. Feb. 1, '62, cap. at Chickamauga, dis. July 3, '65.  
 George Copus, G, 21, en. Feb. 1, '62, died at New Albany, Ind., July 20, '63.  
 Henry Copus, G, 21, en. Feb. 1, '62, died in Danville Rebel prison, Jan. 19, '64.  
 Trenton R. Copus, F, 29, Aug., '64, to July, '65, substitute.  
 Wesley Copus, E, 144, May, '64, to Aug., '64.  
 Shelby Curtiss, G, 57, en. Dec., '61, Cor. Nov., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 John Dunn, E, 144, 1 Serg. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Joseph Deeter, —, 57, en. Oct., '61 (first enlistment, April 6), was wounded in battle at Atlanta, Ga., July 22, '64.  
 O. Perry Drake, A, 21, en. Aug. 28, '61, m. o. July 25, '65, Veteran.  
 John T. Drake, B, 111, en. Aug. 8, '62, died at Louisville, Ky., Sept. 9, '63.  
 Josiah Drake, B, 111, en. Aug. 5, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, in action near Lenoir, Tenn., par. Nov. 20, '64, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 Robert Dunn, D, 128, en. Sept., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Frank W. Dunn, D, 128, en. Sept., '62, pro. Cor. March, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 George Edgar, E, 144, Serg., en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 David C. Fast, H, 49, en. Aug., '62, tr. to V. R. C. March 5, '64, May 13, '64, sent to Washington, D. C., as member of Co. H, 12 V. R. C., dis. June 29, '65.  
 Nathaniel Fife, E, 144, Corp., en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Clark Flaughner, H, 49, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June 16, '65.  
 Conrad Flaughner, H, 49, en. Aug., '62, pro. Serg. Dec., '64, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 Thornton Franks, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Albert Frankfather, H, 49, en. '61, with 1 Bat. Oct., '63, wounded at Nashville, Dec. 16, '64, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 George Frankfather, H, 49, en. Dec., '63, died at Chattanooga, Feb. 8, '64.  
 David Frankfather, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, pro. Serg. April, '65, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 Charles Frederick, H, 49, cap. near Nashville, m. o. Oct., '65.  
 James M. Frederick, H, 49, en. Feb., '64, wounded, June 21, '64, in action, at Kenesaw Mountain, Ga., dis. in June, '65, on Surg.'s cert. of dis.  
 Nathaniel Frederick, H, 49, en. Oct., '62, m. o. at San Antonio, Texas, Oct., '65.  
 William H. Frederick, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, appt'd Corpl. to date, July 1, '65, m. o. Nov. 30, '65, Veteran.  
 Solomon S. Frederick, H, 49, en. Feb. 22, '64, m. o. with Co. Nov. 30, '65.  
 Isaac Gordon, —, 57.  
 Reuben W. Gross, H, 57, en. Oct., '62, m. o. Aug., '63, near Camp Sherman, Miss.  
 John Hiller, F, 8, en. June, '61, m. o. July, '64.  
 Hiram Heiser, D, 111.  
 Conrad Heiser, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Francis Jacobs, E, 49, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Hiram Jacobs, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died March 30, '65, off New Berne, N. C.  
 Charles Jacobs, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Oliver P. Jacobs, E, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded Dec., '61, '62, again May 27, '64, dis. June, '65.

- Ephraim Jenkins, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Andrew Klingersmith, E, 144, Cor., en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jackson Lee, H, 49, en. Aug. 15, '61, wounded in battle of Chickamauga, Sept. 19, '63, and died Sept. 20, '63.  
 John Leathers, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. Oct. 9, '62, at battle of Lawrenceburg, Ky., returned to Co. Feb., '63, died at Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 20, '63.  
 Harrison Leathers, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, died at Vicksburg, Tenn., Sept. 2, '63.  
 Wesley Leathers, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William Leslie, B, 57, en. Sept., '61.  
 Robert Loe, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John W. Long, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, discharged Dec., '62.  
 William Longacre, B, 57, en. Oct., '61, died at Monterey, Tenn., June 15, '62.  
 Asa Loman, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, died at Benton Barracks, Mo., July 2, '63.  
 Jesse McCrory, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded Sept. 20, '63, tr. V. R. C. April, '64.  
 Daniel McCrory, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 Theodore McCullough, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 William McMurray, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John Mackey, C, 49, en. Aug., '61, tr. Co. H, in Oct., '61, dis. Sept., '62.  
 Joseph Mackey, -, 9 Ills. Cav., m. o. at close of service.  
 Emanuel Mocherman, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Horace Mocherman, C, 49, en. Feb., '64, served to Nov., '65.  
 Jacob Mocherman, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Jan. 26, '63.  
 Jefferson Mocherman, C, 49, en. March, '64, kd. at Pickett's Mills, May 27, '64.  
 John Marks, I, 68, Nov. '61, to July, '65.  
 John Mechley, F, 49, en. Feb., '64, wd. May 27, '64, dis. at Camp Dennison.  
 Levi D. Milbourn, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jacob H. Milbourn, F, 8, en. June 7, '61, m. o. July 13, '64.  
 Charles H. Milbourn, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, Sergeant, m. o. June, '65.  
 Jacob C. Miller, C, 49, Lt. Aug. 12, '61, tr. Co. D, May 20, '63, formerly of Co. E.  
 Adam Miller, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jacob Miller, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Henry F. Miller, H, 49, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 John W. Miller, C, 49, en. Aug., '62, tr. V. R. C. Jan. 20, '63.  
 Isaac Mincks, D, 72, en. Jan., '62, died in service.  
 Elias H. Monasmieth, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Henry Myers, E, 49, en. Aug. 12, '61, m. o. Sept. 5, '64.  
 William Myers, C, 49, en. Aug. 16, 1861, killed in battle of Stone River, Tenn., Dec. 31, '62.  
 Corydon Musser, H, 49, en. Oct., '62, died at Chattanooga, Feb. 2, '64.  
 William Musser, H, 49, en. Feb., '64, died at Vining Sta., Aug. 27, '64, of wounds.  
 Thomas B. Musser, H, 49, en. Nov., '62, wounded Sept. 4, '64, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 David S. Needham, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William Needham, G, 49, en. Feb. 29, '64, died at Cleveland, Tenn., Sept. 11, '64.  
 James Newlove, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 John H. Nusbaum, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed at Kenesaw Mt. June 27, '64.  
 Peter S. Painter, H, 49, en. Aug. 15, '61, wounded Nov. 25, '63, in battle of Missionary Ridge, Tenn., tr. V. R. C. April 10, '64.  
 William H. Redfern, E, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded May 27, '64, in battle at Pickett's Mills, Ga., apptd Serg. Feb. 1, '64, m. o. Nov. 30, '65. Veteran.  
 Joseph P. Redfern, B, 111, en. Aug. 5, '62, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 Jacob F. Richard, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. July, '65.  
 Charles Richard, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, Musician - appt. Prin. Musician Nov., '64.  
 Wm. S. Richard, E, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. Aug. 24, '64.  
 William Russell, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded Sept. 20, '63, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Benton Russell, F, 49, en. Feb., '64, died May 9, '64, at Nashville, Tenn.  
 Thomas Rosendale, E, 49, en. Jan. 1, '64, m. o. June 19, '65.  
 Frank R. Sherman, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Thomas J. Shanabarger, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, appt'd Corpl. Aug. 27, '62, and later Sergt., died Aug. 15, '63, from kick of a horse while home on furlough.  
 Alfred Simon, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Carolus Simon, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, died Jan. 20, '63, at Louisville, Ky., of wounds received in battle of Stone River, Tenn., Dec. 31, '62.  
 Daniel Simon, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, died at Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 5, '62.  
 Elias Simon, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Gideon Simon, E, 144, en. May, '64, Cor. m. o. Aug., '64.  
 George Simon, H, 49, en. Feb., '64, died Jan. 15, '65, at Louisville, Ky., of wounds received Dec. 16, '64, at battle of Nashville, Tenn.  
 John A. Simon, H, 49, en. Feb., '64, dis. May 18, '65, on Surg's cert. of dis.  
 Joshua Simon, H, 49, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Levi Simon, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded and captured May 27, '64, at battle of Pickett's Mills, Ga., par. Nov. 20, '64, returned to Co. March, '65, dis. Aug. 27, '65. Veteran.  
 Lawrence K. Soule, K, 182, en. Oct. 21, '64, m. o. to date, July 7, '65.  
 James Slater, C, 49, en. Feb., '64, wounded June 10, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Edmund L. Stove, H, 49, en. Aug. 28, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Joseph Stove, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64; was a soldier of the Mexican war. Later served on the U. S. war-ship "Merrimac," and as an officer on the U. S. frigate, "Raritan," and after the breaking out of the war on the "Unadilla."  
 John Stove, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William Stonebrook, E, 144, en. Co. H, 49, dis. July, '63, re-en. in 144 Regt.  
 Benton Smith, C, 49, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Nov. 30, '65.  
 Wash. Smith, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 M. G. Snyder, E, 144, en. May, '64, prom. Com.-Serg., m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Samuel Stackhouse, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jacob Stephens, I, 111, en. Aug., '62 (mustered as John), m. o. June, '65.  
 Eli Stull, -, 117, or 1, H, Art., served until June, '65.  
 Adam Stull, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, with artillery '63, killed near Atlanta, Aug. 13, '64.  
 Michael Stull, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., May 11, '63.  
 Charles Solether, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. Oct. 19, '63, at Louisville, Ky.  
 John Solether, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Joseph Urie, corp'l, B, 111, en. Aug. 6, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, in action near Lenoir, Tenn., died in Rebel prison at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 10, '64.  
 James D. Valance, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, paroled Dec., '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Joel Weaver, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John Whisler, H, 49, en. Aug., '62, wounded June 20, '64, dis. Dec., '64.  
 Rudy Whistler, H, 49, en. Aug. 15, '61, wounded May 27, '64, died July 14, '64.  
 John J. Whitacre, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Preston B. Whitacre, -, 51, drafted Oct. 3, '64, died on board the "Jennie Hopkins," Jan. 11, '65.  
 Daniel Whitmore, -, 104, Illinois Inf.  
 Joseph White, -, 82.  
 David Wiley, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Lewis Zeigler, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, died at Shiloh, Tenn. April 4, '62.

## CENTER TOWNSHIP.

The roster and record are based upon a list of soldiers, compiled by Prof. J. N. Baker, and pub-

lished in the *Daily Sentinel* of January 30, 1895. A few names were added to the list, and then the Adjutant-General's report searched for the record of each soldier.

Reuben Abbott, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Melville L. Abbott, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. June, '63.  
 Joseph Anderson, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. March, '62, and D, 86, June, '63, dis. dated Feb., '64.  
 Benj. W. Anderson, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 John A. Anderson, C, 86, en. May, '62, m. o. Sept., '62.  
 James D. Anderson, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Albert W. Anderson, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Raleigh, N. C., June 19, '65.  
 William O. Anderson, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, died Nov. 5, '64, at Louisville, Ky.  
 Henry E. Ashley, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 George Augustine, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, tr. to Batt. 21, L. A.  
 Hiram Augustine, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. as Corporal, July, '65.  
 Silas Augustine, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Thomas J. Avery, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Aug. 9, '62, and C, 144, com. 2d Lieut. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Amos Barr, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, died at Lexington, Ky., Nov. 28, '61.  
 John H. Barr, A, '67, en. Nov., '64, sub., m. o. Nov., '65.  
 John C. Barr, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap., par. '63, m. o. '65.  
 Robert H. Barr, I, '68, en. Oct., '61, re-en. in C, 144, appt. Sergt. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, m. o. March, '65.  
 Robert W. Barr, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Aug., '62.  
 Thomas W. Barr, G, 14, Sergt., Aug., '61, to July, '64.  
 Daniel Barr, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 William T. Barr, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. Dec., '63, m. o. May, '65.  
 William Bartells, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Alex. W. Boyce, D, 86, 6 months, en. C, 144, May to Aug., '64, en. in K, 185, Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Alonzo C. P. Boyce, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug. 31, '64.  
 Charles Bradley, D, '86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Henry Bostdorf, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died Jan. 12, '63, at Murfreesboro, Tenn., buried at Stone River, Tenn.  
 James N. Bradley, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Charles H. Brown, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Anthony Burns, A, 100, O. V. I.  
 David Carter, K, 185, en. C, 144, May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, en. in 185, Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Jeremiah Carter, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 John Carter, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, dis. at Atlanta, Sept., '64.  
 William Carter, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. May, '65.  
 Perry Carter, D, 11, en. June, '61, died at Carthage, Tenn., April 19, '63.  
 Charles Clough, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., ret. June, '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 William T. Cludy, —, 72, en. Dec., '61, en. 2, H. Art., served to close of war.  
 George W. Clutter, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, pro. Sergt., dis. for dis. July, '64.  
 Samuel Cooley, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Corporal, July, '65.  
 Henry Crass, L, 3, Cav., en. Sept., '61, died at Tusculumbia, Ala., June 25, '62.  
 John W. Crum, A, 49, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
 Martin S. Davenport, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 James Davis, K, 185, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 D. W. H. Day, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, pro. Capt., and A. Q. M., May, '64, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 John Devlin, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Aaron E. Dennis, 21, I. B. L. A., en. Dec., '62, died at Cumberland Gap, Nov., '63.  
 John Eldridge, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Robert Eldridge, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, cor. '62, Sergt., '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 John F. Elliott, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., ret. to Regt. April, '65, m. o. June, '65.  
 Sanford Fay, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.

James Freeman, E, 67, en. Jan., '64, abs. in hosp. Sept., 1, '65.  
 John Ford, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Thomas Ford, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. as Cor., June, '65.  
 Samuel Ford, K, 111.  
 James W. French, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 John Gibson, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Andrew Glenn, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, dis. April, '65. Veteran.  
 Thomas Glenn, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Cor. July, '65.  
 George W. Hartman, H, '67, en. Dec., '63, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Henry G. Hixon, C, 7, and C, 21, en. Feb., '62, dis. for dis. June, '64.  
 Wm. Hoagman.  
 Frank A. Ives, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Lee M. Klopfenstein, K, 185, and C, 144, en. in 144, May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64; en. in 185, Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Joseph Klopfenstein, A, 100, en. July, '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., ret. to regt. June, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Charles W. Lamb, G, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, re-en. in K, 185, Musician, in Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Cyrus S. Lamb, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. June, '65.  
 W. G. Lamb, M. D., I, 68, en. Nov., '61, pro. Com. Serg. Nov. 27, '61.  
 Joshua R. Lamb, K, 185, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 H. Lamb, H, 67, en. March, '61, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Timothy Lawler, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded Nov., '64, dis. for wounds, May, '65.  
 Daniel Liston, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. March, '62.  
 James Lowell, D, 86, O. V. I., died Dec. 31, '63, at Cumberland Gap, Tenn.  
 William Lowell, on gunboat on Ohio and Mississippi rivers.  
 Charles Lundy, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 James Lundy, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded July 9, '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 John R. Lundy, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Charles L. Moore, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. July, '63.  
 J. McCoy.  
 Robert Munn, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Conrad Noble, K, 185.  
 Fitzland D. Noble, C, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, m. o. March, '65.  
 Irving A. Noble, C, 7, en. June, '61, cap. at Cross Lanes, Va., Aug. 26, '61; ex. and m. o. July, '64. Also Lieut. and Capt., C, 182, m. o. July, '65.  
 William R. Noyes, C, 144, May, '64, to Aug., '64. Also Sergt. in K, 185 from Jan., '65, to m. o. of Co., Sept., '65.  
 Henry T. Nye, A, 14, en. July, '61, dis. for dis. April, '62, at Shiloh.  
 Andrew Olds, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed at Resaca May 14, '64.  
 Ferdinand Olds, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Dec., '62.  
 Henry Olds, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 George R. Pennell, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Corporal July, '65.  
 Noah H. Phillips, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, died at Hampton, Va., Aug. 16, '62.  
 David Philips, F, 25, en. Oct., '64, m. o. Oct., '65.  
 Aaron Phillips, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Devalson Pike, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died at Louisville, Ky., Jan. 5, '63.  
 H. H. Poe, I, 68, Capt. Dec., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 Daniel W. Poe, I, 111, com. 1st Lieut. Aug., '62, resigned March, '64.  
 George J. Poe, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded Nov. 14, '63, m. o. June, '65.  
 John J. Poe, C, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died in Salisbury prison Dec. 18, '64.  
 A. B. Poe, Chaplain, 72d O. V. I.  
 John Porter, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Chris. Porter, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. Jan., '63, en. K, 185, Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 David H. Richards, D, 86, en. Aug., '63, m. o. Feb., '64, en. C, 144, May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Charles H. Robinson, L, 3, Cav., en. Sept., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 Thomas Rue, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Britton Russell, K, 21, en. Aug., '62, wounded Aug. 11, '64, dis. for dis. June, '65.

Charles W. Russell, 21, I. B. L. A., en. March, '63, m. o. with battery, July, '65.  
 James Russell, D, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Aug. 4, '62.  
 John Russell, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, pro. Corp. and Sergt., dis. July, '65.  
 Joseph Russell, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, m. o. Jan., '65.  
 Archibald Sargent, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 John W. Sargent, G, 144, Musician from May to Aug., '64.  
 Wm. Shannon, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, tr. 1 Pa. L. Art.  
 Asher Simons, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., died in Richmond prison, Nov. 4, '63.  
 A. Shively, said to have been of 3, Cav., com. Col.  
 John Stacy, Musician 44th Indiana Infantry.  
 John J. Shiney, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John N. Stacy, H, 67, en. Dec., '63, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Wm. Stacy, K, 21, en. Sept., '62, pro. Cor. dis. June, '65.  
 James Stacy, I, 21 (3 mos.), from April to Aug., '61.  
 Wm. A. Stacy, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Wright O. Stacy, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Alonzo Sheffer, G, 189, en. Jan., '65, m. o. May, '65.  
 Wm. Smith, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Wm. F. Smith, C, 144, en. May, '64.  
 Albert Thurstin, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 A. E. Thurstin, C, 130, and in Navy, en. in 130, May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Stanley R. Thurstin, C, 130, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64, Musician.  
 Wesley S. Thurstin, D, 111, com. 1 Sergt. Co. K, Aug., '62, pro. Capt., May, '65, m. o. June, '65.  
 John Tracy, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Martin Tracy, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Louisville, Nov., '62.  
 Robert Underwood, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Gideon Underwood, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Henry Vallance, K, 21, en. Feb., '64, killed near Kenesaw Mt., May 31, '64.  
 John Vallance, K, 21, en. Feb., '64.  
 Geo. H. Vannette, H, 67, en. March 21, '64, m. o. June, '65, at Fortress Monroe hospital.  
 Samuel B. Vail, A, 49, en. Feb., '64, killed at Pickett's Mills, May 27, '64.  
 Charles P. Vail, A, 49, Musician, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 John Walters, , 21.  
 Julius Walker, K, 185, en. C, 144, May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, en. in 185, Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Morris Walker, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 William Walker, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., m. o. June, '65.  
 William Walker, G, 111, en. Dec., '63, tr. to Co. B, killed at Nashville, Dec. 15, '64.  
 Lyman Walker, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Joseph Winklepleck.  
 Rudolph Williams, A, 111, en. Aug., '62, pro. 2 Lieut. from Sergt.-Maj., Feb., '65, 1st Lieut. March, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 George W. Wright, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. as Corporal, July, '65.  
 John Wright, I, 21 (3 months), and 7 N. Y. H. Art.  
 Henry H. Yonker, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Madison Yonker, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.

## FREEDOM TOWNSHIP.

The foundation of this roster and record was made at Pemberville in September, 1895, when the commander and several comrades of the Grand Army Post, such as Messrs. Canfield, Fair, Fish, Hathaway, Davidson and others, reviewed the names of families residing within the

township boundaries before the war, and by the aid of memory ordered the majority of the following names to be recorded. Since that time the Adjutant-General's reports have been carefully searched, the records of soldiers added to the roster, and this roster and record form the result.

Pierson Abels, -, 72, buried in Chestnut Ridge Cemetery.  
 Ambrose Alexander, I, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Theodore Alexander, L, 3 Cav., en. Aug., '62, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Samuel Aultman, K, 21.  
 N. Brandeberry, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Ohio, Sept. 22, '63.  
 James Banks, K, 21, served full term.  
 Alfred Battels, K, 21, drafted Aug., '62, m. o. Aug., '63.  
 Aaron Basor.  
 W. Henry Basor, D, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. near Ripley, Miss., m. o. June, '65.  
 John Basor, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, injured in wreck Sept., '63.  
 Samuel Basor, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept. 22, '63.  
 Napoleon B. Benedict, M, 3 Cav., en. Nov., '61, wounded, died at Vining Sta., Ga., Sept. 3, '64.  
 Samuel Bolles, G, 1 Lieut. Art., en. Aug., '62, killed at Franklin, Nov. 30, '64.  
 Geo. Bowers, injured in wreck Sept. 22, '63, near Perrysburg, Ohio.  
 Wm. Bruning, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Daniel Bushnell, I, 21, April, '61, to m. o. Aug., '61; then en. in G, I, O. L. Art., Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Sherman Bushnell, K, 21, en. Aug., '62, wounded, died at Cincinnati, April 9, '63.  
 Augustus Calkins, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Alfred B. Carey, I, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Thorn Case, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, wounded at Atlanta, died July 22, '64.  
 Clark Chapin.  
 Henry Claymyer, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Henry L. Clifford, L, 3 Cav., en. Dec., '63, ap. Cor., m. o. June, '65.  
 Jonathan Conser, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Ohio, Sept. 22, '63.  
 John Cornwell, A, 100, en. July, '62, captured at Limestone Sta., killed in explosion of "Sultana," April 27, '65.  
 Joseph Crays, injured in wreck Sept. 22, '63, while *en route* to camp at Toledo.  
 Samuel Crays, 21, 72 and 100, en. Co. I, April 21, m. o. Aug., '61, en. D, 72, Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62, said to have re-enlisted.  
 Henry Cusler, -, 189.  
 Thomas Devine, C, 72, Musician, en. Nov., '61, m. o. Dec., '64.  
 Henry Deihl, E, 144, mustered as a Musician.  
 Daniel Dwyer, L, 2, H. Art., en. July, '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 John Dusing, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, pro. Serg't, '64, 2 Lieut. Nov., '64, 1 Lieut. Feb., '65.  
 Daniel Duty, -, 189.  
 Richard Eggleston, soldier of 1812, buried in Scotch Ridge Cemetery.  
 Elisha Fair, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, died at Murfreesboro, May 7, '63.  
 Leonard Fair, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, died at Cincinnati, Feb. 22, '62.  
 Isaac Fair, K, 21, en. Aug. '62, served until June, '65.  
 Joseph Finley, D, 72, en. Nov., '61, killed near Ripley, Miss., June, '64.  
 William Finlay, 3 Cav., served full term.  
 Peter Fisher, K, 21, en. Aug. '61, died at Nashville, Sept. 22, '63.  
 Daniel Fish, G, 1, L. Art., en. March, '64, pro. Corp., m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Henry Fish, -, 189, served full term.  
 James Fish, G, 1, L. Art., en. March, '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 William Fish, K, 21, en. Sept. '61, m. o. Sept., '64.

Henry French, —, 189.  
 Albert Froncy, C, 144, en. May, '64; served as 1st Serg't to Aug., '64.  
 Joseph Fuller, a soldier of 1812, buried in township.  
 Cassander Floyd, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John Hathaway, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, injured in wreck Sept. 22, '63.  
 Philip Harnes, K, 21.  
 Elisha Harris, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62, died at Nashville, Nov. 25, '62.  
 Ransom Harris, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
 Philip Harnes, K, 21, served full term.  
 Adolph Hawkins, a soldier of 1812, buried on or near the township line.  
 Daniel Hathaway, a soldier of 1812, buried on or near the township line.  
 Henry Heckman, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '64.  
 Henry W. Hoodlebrink, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Joseph H. Hornbeck, K, 21, and Lieut. in 2 Ala. Cav., en. in 21, Aug., '61, pro. 1 Lieut., 1 Ala. Regt., July, '62.  
 Herman S. Isbell, I, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 William Isbell, E, 144, served full term.  
 Martin Johnson, died in Camp Dennison.  
 Augustus Keel, C, 144.  
 Albert Keyes, soldier of 1812, buried in the Fish cemetery.  
 Justis Keyes, G, 1, L. Art., en. Aug., '62, died at Nashville, Dec. 30, '62.  
 Samuel Keyes, F, 144, en. May, '63, m. o. Aug., '64, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept. 22, '63.  
 Ephraim Keyes, G, 1, L. Art., en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '62.  
 Cyrus M. Kelly, L, 2, H. Art., en. July, '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Newton Kelly.  
 David Keeson, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John Kistner, B, 128, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Royal F. Lewis, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, tr. to Engineer Corps Aug., '64, died in Dec., 1895.  
 Henry Linkey, —, 144.  
 Henry Long, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Ohio, Sept. 22, '63.  
 George C. Long, G, 1, L. Art., en. March, '64, dis. for dis. Oct., '64.  
 Wallace Main and Sanford Main were in the service.  
 Elihu H. Mason, K, 21, en. Co. I, 21, m. o. Aug., '61, en. Co. K, re-en. Aug., '61, pro. 1 Lieut., Feb., '63, participated in the Mitchell Raid, escaped the death penalty, granted medal by Congress, July, '62.  
 Geo. McCrary, Sr., served in Mexican war.  
 Geo. McCrary, Jr.  
 Alfred McCreary.  
 Vinel E. McCrary, E, 9, Cav., en. Aug., '63, m. o. July, '65.  
 John McMean, 3 Cav.  
 Isaac McCone, K, 21, en. Aug., '62, dis. June, '65.  
 Francis Mosely, died at Camp Dennison.  
 Thomas Mosley, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, died Oct. 12, '62, at Nashville.  
 George Myers, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, killed near Kenesaw Mt., May 31, '64.  
 Charles Myers, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. as Corp., July, '65.  
 Silas H. Munsell, C, 144, served full term.  
 John Myers, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, killed at Stone River, Dec. 31, '62.  
 Abel F. Norris, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Albert L. Norris, G, 1 L. A., en. March, '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Nathan Orwig.  
 Andrew and John Ogle, were in the service.  
 Alexander J. Ogle, D, 72, en. Nov., '61, m. o. Jan. 1, '63.  
 John Patterson, K, 21, com. 2d Lieut. Sept., '61, pro. 1st Lieut. Co. C, Dec. 20, '62.  
 Sydney R. Patterson, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. April, '63.  
 Stillwell Pember, K, 21, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Dallas S. Pember, L, 2 H. Art., en. Aug., '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Dennis J. Pember, L, 2 H. Art., en. July, '63, died Feb. 14, '64, in Ky.  
 Orange H. Powers, L, 2 H. Art., en. July, '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 James Powers, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died Dec. 8, '64, in Andersonville.

Joseph J. Peoples, L, 2 H. Art., en. June, '63, died Oct. 15, '64, in Tenn.  
 Martin Powers, K, 21, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. July, '63.  
 Simon Price, L, 2 H. Art., en. June, '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Hiram H. Powers, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, tr. to V. R. C., April, '64.  
 Thomas Price, known to have served in army..  
 Ephraim Purcell, K, 21, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Chickamauga, died in Danville prison, April 26, '64.  
 John Purcell, D, 72, en. March, '64, cap. near Ripley, Miss., died in Andersonville, Aug. 31, '64.  
 B. F. Purcell, D, 72, en. Nov., '61, died at Memphis, Tenn., July 15, '63.  
 Evan Reese, D, 72, Oct., '61, dis. for dis. March 22, '62.  
 Byron Rockwood, I, 21 (3 mos.), and K, 21, en. for three years, Sept., '61, wounded July 19, '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Morris Reese, D, 72, en. Oct., '61, pro. 2d Lieut. Sept., '62, 1st Lieut., April, '64, cap. near Ripley, Miss., m. o. April, '65.  
 Frank Rogers, K, 21, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 John Reese, D, 72, en. Sept., '62, cap. near Ripley, Miss., died at Willet's Point, N. Y., April 5, '65.  
 Oliver A. Sanders, I, 21 (3 mos.), K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. June, '62.  
 Emery M. Sanders, I, 21, en. April, '61 (3 mos.), m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Charles H. Sanders, I, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Chauncey Stephens, I, 21 (3 mos.), K, 21, en. in Co. I, April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Geo. B. Scott, I, 21, and 3 Cav., en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, re-en. in L, 3 Cav., Dec., '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Henry Stine, served in the 144th.  
 Thomas Sawyer, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, died at Louisville, Ky., Feb. 6, '62.  
 Philip Smith, Capt. E, 144, May to Aug., '64.  
 Henry Scherman, served in the 111th.  
 Fred Schroder, 5, U. S. Inf., died in Andersonville prison.  
 Daniel Schubert, served in some regiment.  
 Charles Stahler, inj. in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept. 22, '63.  
 Levi and Joseph Tucker.  
 William E. Tucker, I, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61. E, 49, en. Aug., '61, dis. Feb., '62.  
 Edward Tucker, served three months.  
 Peter Trepanier, served in some regiment.  
 John Vanetten, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Solomon Van Gilder, soldier of 1812, buried in Scotch Ridge Cemetery. (See history of cemetery in chapter on Webster township.)  
 W. B. Wicker, I, 21, K, 21, com. Lieut., en. for short term, April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, en. for long term in Co. K as 1st Lieut., pro. Capt. Co. E, May 13, '63.  
 Fred Wilber, I, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 David N. Wetmore, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. Sept. 21, '63, m. o. January, '65.  
 Ebenezer Wetmore, K, 21, en. Aug., '61.  
 Elbridge Wetmore, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, m. o. March, '65.  
 Martin I. Wetmore, I, 21, and K, 21, en. in latter and served full term.  
 Taylor Wickersham.  
 Thomas J. Wickersham, K, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Dec., '61.

## GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP.

The list of soldiers, on which the following roster and record are placed, was written by Capt. John McLain and others, while the record was compiled from the Adjutant-General's reports, and from statements made by soldiers of Grand Rapids, Weston and Milton townships, and submitted to Dr. Hill, B. F. Kerr, John McLain and other veterans.



- Michael Amandus, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, killed near Kenesaw Mt., June 29, '64.
- Wesley Arnold, A, 100, en. Dec., '63, tr. V. R. C., Jan., '65.
- B. L. Ashley, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Sergt. Aug., '64.
- W. H. Barton, B, 21 (3 mos.), Apr. to Aug., '61.
- Finley Barton, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, Musician, cap. Aug. 13, '64, in action near Berryville, died in prison at Salisbury, N. C., Nov. 13, '64.
- William R. Barton, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, wounded July 9, '64, in battle of Monocacy, Md., m. o. Aug. 31, '64.
- J. I. Barton, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. Sept. 8, '63, in action at Limestone Sta., died in Libby Prison, Dec. 3, '63.
- Christopher Baker, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- W. A. Benschoter, I, 144, en. May, '64, pro. 2 Lieut., m. o. Sept., '64.
- J. S. Benschoter, F, 86, en. July 4, '63, m. o. with Company, Feb. 10, '64.
- J. E. Bassett, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- H. C. Bortel, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.
- John H. Bortel, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, pro. Sergt., Oct., '64, from Cor., m. o. June, '65.
- Wesley Bortel, I, 144, served May to Aug., '64.
- Lewis Bortle, B, 21 (3 mos.), April to Aug., '61.
- E. W. Bozzard, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Feb., '65.
- Henry Bossard, H, 68, en. Dec., '63, died at Jeffersonville, Ind., Aug., '64.
- Levi Bortel, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62.
- Solomon Bortel, H, '68, died near Pittsburg Landing.
- Eli Bresler, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Feb., '63.
- Isaac N. Brown, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Limestone Sta., ret. Jan., '65, m. o. June, '65.
- I. Newton Brown, H, 68, en. Oct. 28, '61, m. o. Oct. 28, '64.
- Matthew Brown, H, 68, en. Nov. 8, '61, apptd. Corpl. Nov. 1, '64, m. o. July 10, '65.
- Samuel Brown, H, 68, en. Oct. 5, '61, apptd. Corpl. July 23, '64, m. o. July 10, '65. Veteran.
- Thomas D. Campbell, F, 86, Musician, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.
- B. M. Campbell, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64, served also in D. 111.
- John H. Campbell, D, 111, en. Aug. '62, resigned 2nd Lieut. Jan., '64.
- John Carder, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, Wagoner, m. o. Sept., '64.
- O. C. Carr, B, 21 (3 mos.), Captain from April to Aug. '61.
- Milo Caton, H, 21 (3 mos.), com. Sept. 19, '61, cap. at Chickamauga, ret. May, '65, res'd. June, '65.
- Alpheus C. Davis, H, 68, en. Dec., '63, died Feb. 22, '64, at Vicksburg.
- William Davis, D, 111, en. Aug. '62, dis. for dis. Aug., '63.
- Charles W. Davis, A, 128, en. Aug., '64, m. o. June, '65.
- Wm. Deputy, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died in Andersonville, May 6, '65.
- Levi Dressback, B, 100, en. Aug., '62, w'd. at Resaca, cap. near Atlanta, ret. May, '65, m. o. June, '65.
- David Donaldson, I, 144, en. May, '64, apptd. Cor., m. o. Aug., '64.
- Alexander P. Donaldson, H, 49, en. Aug. 15, '61, appt. Cor. Oct. 5, '63, killed May 27, '64, in battle of Pickett's Mills, Ga. Veteran.
- Ebenezer Donaldson, Sergt. H, 21, en. Sept. 2, '61, m. o. Sept. 19, '64.
- George Ervin, en., but was discharged at Toledo in Aug., '26.
- John A. Ervin, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., ret. June, '64, m. o. June, '65.
- Sylvester T. Everett, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.
- David Finkenbinder, H, 21, served until '64, re-en. in C, 14, Feb., '64, wounded at Atlanta, m. o. Aug., '65.
- A. B. Fuller, H, 68, en. Dec., '63, died at Jeffersonville, Ind., June 21, '64.
- Henry Fortney, I, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, par., died at Baltimore, March 24, '65.
- Andrew Fortney, H, 65, en. Jan., '64, dis. for dis. June, '65.
- David Fortney, B, 21, 3 mos., April to Aug., '61.
- S. J. Frankfather, , 21 and 68, in B, 21, April to Aug. '61, en. H, 68, Nov., '61, m. o. July, '65.
- Henry Frankfather, 21 and 86. In B, 21, April to Aug., '61, en. F, 86, June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.
- Richard Gallagher, B, 21, Cor. from June 12 to Aug. 12, '61. O. Gallagher, died shortly after the war.
- Austin Gallagher, H, 68, en. Jan., '64, died Feb. 18, '64, at Vicksburg.
- Henry Gorwood, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Feb., '63.
- Joseph Galus, served in some regiment until his death at Prestonburg, Ky.
- Geo. C. Gilmore, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Cor. Aug., '64.
- Emanuel Guyer, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, appointed Sergt. Feb., '64, wounded at Franklin, Tenn., Nov., '64, m. o. May, '65.
- Daniel Guyer, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Joseph Guyer, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Cor. Aug., '64.
- Washington Guyer, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Edward R. Hinsdale, B, 21 (3 mos.), 1st Sergt., April to Aug., '61.
- Henry Hersh, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- William Heeter, A, 128 (Guards), en. Aug. 22, '64, m. o. June 9, '65.
- Daniel Huffman, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, placed in prison at Culpeper Aug. 15, '64. Ret.
- Jerry E. Hoffman, H, 68, en. Feb., '64; m. o. July, '65.
- William Hunneywell, B, 21 (3 mos.), April to Aug., '61, died in service.
- James Hunter, B, 21 (3 mos.), April to Aug., '61.
- Hiram A. Hunter, B, 21 (3 mos.), April to Aug. '61.
- Samuel Holder, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Rufus Irwin, H, 68, en. Jan., '63, m. o. July, '65.
- J. D. Justice, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- James E. Kerr, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. as 1st Sergt., Aug. 24, '64.
- Wm. B. Kerr, H, 68, en. Dec. 4, '61, appt'd Cor. Dec. 20, '61, Sergt. July 23, '64, m. o. July 10, '65. Veteran.
- George W. Keller, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., ret. June, '64, wounded Aug. 6, '64, tr. to V. R. C., m. o. July, '65.
- Zachariah Keller, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Geo. Kimberlin, I, 144, com. 2 Lieut. May, '64, m. o. Aug. 31, '64.
- Jacob Kimberlin, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, as Corporal.
- John Kimberlin, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. Aug. 31, '64.
- Lewis Laskey, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. March, '63.
- S. S. Laskey, B, 21, April to Aug., '61.
- John Lamb, B, 21, April to Aug., '61.
- George Lamb, H, 68, en. Nov., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.
- Daniel Long, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.
- George Long, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.
- John Long, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.
- Peter Long, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Dec., '64. Re-en. K, 185, in Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.
- Samuel Long, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. July, '65.
- Isaiah Long, I, 144, en. May, '64, cap. at Monocacy, m. o. Sept. 20, '64.
- Levi Long, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Jacob Long, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Adam Long, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.
- James Maher, H, 68, en. Nov., '61, m. o. July, '65.
- Wilson S. Marks, H, 68, en. Nov., '61, pro. from Cor. to Sergt., m. o. July, '65.
- James M. Marks, H, 68, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62.
- Samuel Matthias, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- John McLain, D, 111, en. Aug. 8, '62, m. o. June 29, '65.
- Samuel McLain, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, cap. Aug. 13, '64, in action near Berryville, Va., died in Rebel prison at Salisbury, N. C., Dec. 19, '64.
- Benjamin Macklin, H, 68, en. Dec., '61, tr. 8, O. Battery, Dec., '62, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Robert B. Mead, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, pro. 1 Sergt., pro. 2 Lieut., Nov., '62, m. o. Oct., '64.
- A. Curtice McDonald, B, 21, April to Aug., '61. Killed at Stone River.
- Silas McDonald, B, 21, April to Aug., '61.
- John McKee, I, 144, Capt., from May 2, to Aug. 31, '64, m. o. with Co.
- James Motley (recorded Motter), D, 111, Aug., '62, to Dec., '62.
- J. N. Morrison, F, 86, en. June, '63, dis. for dis. Aug., '63.

John H. Morrison, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, died Nov. 28, '64, in Andersonville.  
 John Mowan, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 John H. Mailey, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 William A. Malley, C, 128 (G ds), en. May, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 George Murray, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Silas Morehead, H, 68, en. Nov., '61, m. o. as Corp. July, '65.  
 J. A. McDougal, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 John E. McGowan, B, 21 (3 mos.), and 2 Lieut., 21, April to Aug., '61, com. Capt. of D, 111, Aug., '62, pro. Major 1 U. S. H. Art. (Col.), March, '64, br. Brig. Gen. March, '65, pro. Col. Sept. 5, '65, m. o. March, '66.  
 Albert Newell, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Adelbert Newell, F, 14, en. Jan., '64, wounded, m. o. July, '65.  
 Edward Neifer, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65, Corporal.  
 Con. H. Noble, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. May, '65.  
 Geo. E. Olney, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Glasgow, Ky., July 25, '63.  
 Thomas Older, B, 21, April to Aug., '61, and '63.  
 Barnet Older, I, 68, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Aug., '62.  
 Silas S. Older, I, 68, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62.  
 Caleb Older, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Daniel Peugh, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. May, '62.  
 Leonard Patridge, B, 21, April to Aug., '61, en. 68, died July 5, '62.  
 Enos J. Patridge, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. V. R. C., Nov., '63.  
 Daniel W. Peugh, E, 185, com. 2 Lieut., Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 J. L. Peugh, is credited with service.  
 David M. Peugh, B, 21, April to Aug., '61.  
 William Peters, C, 128 (Guards), en. Aug., '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Harry Peters, H, 68, en. Dec., '63, m. o. July, '65.  
 Tilman Peters, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Henry Peters, F, 86 (6 mos.), en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64, and K, 185, from Jan. to Sept., '65.  
 R. L. Pratt, B, 21, April to Aug., '61, and 111.  
 Joseph Powers, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, pro. Sergt. from 2 M. Sergt., m. o. '65.  
 William A. Pryor, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, pro. 1 Sergt. to 2 Lieut., May, '62, resigned Feb., '63.  
 Abraham Reams, D, 111, Aug., '62, June, '65.  
 John F. Reams, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 Noah Reams, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 Alex Rowland, D, 111, en. '62, pro. 1 Sergt. May, '64, wounded Franklin, Tenn., promoted 2 Lieut. June, '65, m. o. June, '65.  
 Thomas D. Rowland, H, 68, en. Oct. '62, m. o. as Corporal June, '65.  
 Thomas Sabin, B, 21 and 68, en. 21 April, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 John Sabin, I, 144, May to Aug., '64.  
 Martin Shafner, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 Thomas Scott, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John Snyder, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Israel Snider, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Isaac B. Snively, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, w'd at Franklin, m. o. June, '65.  
 R. A. Snively, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Jacob Smith, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Benjamin Sheppard, H, 68, killed at Atlanta July, '64.  
 Josephus Stout, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 T. J. Sterling, F, 86, en. June, '63, com. 1 Lieut., July, '63, res. Oct., '63.  
 Francis S. Steel, B, 21 (3 mos.) and H, 68, en. Nov., '61, killed at Atlanta, July 22, '64.  
 Zebedee C. Stout, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., Jan. 8, '63.  
 Robert Vancar, F, 86, en. June, '63, dis. for dis. Aug., '63.  
 Eli Vanhorn, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. Aug. 31, '64.  
 Isaac Vanhorn, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, was a prisoner of war, confined at Salisbury, N. C., and at Belle Isle, m. o. March, '65.  
 Austin C. Vanhorn, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Andrew Vanhorn, started from Indiana, but belonged to this township.  
 John VanNewkirk, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 C. E. Vorhes, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 S. F. Vorhes, F, 86 (6 mos.), en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.

J. J. Vorhes, B, 21, and 68, 1 Lieut., 21, April to Aug., '61, en. H, 68, Oct., '61, com. Capt., Dec., '61, res. Dec., '62.  
 W. A. Ward, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, pro. 1 Sergt., July, '64, 1 Lieut., Jan., '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Lewis Witherow.

The cemeteries of the township contain the remains of veterans of former wars, namely: J. N. Morrison (a soldier of the Revolution), Rev. Henry Kimberlin, Abiram Bassett, James Ross, Sr., John Rowland, Sr., Benjamin Atkinson, and Daniel Rice (one of Rogers' men), soldiers of 1812-13; Capt. D. M. McKinley, J. J. Vorhes, Edward Boggs and Daniel Heath, of the Mexican war.

## HENRY TOWNSHIP.

This roster of soldiers is based on the memory of veterans now residing within the boundaries of Henry township, and on the reports of the Adjutant-General of Ohio. The list was submitted to Messrs. B. L. Peters and Hugh Campbell, of North Baltimore. Many soldiers who came into the township after the war are referred to in the sketch of the Grand Army Posts of North Baltimore and Hoytville, and in the Biographies.

Chauncy Bishop.  
 Josiah Boyer, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., Nov. 27, '62.  
 George W. Beaver, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, died in Andersonville, April 23, '64.  
 George Colwell, H, 192, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 John K. Davis, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Loudon, Tenn., Sept. 9, '63.  
 James Evilsizer, H, 67, en. Feb., '62, dis. July, '65.  
 George W. Evilsizer, I, 161, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 William Evilsizer, I, 161, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Samuel Grant, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, Nov., '63, m. o. May, '65.  
 William Hough, H, 67, en. Nov. 23, '61, died of the measles at Martinsburg, Va., Aug., '62.  
 Henry D. Hough, G, 21, en. Sept., '61, killed at Chickamauga, Sept. 20, '63.  
 Amos O. Kennell, G, 21, en. Feb., '62, wounded near Vining Sta., Ga., dis. Feb., '65.  
 Abraham D. Kennell, H, 67, en. Nov. 23, '61, apptd. Cor. May, '64, dis. on Surgeon's cert. of dis. Sept., '65.  
 Joseph Lawrence, F, 54, en. Dec., '61, dis. for dis. Aug., '62.  
 John H. McMahon, K, 118, en. Oct., '62, tr. to I, 183, June, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Lewis McKinsey, G, 21, en. Sept., '61, died in Alabama, May 5, '62.  
 William McKinsey.  
 Joseph McKinsey, G, 21, en. Sept., '61, Cor. April, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Samuel McKinsey, G, 21, en. Sept., '61, died at Athens, Ala., July 12, '62.  
 Joseph Musgrove.  
 William Musgrove, G, 21, en. Feb., '62, dis. for dis. Aug. 9, '62.  
 Elam B. Norris, I, 144, en. Feb., '64, tr. to F, 183.  
 Elmer Norris.  
 John C. Peters, I, 161, en. May, '64, m. o. with Co. Sept. 2, '64.  
 John Rasley, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Feb. 11, '65.

Delmer Wilson.

Scott Wilson, H, 192, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.

Israel West, B, 111, en. July, '62, transferred to V. R. C.

John Wickle, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Dec. 15, '62.

Martin Wickle, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, died at Cumberland, Md., Feb. 21, '62.

## JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

The soldiers sent out from Jackson township, from April, 1861, to the close of the war of the Rebellion, are named in the following roster and record, suggested by Allen Ferguson and brother, Messrs. Apger, Dunn and other soldiers, now residents of the township.

Samuel J. Anderson.

Anderson Apger, -, 21.

Henry B. Apger, G, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.

Geo. W. Beaver, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, died in Andersonville, Apr. 23, '64.

William Butler, L, 1, H. Art., en. June, '63, m. o. July, '65.

Milton Cranmer, G, 21 (3 mos.).

W. C. Cranmer, G, 21, en. April, '61, for three months, and Sept., '61, for three years.

Solon Davis, I, 68, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Nov., '64, at Nashville.

George Dean, -, 21.

Joseph Dean, -, 21.

Moses Dubbs, B, 111, com. 2d. Lieut., July, '62, resigned Jan., '63.

Lewis F. Dubbs, I, 68, Lieut., com. Oct., '64, resigned, April 14, '63.

Elijah T. Dunn, G, 21 (3 mos.).

Rev. J. B. Dunn, Chaplain, 161, com. May, '64, pro. from private, May 27, officiated only a short time.

Allen S. Ferguson, G, 21, en. April 26, '61, m. o. Aug. 12, '61, and L, 1st H. Art., Artificer, en. July, '63, m. o. July, '65.

John Ferguson, G, 21, en. April 26, '61, m. o. Aug. 12, '61, K, 11th, en. Aug. 13, '62, apptd. Cor. Feb., '63, Sergt. Nov., '64, m. o. June, '65.

James M. Ferguson, L, 1st H. Art., en. July, '63, m. o. July, '65.

Samuel M. Ferguson, F, 29, en. Aug., '64, substitute, m. o. May, '65.

James Ferguson, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. March, '63, on Surg's cert. of dis.; L, 1st H. Arty., en. July 7, '63, injured Oct. 29, '63, R. R. accident, Ky. Central railway, dis. Feb. 15, '64, on Surg's cert. of dis.

John E. Freeman, L, 3, Cav., en. Oct., '61, m. o. Dec., '64.

Jacob Hacket, L, 1, H. Art. en. June, '63, died at Camp Nelson, Ky, Jan., 5, '64.

William Hacket, B, 3, Cav., en. Dec., '63, m. o. July, '65, said to have served in 11th.

George Kline, D, 192, en. Feb. 13, '65, m. o. with Co. Sept., '65.

Henry Kline, B, 111, en. Aug. 6, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, in action near Lenoir, Tenn., died in Rebel prison at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 17, '64.

Albert Kline, B, 111, en. Aug. 6, '62, died at Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 22, '64.

Demas Leatherman, D, 161, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.

James F. Meeks, Asst. Sur. 49, served from July, '61, to Oct., '65.

Wayne Mapes, D, 71, en. Nov., '61.

John Mayes, Jr.

James Mayes.

Robert Mitchell, L, 1, H. Art., en. July, '63, m. o. July, '65.

Aaron B. Mitchell, G, 21.

Andrew Scowten, a drafted man, is said to have died at Savannah.

John Shaftstahl, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. at Bowling Green, Dec. 7, '62.

James Tyner, G, 21 (3 mos. and 3 yrs.), en. '61, wounded July 9, '64, m. o. Aug. 3, '65.

John Weis, G, 21, 3 months, who afterward shot a nephew of John Morgan, and was killed by the guerrillas.

Peter Wyckoff, -, 21 (3 years).

William H. Waltman, G, 21.

## LAKE TOWNSHIP.

The following names were obtained from Messrs. Bailey, Grover, Phiels, Beery, and other veterans at Millbury, Walbridge, Moline and Latchie. The records were added from the Ohio Military Reports, and all submitted in typescript, for correction and revision. The rosters were again compared with Troy and Perrysburg lists, and are now declared as nearly correct as they can be made.

V. H. Ault, served in one of the artillery regiments.

Lewis Aitken, B, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Charles Aitkins, B, 182.

Henry Berge, B, 182, en. Sept., '64, died at Nashville, Tenn., March 22, '65.

James Brennan, -, 100.

Henry Brown, named as unassigned recruit.

John Beltz, H, 14, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65, as Beely.

John Beltz, Jr., B, 67, en. Nov., '61, dis. Oct., '62, for disability.

Lewis Beltz, served in an Ohio command.

C. F. Beltz, B, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Wm. J. Bailey, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded May 14, '64, m. o. June, '65.

Jacob Baker, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, cap. June 11, '64, m. o. June, '65.

George C. Boice, B, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Charles Blackburn, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.

John Brennan, C, 67, en. Nov., '64, tr. to Co. G, m. o. Nov., '65.

John Bush, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.

John Crago, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, Cor. Nov., '64, m. o. June, '65.

John Crago, B, 26, en. Feb., '64, died at Nashville, Tenn., March 25, '64.

Isaac Crago, B, 26, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Oct., '65.

Frank M. Davenport, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded Nov. 30, '64, m. o. May, '65.

Alfred Dean, I, 21, en. Sept., '61, cap. Sept. 20, '63.

David S. Dean, E, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.

George Douglass, F, 8, en. June, '61, died in Virginia, Aug. 31, '61.

Anton Defenthaler, B, 189, en. Feb. 13, '65, m. o. Sept. 28, '65.

Giles Easton, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.

William Furry, Corp., E, 72, en. Nov. 10, '61, wounded May 19, '63, at siege of Vicksburg, Miss., cap. June 11, '64, near Ripley, Miss., was a prisoner of war for nine months, confined at Andersonville, Ga., Florence, S. C., and at Lawton; m. o. March, '65.

George Furry, G, 189, en. Feb. 14, '65, apptd. 1st Sergt. from private March 5, '65, pro. to Sergt.-Major July 4, '65, m. o. Sept., '65.

John Furry, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.

Jacob H. Furry, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, apptd. Sergt. Feb., '62, wounded in battle of Shiloh, Tenn., April 6, '62, dis. Aug. 21, '62, on Surgeon's cert. of dis., re-en. Feb. 29, '64, dis. Sept. 11, '65.

A. L. Freeman, E, 100, en. July, '62, wounded at Utoy Cr., m. o. June, '65.

Azra Freeman, B, 100, en. July, '62, died April 14, '63, buried at Lexington, Ky.

John Furgeson, E, '72, en. Nov., '61.  
 Joseph Furgeson, C, 72, en. Dec., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
 Thomas Furgeson, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Geo. W. Finch, E, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Michael Getz, B, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 George Grass, H, 126, substitute, killed at Opequan, Va., Sept. 19, '64.  
 George A. Grover, D, 34, en. July, '61, tr. to 36th Inf., served until Feb., '65.  
 James Gonder, B, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 W. H. Hamilton, B, 67, and 182, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. June, '62.  
 Alex. Hamilton, B, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Nov., '62.  
 Caleb H. Haines, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Sanford S. Haines, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. by death, Jan. 1, '63, in Kentucky.  
 N. S. Haines, E, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. in Miss., June 11, '64, died in Andersonville, Jan. 1, '65.  
 John Holmes, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. May, '65.  
 Thomas Holmes, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed Jan. 22, '64, at Knoxville, Tenn.  
 Harrison H. Hower, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Joseph A. Harpel, I, 68, en. Oct., '61, Cor., m. o. Oct., '65.  
 Henry W. Harpel, I, 68, en. Oct., '61.  
 Henry R. Harpel, I, 68, en. Oct., '62, m. o. May, '65.  
 James Harpel, killed by accident in '62.  
 Philip R. Harpel, G, 27, en. July, '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 Daniel L. Haggerty, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, cap. in Miss., June, '64, died in Andersonville, Feb. 7, '65.  
 Louis Hugonard, D, 67, en. Sept., '64, m. o. May, '65.  
 Jacob Isch, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Fred. Isch, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, died at Huntsville, Ala., April 5, '65.  
 B. H. Johnston, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Isaac Jeffery, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Sherman A. Jackson, E, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. in Miss., June, '64, died in Andersonville, Jan. 10, '65.  
 William Kurfis, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 James H. LaFarree, C, 21, en. April, '61, dis. June, '61, on Surg's cert. of dis., G, 189, Serg't, Feb., '65, to Sept., '65.  
 William LaFarree, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Philip G. Loop, B, 67, en. Feb., '64, wounded May 10, '64, dis. Nov., '64.  
 Samuel Lusher, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, died Jan. 27, '63, at Corinth, Miss.  
 David Lusher, G, 189, en. Feb. 14, '65, m. o. Sept. 28, '65.  
 Silas McCarthy, E, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. May, '64.  
 John Maxfield, E, 14, en. Oct., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Jacob Miller, B, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Jacob Moore, K, 111, en. Aug. 15, '62, died Jan. 25, '63, at Bowling Green, Ky.  
 Edwin A. Mercer, B, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis., July, '62.  
 Joseph Moore, K, 25, en. Feb. 26, '64, appt'd Corp'l, Nov. 5, '64, wounded Dec. 7, '64, in battle of Deveau's Neck.  
 Fred McElliott, B, 14, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 John McLargan, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 James McLargan, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded at Stone River, died June 20, '63, at Nashville.  
 Fred McLargan, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded July 9, '64, m. o. July, '63.  
 John Marsh, E, 72, en. Dec. 25, '61, dis. Sept., '62, on Surg's cert. of dis.  
 Erastus W. Norton, B, 67, en. Nov., '61, Cor. March, '64, Serg. Jan., '65, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Washington Norton, B, 67, en. March, '62, died at Beaufort, S. C., March 18, '63.  
 Homer Norton.  
 James Olds, F, 8, en. June, '61, killed at Antietam Sept. 17, '62.  
 Jacob Phiels, B, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 George Roth, B, 130, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 L. T. Roberts, G, 14, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Nov., '62.  
 C. H. Roberts, B, 128, en. Aug., '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 C. F. Roberts, G, 130.  
 Cutler Roberts, A, 130, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Emanuel Royer, B, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Jacob Suter, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. V. R. C., m. o. July, '65.

John Shook, G, 189, en. Feb. 20, '65, m. o. Sept. 28, '65.  
 Jacob Stoner, G, 55, en. Sept., '61, Wagoner, dis. for dis. Oct. 13, '62.  
 George Shuer, K, 25, en. Feb., '64, killed at Honey Hill, S. C., Nov. 30, '64.  
 Lewis Shandro, B, 67, en. Dec., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Joseph Shandro, B, 67, en. Dec., '61, m. o. May, '65.  
 John Shandro, served in an Ohio regiment.  
 Samuel Snyder, K, 182, en. Oct., '64, died at Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 31, '65.  
 William Stocking, K, 11, en. Aug., '62, dis. Feb., '63.  
 John Suter, C, 25, en. Dec., '63, died at Hilton Head, Nov. 26, '64.  
 Solomon Suter, C, 25, en. June, '61, died at Fairfax, Va., Dec. 22, '62.  
 Warren Tyler, L, 8 Inf., en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Jan., '63.  
 James W. Tipping, B, '67, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
 J. W. Williams, E, 100, en. July, '62, died at Camp Nelson, Ky., June 27, '63.  
 J. B. Warner, B, 67, en. Sept., '62, Cor., m. o. June, '65.  
 Zopler Warner, A, 14, en. Oct., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 L. Smith Warner, A, 14, en. Oct., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 Alfred N. Warner, A, 14, en. Oct., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 Samuel W. Warner, B, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Isaac Wagoner, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, appt'd Cor. Sept., '62, Serg't, Nov., '64, 1st Serg't, May, '65, m. o. June, '65.  
 George Wagoner, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Barnabus Wagoner, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Samuel Wagoner, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Jonathan Wagoner, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, appt'd Cor. March 5, Serg't July 4, '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Joseph Wagoner, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, died Sept. 9, '65, in hospital at Huntsville, Ala.  
 Henry Wagoner, K, 111, en. Feb. 15, '64, tr. to F, 183, June 27, '65.  
 John Wagoner, B, 14, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Jacob Young, B, 189, en. Feb. 13, '65, m. o. Sept. 28, '65.

## LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

The soldiers who went out from Liberty township between April 18, 1861, and the close of the war, are named in the following roster and record. The names are based on the memories of veterans residing to-day in the township, and on the list of soldiers by J. H. McMahan, Capt. J. W. Knaggs, *et al.*, while the record is taken from the Adjutant-General's report.

John Astling, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Harrison Benner, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, pro. Cor. and Serg't, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Amos Binkley, I, 68, en. Nov., '61, died April 21, '62, on board a Mississippi river steamer.  
 Lyman Blackman, B, 128, en. March, '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Jeremiah Bordner, C, 21, en. Aug. 29, '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Hiram Bordner, C, 21, en. Aug. 29, '61, dis. Dec. 23, '63, on Surg's cert. of dis.  
 Henry Bordner, B, 21, en. Aug., '61, died at Murfreesboro, March 31, '62.  
 Charles Brown, Navy.  
 James Bloom, D, 11, en. June, '61, wounded at Antietam and Missionary Ridge, re-en. Oct., '64, in 23 Inf., and served until May, '65.  
 Samuel Bretz.  
 George W. Bretz, G, 21, en. Sept., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died in Andersonville, June 26, '64.  
 Isaac Carrick.  
 Carlo Call, K, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.

Cyrus T. Call, K, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Barney Collins.  
 Robert Collins, Navy.  
 William Collins, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, killed at Chickamauga, Sept. 19, '63.  
 Leonard C. Caruthers, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. July, '65.  
 Thomas Collins, E, 72.  
 Charles Creps, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died at Prestonburg, Ky., Nov., '61.  
 A. M. Drain, K, 169, en. May, '64, pro. 1 Lieut., dis. Sept., '64.  
 Lewis C. Dubbs, I, 68, com. 2 Lieut. Oct. '61, resigned April, '63.  
 C. C. Eddy.  
 Jacob B. Edgar, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. June, '65.  
 S. L. Edgar, C, 10, Cav. of Illinois, en. Sept., '61, re-en. Jan., '64, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 Joseph Elder, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, re-en. in B, 4, U. S. Cav., at Nashville, Tenn., dis. Dec. 2, '65, at San Antonio, Texas.  
 Martin V. Elder, E, 34, en. July, '61, killed in action, Sept., '63, near Fayetteville, Va.  
 J. M. Elder, E, 179, en. July 2, '64, dis. June 27, '65.  
 Roger Finney, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 W. L. Gamby.  
 Joseph Gorno.  
 Edwin Gorton, I, 111, en. July, '62, dis. for dis. Jan., '63.  
 Jacob Heath, A, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. at Detroit, '62.  
 Adam Hock, I, 15, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 Samuel Housley, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died June 22, '65, at Louisville.  
 George D. Inasley, D, 99, en. Aug., '62, pro. Corp., tr. to Co. D, 50, Inf., Dec., '64.  
 Ethan Ingraham, I, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded at Chickamauga, dis. June, '64.  
 A. B. Ingraham, I, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Oliver Ingraham, I, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. near Lexington, S. C., m. o. June, '65.  
 Nicholas Ireland, K, 48, en. Sept., '61, re-en. Feb., '64, m. o. in Texas, '65.  
 James Kerr.  
 James W. Knaggs, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, pro. Capt. Co. B, Oct. 3, '62, from 1st Lieut. Co. C, wounded in battle of Stone River, resigned July, '63.  
 Owen H. Laney, I, 123, en. July, '62, wounded and cap., m. o. June, '65.  
 Luke H. Laney, K, 101, en. Aug., '62, m. o. July, '65.  
 Montgomery Loomis.  
 Reuben Love.  
 James Lyons, G, 10, Cav., en. Dec., '63, lost an arm while on duty, m. o. July, '65.  
 Lewis W. McCrory, A, 100, en. June 9, '62, cap. Sept. 8, '63, in action at Limestone Sta., Tenn., was confined in Libby prison, in Belle Isle, Castle Thunder, and in Andersonville, par., m. o. May, '65.  
 Philander McCrory, Co. H, 2nd Battl'n 12th U. S. I. en. in '65. In '67, that Battl'n was formed into 21st Regt. dis. in 1871.  
 T. J. McMahan, Wisconsin Inf.  
 Henry Mercer, G, I, L. Art, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Charles A. Mercer, C, 11, enlisted in 1864.  
 Reason Mercer, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. Dec. 7, '62, on Surg's cert. of dis.  
 Horace Mercer, D, 111, en. Aug. 13, '62, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 Isaac Moe, A, 72, en. Nov., '61.  
 Charles A. Mercer, C, 111.  
 William Mercer, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Samuel Mercer, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, apptd. Corp. Nov. 1, '64, m. o. with company June 27, '65.  
 Rufus Mercer, is said to have enlisted from this township.  
 James Miller, A, 72, en. Dec., '61, dis. for dis., July, '62.  
 Mercers (It is said, there were two other Mercers from this twp. in the army).  
 Thomas Miller, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 James W. Mitchell, B, 111, en. Dec., '63, tr. Co. G, May, '64, tr. to 183, m. o. June, '65.  
 Eugene Mitchell, B, 111, en. Dec., '63, tr. Co. G, May, '64, cap., died in Tenn., Nov. 12, '64.

Henry Mitchell, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., Jan. 4, '63.  
 William Norris, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Henry Ransbottom, D, 99, Musician, died in Andersonville, Feb. 23, '65.  
 Wm. Ransbottom, G, I, L. Art., en. Aug., '62, wounded at Franklin, Tenn., dis. for dis., May, '65.  
 William Robinson.  
 Leland Richards, B, 57.  
 Edward Roe, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. with Co., July, '65.  
 Rice Rodney.  
 Benjamin Rusco, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Josiah Rusco.  
 C. L. Saylor, D, 11th, en. June 20, '61, m. o. with Company June 21, '64.  
 John B. Saylor, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, cap. Dec. 10, '64, in action at Springfield, Ga., killed Dec. 26, '64, in action at Worthing Church, Ga.  
 James S. Salsbery, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, Tenn., par. Dec. 27, '63, m. o. June, '65.  
 Isaac M. Shaw, C, 21, en. Sept., '61, pro. Cor., dis. Sept., '64.  
 Abraham F. Sizer, A, 14, en. Aug. 17, '61, died July 29, '62, at Pulaski, Tenn.  
 Henry Showers, en. Aug. 4, '62, tr. to Invalid Corps, m. o. June, '65.  
 Nicholas Stockwell.  
 Clinton Smith.  
 Frank Spooner, G, I Art.  
 Beldon Starr, D, 86, died at Cumberland Gap, Nov. 8, '63.  
 Julius Thomas, B, 21 (3 mos.), April to Aug., '61.  
 Jonathan Wheaton, Andrew Welton, Selden Welton, Hiram and John Woodworth, served during the war.  
 John H. Woodworth, H, 3 Cav., en. March, '65, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 John E. Woodworth, C, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Franklin, m. o. June, '65.  
 John Young, reported buried in the South.  
 Gotlieb Otterbach (located here just after discharge), K, 103, en. Aug. 9, '62, wounded May 14, '64, in battle of Resaca, Ga., also June 19, '64, in action at Noses Creek, Ga., m. o. June 12, '65.

## MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP.

This roster is based upon a list of names, published in the *Sentinel* of March 30, 1895, taken from the *Perrysburg Journal* of war days.

The records are added from the Adjutant-General's reports; while many names, not given in the original list, were supplied by soldiers, now residing in the township. The lists were submitted to Robert Pargellis, Fred Peinert, Val. Schwind, and other veterans for correction.

Seneca H. Armitage, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, tr. to 183, June, '65.  
 Thomas Armitage, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 E. E. Austin, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, wounded at Resaca, died at Chattanooga, June 30, '64.  
 William Barnes, A, 14, en. Feb., '64, dis. for dis. Sept., '64.  
 Amos Barr, A, 14, en. Aug., '61; died at Lexington, Ky., Nov. 28, '61.  
 Shepperd Bemis, B, 111, en. Aug., '63, A. Co. G, May, '64, m. o. May, '65.  
 James Bemis, B, 111, en. July, '62, wounded at Nashville, tr. to 183, June, '65.  
 Ezra D. Bemis, B, 111, en. July, '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., Dec. 7, '62.  
 Constantine Beal, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. Dec., '63, pro. Lieut. 1 Col. Art. Dec., '64, m. o. March, '66.

William H. Beal, B, 111, com. 1 Lieut. May, '63, pro. Capt. to date from Nov., '64, served from Aug., '62, to close of war.

Julius D. Bolles, B, 111, en. July, '62, pro. 1 Sergt. from Sergt. March, '63, cap. near Lenoir, par. Dec., '63, pro. 2 Lieut. Co. A April, '64, to 1 Lieut. June, '64, m. o. June, '65.

John Bowles, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.

Richard Bowles, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.

Charles D. Brown, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.

William Brown, A, 111, en. July, '62, tr. to 183, June, '65.

James B. Carter, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, par., Dec. '63, m. o. as Sergeant, June, '65.

Henry J. Carter, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, pro. 1 Serg't. and 2nd Lieut., died June 1, '64, at Hampton, Va.

Robert Clark, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, died Feb. 26, '65, at Wilmington, N. C.

Abner M. Clark, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, wounded at Resaca, tr. to 183, June, '65.

D. V. Clark, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, died in Andersonville, June 6, '64.

Solomon Cook, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis., after long service, March, '65.

Andrew Cogley, B, 111, en. July, '62, dis. for dis., March, '63.

David Creps, said to have enlisted from this township.

Ben. F. Decker, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, died June 21, '64, in Andersonville.

Jeremiah Decker, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, died Aug. 18, '64, in Andersonville.

Madison Decker, E, 1, Mich. Cav.

George W. Dickerson, F, 144, May to Aug., '64.

James R. Doty, 21, Ind. B. L. Art., en. Dec., '62, m. o. July, '65.

Lewis Downs, K, 52, en. July, '62, tr. 2 Batt. V. R. C., May, '64.

Henry Downs, K, '67, en. Oct., '61, tr. to Co. E.

J. S. Duncan, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, died at Knoxville, Tenn., Mar. 17, '64.

Daniel Ehle, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis., Jan., '63.

Robert Emmons, F, 144, May to Aug., '64.

Charles E. Ewing, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Henry Ewing, E, 1, Mich. Cav.

L. B. J. Ewing, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, wounded at Resaca, dis. for dis. Sept., '64.

Edward Ewing, K, 52, en. July, '62.

Sam. S. Ewing, 21, Bat. L. Art., en. Jan., '63, m. o. Aug., '65.

Redding Everett, B, 111, from Aug., '62, to Nov., '63.

William J. Evers, E, 1, Mich. Cav.

Daniel W. Frasier.

P. G. Garrett, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. at Monocacy, Md., ex., m. o. Aug., '64.

Charles Genson, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. Dec., '63, m. o. June, '65.

Silas Genson.

Jonathan H. Genson, K, 52, en. July, '62, died at Nashville, Sept. 25, '62.

Charles F. Genson, A, 182, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Lafayette Hale, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.

Morris Hanford, F, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.

Gaius B. Hanford, A, 14, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.

Charles Hanford, I, 14, en. Sept., '61, wounded at Chickamauga, died Oct. 6, '63.

Steven Haynes, I, 14, en. April, '61, then re-enlisted.

Eli Henderson, K, 3, Cav., en. Oct., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.

William Henderson, K, 3, Cav., en. Oct., '61.

Henry Hoobler, H, 21, en. Sept., '62, tr. to V. R. C., April, '64.

Albert Hoffman, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. March, '65, m. o. May, '65.

Chester L. Howard, I, 14, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Aug., '61.

James Hoffman, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.

James Johnston, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. Dec., '62, at Bowling Green, Ky.

Benjamin Johnson, A, 100, en. July, '62, cap. Sept. 8, '63, died in Richmond prison, June 8, '64.

Ephraim Johnson, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. Nov. '64, m. o. June, '65.

Nelson Johnson, B, 111, en. July, '62, died at Munfordville, Ky., July 8, '63.

Joseph Kelly, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.

D. P. Knapp, A, 111, en. Dec. '63, tr. to 183, June, '65.

Clark Keeler, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. March, '65, m. o. May, '65.

James J. Madole, I, 14, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.

William H. Miller, G, 14, en. Jan., '64, died at Ringgold, Ga., March, 13, '64.

H. O. Nearing, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.

Isaac Nearing, 3, Cav., died at Miltonville, Ohio.

Alexander Pargellis, K, 49, en. Sept., '61, wounded Dec. 31, '62, at battle of Stone River, Tenn., tr. to V. R. C., Nov. '63.

Andrew Pargellis, K, 49, en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis. March, '62, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, Tenn., Nov. 16, '63, par. April, '64, m. o. June, '65.

Robert Pargellis, C, 21, en. April 25, '61, m. o. with Co. Aug. 12, '61.

W. H. Payne, K, 67, en. Nov., '61, did at Fortress Monroe, July 5, '64.

Fred Peinert, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. March, '63.

David D. Plemon, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Corp. July, '65.

James Place, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, appt. Farrier Jan., '63, m. o. July, '65.

Thomas Plemon, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, tr. to V. R. C. March, '64.

Peter Peaney, B, 111, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.

Wm. H. Rudolph, H, 2 Art., en. July, '63, m. o. as Corp. Aug., '65.

Henry Robinson, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died at Louisville, Dec. 25, '62.

James O. Robinson, F, 86, en. June, '62, m. o. Feb., '63.

Wm. Rutherford, A, 14, en. Sept., '61, m. o. as Corporal July, '65.

Luke T. Russell, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. near Lenoir, died July 20, '64, in Andersonville.

William Sargent, is said to have enlisted from this twp.

John Sweet, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Joseph A. Smith, D, 86, en. June, '63, died at Camp Nelson, Ky., Dec. 6, '63.

Roy Smith, enlisted from this township.

John P. Stine, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, tr. to 183, June, '65.

William Stine, F, 144, May to Aug., '64.

Geo. Sawyer, G, 10 Cav., en. Dec., '63, m. o. July, '65.

Wm. Sawyer, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Knoxville, Feb. 29, '64.

Henry Schliser, en. April, '61, m. o. '61, re-enlisted.

Harvey Spencer, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died in Danville prison, Jan. 3, '64.

Alexander Stewart, H, 21, en. Oct., '62, m. o. July, '65.

Edward Stevens, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed near Spring Hill, Tenn., Nov. 30, '64.

Amos Twining, 18 Regular Inf.

Eli Twining, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, died Aug. 26, '64, at Knoxville.

Charles Twining, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, died Sept. 14, '64, at Knoxville.

Richard Ulrich, I, 14, en. April, '61, m. o. '61.

John D. Wellever, K, 3 Cav., en. '62, m. o. '65.

Robert Wallace, D, 86, en. July 8, '62, m. o. Sept. 28, '65.

Levi Watkins, C, 21, April to Aug., '61.

Almon E. Wilson, A, 111, en. Dec., '63, tr. to 183, June, '65.

Joseph Wilson, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.

Ross Wickham, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. near Lenoir, died in Richmond prison, Jan. 28, '64.

Wm. Wickham, Jr., B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. near Lenoir, died in Andersonville, March 27, '64.

Wm. Wickham, Sr., A, 111, en. Dec., '62, dis. March, '65.

James T. Wickham, is said to have en. from this township.

Everett Woodruff, K, 185, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.

John M. Woodruff, B, 111, en. July, '62, pro. Sergt. Jan., '63, 2d Lieut. Nov., '63, wounded, pro. 1st Lieut. Co. D., April, '64, wounded near Atlanta, m. o. June, '65.

## MILTON TOWNSHIP.

The names of Milton township soldiers, who served in the war of the Rebellion, are given in

the following roster and record, compiled principally from Dr. Hill's general muster of the township. The list was submitted for revision and correction in Weston and Grand Rapids, as well as in Milton township.

William Allen.  
B. F. Ash, I, 144, May, '64, to Aug., '64.  
Andrew Beckman, K, 103, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
Dickerson Bowles, I, 68, Dec., '61, wounded May 16, '63, at Champion Hills, and before Atlanta, Aug. 10, '64, m. o. Dec., '64.  
John W. Bowles, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
Winfield Barber, F, 21, en. Sept., '61, trans'd to Engineer Corps Aug. 28, '64. Veteran.  
Isaac Brown.  
Eugene Berry.  
John E. Clark, B, 111, Aug., '62, dis. for disability Nov. 25, '62, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, dis. for disability May 12, '64.  
Malbrun W. Castle, H, 21, Aug., '62, died at Graysville, Ga., April 11, '64.  
Nelson F. Campbell, I, 68, March, '64, July, '65.  
Enoch Campbell, I, 68, Oct. '61, July, '65.  
James Crego, I, 68, Dec., '61, July, '65.  
Marion Cox, I, 87, June, '62 (on transfer from 85th), to Oct. '62.  
Degory Credicott, G, 10, Cav., Dec., '63, to July, '65.  
Robert Dague, K, 111, Aug., '62, killed at Franklin, Nov. 30, '64.  
B. F. Dean, F, 10, March, '64, July, '65.  
James T. Dean, H, 21, Sept., '61, dis. March, '63, on account of wounds, and D, 86, June, '63, to Feb., '64, as 2 Lieut.  
John O. Dubbs, H, 21, Sept., '61, killed at Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 20, '63.  
Freeman Ellsworth, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, died at Louisville, Ky., June 11, '62.  
Edwin France, D, 86, July, '63, to Feb., '64.  
Julius Greeley, D, 111, Aug., '62, killed in battle of Franklin, Tenn., Nov. 30, '64.  
George M. Gunter, H, 21, Sept., '61, died Jan. 15, '62.  
William E. Hill, G, 85, May, '62, tr. Co. D, 87, June, '62, m. o. Oct., '62.  
William W. Hill, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct. 1, '62, m. o. June 12, '65, wounded three times, had left leg amputated, result of wound rec'd at Jonesboro, Ga., Aug. 20, '64.  
Daniel H. Hill, K, 84, May, '62, to Sept., '62, and G, 10 Cav., Oct., '62, apptd. Sergt. Jan., '63, 1st. Sergt. Sept., '64, pro. to 2d Lieut. Co. C, May, '65, m. o. with Co. July, '65, wounded at Ringgold, Ga.  
Joseph B. Hill, K, 84, May to Sept., '62, and Co. G, 10, Oct., '62, to July, '65, pro. from Sergt. of Co. G to Capt. of Co. E.  
Matthew Hill, K, 84, May to Sept., '62, and G, 10, Dec., '63, to death at Columbus, Ohio, May 31, '65.  
Lewis Hill, 20, N. Y. Cavalry.  
William Hill, G, 10, en. Dec., '63, died at Nashville, Tenn., April 10, '65.  
Thomas Hill, I, 29, en. Aug., '64, m. o. June, '65.  
Thomas B. Hill, served in 130th Indiana Regt.  
Hiram A. Hunter, B, 21, April to Aug., '61, and B, 111, Aug., '62, to June, '65, a prisoner for 1 year and 11 days.  
Milo C. Hunter, D, 86, June, '63, to Feb., '64.  
Nathan Hunter.  
Nathaniel Heller, D, 111, Aug., '62, to June, '65.  
George Heller, K, 84, May to Sept., '62, and Co. G, 10, from Oct., '62, to June, '65, prisoner for six months.  
James L. Henning, K, 84, May to Sept., '62.  
Lewis J. Henning, G, 10, Dec., '63, to July, '65.  
James Hutchinson, B, 111, en. July, '62, died July 3, in Andersonville.  
Philson Hutchinson, I, 21, en. Aug., '62, dis. for wounds, May 18, '64.  
John Hutchinson, I, 68, March, '64, to July, '65.  
Samuel B. Hutchinson, G, 10, Dec., '63, to July, '65.  
William H. Harts, H, 49, Aug. 15, '61, to Nov., '65, wounded at Pickett's Mills.

Jeremiah C. Harts, H, 49, Aug. 15, '61, to Nov., '65, wounded at Stone River.  
John J. Hartz, G, 10, en. Nov., '62, died in Andersonville, Dec. 21, '64.  
Isaac N. Hartz, G, 10, Cav., en. Oct., '62, m. o. July, '65.  
John C. Keiffer, I, 68, en. March, —, m. o. July, '65.  
Abraham Lance, H, 2, Cav., en. Jan., '64, served to June, '65.  
John Lewis, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, served to Oct., '63.  
James M. Marks, H, 68, Nov., '61, July, '65.  
Samuel Macatee, H, 68, Nov., '61, Dec., '64.  
William Milleron, G, 10, Oct., '62, July, '65.  
Silas Moorehouse, I, 4 U. S. Inf.  
Abraham Morrison, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, died at Covington, Ky., Sept., '62.  
Thomas J. Moore, G, 10, Dec., '63, July, '65.  
Ira H. Morehouse, I, 68, Oct., '61, died at New Albany, Ind., March 19, '62.  
Leonard Morehouse, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
John M. Neifer, H, 60, Feb., '64, to July, '65.  
Barnett Older, I, 68, Oct., '61, Aug., '62, leg amputated.  
Silas Older, I, 68, Oct., '61, to Oct., '62.  
Andrew Powers, B, 111, Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., May 24, '63.  
Frank Powers, I, 68, en. Nov., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
Charles Rhoda, H, 60, en. March, '64, m. o. July, '65.  
B. B. Richardson, G, 10, Dec., '63, July, '65.  
Isaac W. Swartz, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, par. Dec., '63, m. o. '65.  
Ed. H. Swander, E, 115.  
Isaac Swartz, B, 111, July, '62, to June, '65, a prisoner four months.  
G. W. Spangler, I, 144, May 2, '64, to May 12, '64.  
David Stratton, K, 84, May, '62, to Sept., '62, and Co. G, 10, Oct., '62, to July, '65, pro. from Capt. to Major.  
Thomas W. Taylor, K, 111, Aug., '62, to April, '63, dis. on Surg's cert. of dis.  
William Taylor, H, 21, Sept., '61, killed at Stone River, Tenn., Jan. 2, '63.  
James Taylor, H, 21, Sept., '61, killed near Vining Sta., Ga., July 9, '64.  
John H. Thompson.  
Joseph M. Wagoner, K, 84, May to Sept., '62, and Co. G, 10, Oct., '62, to July, '65.  
C. M. Walling, C, 128, en. Aug., '64, m. o. June, '65.  
William Walling, I, 68, Aug., '64, to May, '65.  
Virgil Walling, I, 68, March, '64, to July, '65.  
Frank Whitney, H, 2 Cav., Aug., '61, wounded at Summit Pt., Va., Aug. 27, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
Ezra Whitney.  
Warren W. Whitney, H, 2 Cav., Dec., '63, m. o. June, '65.

## MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP.

The work of compiling the following list of the soldiers sent from this township into the Union regiments, from 1861 to the close of the war of the Rebellion, was rendered easy by the action of the people in erecting a monument to them at Freeport, on which are inscribed their names, as well as by the co-operation of veterans throughout the township. The names of John Ruble, Levi Shroyer and John Shoup, with a record of each, whose records are given on the monument as they were enlisted in Montgomery, will appear in the roster of Portage township, where they resided at time of enlistment.

- Robert Adams, H, 21, 3 mos., and K, 144, now residing at Chicago, Ill.
- John Adams, D, 21, en. Aug., '61, died Jan., '63, at Murfreesboro, Tenn.
- David Algyre, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, turned over to Co. A., Jan., '62.
- George W. Algyre, E, 25, en. June, '61, w'd May 8, '62, dis. for dis. July, '62.
- H. D. Algyre, C, 72, en. March, '64, m. o. Sept., '65.
- Martin Allen, 3 Cav., buried in Chestnut Ridge.
- Stephen A. Angus, K, 185, and K, 144, en. May, '64, in 144, musician, re-en. in 185, Jan. '65, m. o. Nov., '65.
- Richard Angus, K, 185, and K, 144, en. in May '64, re-en. in 185, Feb. '65, m. o. of 185 Sept., '65.
- Solvenius Arnold, C, 195, en. March, '65, died Oct. 15, '65, at Alexandria, Va.
- Samuel Angus, A, 25, en. Sept., '64, dis. July, '65.
- William H. Angus, I, 185, en. Feb., '65, died at Camp Chase, Feb. 27, '65.
- Fred R. Angus, A, 25, en. Sept., '64, dis. July, '65; en. Co. K, 144, May, '64.
- John W. Angus, 169, buried in Chestnut Ridge.
- Henry Algyre, C, 72, en. Dec., '61, turned over to Co. A, Jan. 15, '62.
- James Bacon, E, 25, en. June, '61, w'd May 2, '63, again July 1, '63, m. o. June, '66.
- Benjamin Bacon, K, 144, com. 1st Lieut. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- William Bacon, C, 146, Ind. Inf., pro. 1st Lieut., cap. at Saline X Roads, ret. '63, m. o. '65.
- Jeremiah Baker, I, 72, en. Jan., '62, dis. for dis. Jan., '63.
- Jerry Baker, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Morris Baker, C, 82, en. Nov., '61, w'd May 2, '63, m. o. July, '65.
- Peter Baker, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, killed at Pickett's Mills, May, 27, '64.
- Adam H. Baker, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John Baker, B, 57, Wagoner, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Aug., '65. Veteran, was captured and made a prisoner three different times.
- Albert Bates, I, 72, com. 1st Lieut. Oct., '61, resigned Aug., '63.
- John Bates, C, 72, en. Oct., '61.
- David Bates, F, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62, en. Sept., '63, m. o. Sept., '65.
- Wm. Bernard, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Cornelius Bierly, C, 72, en. Oct., '62, tr. to V. R. C., Feb. 20, '65, dis. Aug., '65.
- H. B. Bierly, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John Bigley, E, 25, en. June, '61.
- Obediah A. Bigley, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June 18, '66.
- D. Billman, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. at Berryville, ex., m. o. April, '65.
- Elisha Biggerstaff, E, 25, en. June, '61, 2nd Lieut. prom. 1st Lieut. May, '64, wounded Aug. 30, '62, and Dec. 6, '64, m. o. June, '66.
- J. Boardner, —, 21.
- Calvin Boardner, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, died at Memphis, Tenn., July 29, '62.
- Adam Bovie, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug. 13, '64, in action near Berryville, Va., died in Salisbury prison, Dec. 16, '64.
- Anthony Brackley, C, 72, en. Dec., '61, cap. near Ripley, Miss., m. o. Aug., '65.
- Alfred T. Brooke, K, 144 (now of Ithaca, Mich.), en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Joseph Brosius, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Charles A. Bryant, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, Va., died in Salisbury prison, Nov. 14, '64.
- Israel Burns, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug., 13, '64, died in Salisbury prison, Nov. 12, '64.
- Alfred Buchtel, C, 72, now in Kansas.
- H. Butoff (written Buttolph), K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Charles A. Carr, I, 55, en. Dec., '61, tr. Co. I, 8, Regt. V. R. C., m. o. at Chicago, July, '65.
- Reuben Cary, H, 49, en. '61, tr. to Co. K, captured Sept., '63, m. o. Jan., '65.
- Howard Carman, E, 25, en. June, wounded Nov. 30, '64, dis. July, '65.
- Josiah Chance, —, 55, on Lincoln's body guard, Major in Col. Regt., died in U. S. A.
- Jesse C. Chance, E, 25, now Capt. in U. S. A., en. Aug., '62, pro. 2 Lieut. 104 U. S. A. Col. Inf., March, '65.
- John Carey, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Nashville, Dec., '64, m. o. June, '65.
- James W. Carter, I, 111, and 144, en. I, 111, Aug., '62, dis. for dis., Dec., '62, en. K, 144, May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Charles Caldwell, I, 72, en., '61, cap. July, '64.
- W. C. Cordery, K, 185, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.
- Wm. Crossman, C, 72, en. Nov., '63, dis. at Nashville, Dec., '64.
- Joseph Christ, —, 72, en. Nov. 1, dis. for dis. Sept., '62.
- Isaac Conklin, 14 Inf., buried in Chestnut Ridge.
- Thomas C. Colwell, E, 25, en. June, '61, ap. Cor. Aug., '61, Sergt., Nov., '61, wounded May 8, '62, died May 29, '62.
- V. A. Dubel, E, 25, en. July, '62, wounded Dec. 6, '64, m. o. July, '65.
- Patrick Duffy, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.
- J. Christian Dieter, I, 72, en. Nov., '61, m. o. Sept., '65, as Cor. Wm. Douglas, C, 72, en. Dec., '61, m. o. Sept., '65.
- James G. Dunlap, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., Jan. 8, '63.
- L. Eastlick, —, 25, came from Mich., en. June, '61, dis. for dis. Dec., '61.
- Simon Edmonds, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug. 13, '64, near Berryville, Va., died Oct., 23, '64, at Annapolis, Md.
- Servetus L. Edmonds, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug. 13, '64, near Berryville, Va., died March 25, '65; at Wheeling, W. Va.
- Samuel Edgar, E, 25, en. June, '61, wounded July 1, '63, at battle of Gettysburg, Pa., tr. to C, 75, Jan., '64, m. o. July, '64.
- Hiram Edgar, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, app. Corp. Feb., '64, cap. near Ripley, Miss., June 11, '64, m. o. with com. in '65.
- Lewis C. Edgar, C, 72, en. Jan., '64, cap. near Ripley, Miss., June 11, '64, was in Andersonville, Ga., nearly nine months, par. ret. to regt., m. o. June, '65.
- Robert Edgar, D, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.
- Isaac A. Ensminger, —, 72, buried in Chestnut Ridge.
- Bramwell Ensminger, K, 144, en. May, '64, near Berryville, Va., died in Salisbury prison, Nov. 12, '64.
- Corwin Ensminger, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, ret., m. o. April, '65, as Sergeant.
- David H. Ensminger, F, 72, en. Dec., '61, died June 8, '62, at Monterey, Tenn.
- John Eaton, 16, N. G., buried at Chestnut Ridge.
- Emanuel G. Ensminger, A, 14, en. Oct., '62, m. o. Oct., '65.
- S. Ensminger, —, 3 Cav.
- William Ensminger, K, 3 Cav., en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Lewis Ensminger, F, 72.
- Charles W. Ensminger, F, 72.
- J. J. Faylor, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- W. H. Faylor, E, 25, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis., Aug. 12, '64.
- W. H. Ferguson, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Thomas Finney, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Andrew J. Foster, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. Nov. 20, '63, par., m. o. June, '65.
- Theodorus H. C. Frishie, K, 144, en. May, '64, pro. Serg't, cap. near Berryville, Va., died in Salisbury prison, Oct. 22, '64.
- Theodore Frishie, a twin brother of T. H. C., served in the army.
- Samuel Frontz, E, 25, en. June, '61, m. o. July, '64.
- Lyman Fulmer, K, 144.
- Wilson H. Gano, E, 25, en. Aug., '62, m. o. July, '65.
- Thomas A. Graham, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug. 13, '64, par. Oct., '64, m. o. Dec., '64.
- C. M. Gano, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.
- John Gould, —, 3 Cav.
- Timothy W. Gould, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Andrew J. Hale, E, 25, Com. 2nd Lieut., June 4, '61, pro. 2, M. of Reg't, July 11, '61.
- Waits Hastings, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.
- Geo. Hamilton, 65 N. Y. Inf., buried in Chestnut Ridge.



- Charles Hastings, K, 144, en. May 2, '64, w'ded Aug. 13, '64.  
P. W. Hathaway, K, 144, com. Capt., May 2, '64, m. o. Aug. '64.  
Philip Hathaway, D, 3 Cav., en. Feb. '64, m. o. '65.  
David Hanline, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, vet. Dec., '63, cap. at Guntown, June 10, '64, died in prison.  
H. E. Hassenplug, C, 72, en. Oct., '62, cap. June 11, '64, near Ripley, m. o. May, '65.  
Harvey M. Hall, E, 25, en. June, '61, wounded Nov. 30, '64, at Honey Hill, S. C.  
David Heminger, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
Thomas C. Heminger, E, 25, en. June, '61, died April 4, '62.  
Samuel Hemminger, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, wounded at Devaux's Neck, S. C., Dec. 6, '64, dis. Aug. 15, '65, on surgeon's cert. of dis.  
Thomas Hemminger, C, 72, en. Oct., '61, missing in affair near Brownsville, Tenn., Oct., '63.  
A. L. Heminger, B, 55, en. Sept. 29, '61, appointed Corp. June 8, '65, m. o. July 11, '65. Veteran.  
J. A. Heminger, H, 67, en. March, '63, wounded in three battles, m. o. June, '65.  
Lewis Heminger, A, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Nashville, m. o. June, '65.  
Jeremiah Heath, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. June 11, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
Monta Heath, E, 25, en. May, '61, cap. at Chantilly, ex., dis. June, '62.  
Jacob Heath, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. '62.  
Joseph O. Hess, E, 25, en. May, '61, Wagoner, vet. Nov., '63, m. o. June, '66.  
Thomas Hoiles, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
J. W. Hoiles, I, 72, en. Oct., '61, m. o. at Vicksburg, Miss., '65.  
Alfred Hoiles, —, 182, now in Dakota.  
George N. Holcomb, E, 21, en. June, '61, pro. 2d Lieut. April, '62, 1st Lieut. Co. G, March, '64.  
Henry Hoot, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
Aaron B. Hoffman, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
Samuel Hoffman, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June, '66.  
William Hess, B, 57, en. June, '61, re-en. June, '63, in F, 1 Ala. Cav., wounded, cap., dis. June, '65.  
D. W. Huffman, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, 2d Lieut. Dec., '61, 1st Lieut. Co. B, Feb. 18, '64.  
Jacob F. Huffman, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, graduate, pro. to 2d Lieut., wounded near Shiloh, cap. at Guntown, ex., m. o. Sept., '65.  
Jacob Huffman, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, pro. Sergt., cap. June, '64, m. o. with command, June, '65.  
Philip C. Hoffman, D, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.  
O. P. Huffman, G, 169, en. at Rollersville, May, '64, dis. in June, '64.  
Charles Hunt, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, Va., m. o. Nov., '64.  
Thomas Hunt, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
Byron Hutchins, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June, '66.  
J. Q. Hutchins, E, 25, en. June, '61, tr. Co. C, 75, Jan., '64, m. o. at close of war.  
Jacob F. Hutchinson, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. near Ripley, Miss., m. o. May, '65.  
Tom. J. Jackson, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died in Salisbury prison, Dec. 21, '64.  
M. H. Jackson, E, 25, en. Aug., '62, dis. July, '65.  
J. H. Jennings, —, 169, buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
John A. Jackson, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, pro. Sergt., died near Memphis, Aug. 18, '62.  
Sam. Keiser, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died at Annapolis, Oct. 20, '64.  
Absolom Keller, E, 25, en. Aug., '62, died Nov. 9, '63.  
Lewis H. Keller, E, 25, en. Aug., '62, dis. July, '65.  
Daniel Knisely, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, wounded in battle of Honey Hill, S. C., Nov. 30, '64, m. o. June 18, '66.  
W. J. Kean.  
Geo. Keller, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
Aaron Leshner, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
Joseph Leshner, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
Amos K. Legron, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. 12 U. S. Col. Inf., Sept., '64, m. o. April, '66.  
John Leary, E, 25, en. June, '61, wounded Aug. 30, '62, ap. Cor. Nov., '64. Veteran.  
Davis W. Legron, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, died in Andersonville, Aug. 3, '64.  
James S. Lincoln, K, 144, en. May, '64, killed near Berryville, Va., Aug. 13, '64.  
Albert C. Lloyd, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
John W. Long, K, 144, en. May, '64, killed in action near Berryville, Va., Aug. 13, '64.  
David Lusk, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. at Berryville, Va., ex., dis. Dec., '64.  
John G. McDowell, —, 185, now in Colorado.  
U. T. McLaughlin, K, 144, en. May, '64, in hospital at Washington, D. C., in Aug., '64.  
John Mars, K, 144, en. May, '64, captured, died in Salisbury prison, Oct. 20, '64.  
James Martin, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug. 13, died in Salisbury prison, Jan. 27, '65.  
W. H. Mackey, E, 25, en. June, '61, pro. Cor. '64, Sergt. '65, dis. March 1, '66.  
William Mason, K, 144, en. May, '64, dis. Aug., '64.  
John S. Mahony, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, apptd. 1st Sergt. from Sergt. Aug. 1, '62, pro. to 2nd Lieut. Dec. 20, '62, cap. Sept. 20, '63, at Chickamauga, Ga., pro. to 1st Lieut. Jan. 6, '65, Capt. May 11, '65, m. o. May 15, '65 (was a prisoner of war for seventeen months).  
William Meuser, E, 25, en. June, '61, died at Fairfax C. H., Nov. 20, '62.  
Jeremiah Mackey, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, killed in battle of Honey Hill, S. C., Nov. 30, '64.  
Mose Marsh.  
John McPherrin, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. Sept. 20, '63, died in Danville prison Feb. 28, '64.  
Lucius Marsh, E, 25, en. June, '61, wounded Aug. 30, '62, m. o. July, '64.  
William Martin, 1 Art., buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
Henry Martin, C, 72, en. March, '64, cap. near Ripley, Miss., m. o. June, '65.  
John Meng (recorded John Menz), K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
John P. Merris, E, 25, en. June, '61, dis. for dis. Oct. 31, '61.  
Andrew Metcalf, K, 144, Musician, en. May, '64, cap. at Berryville, m. o. March, '65.  
Joseph Mitchell, E, 25, en. Aug., '61, tr. to 75th June, '64, m. o. July, '64.  
Eli Metcalf, I, 72, en. Dec., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62.  
Ephraim Metcalf, I, 72, en. Oct., '61, wounded April 6, '62, dis. for dis. Sept., '62.  
C. G. Minkler, I, 72, en. Sept., '62, m. o. Sept., '65.  
Casper Miller, C, 72, en. Oct., '62, drafted.  
D. W. Miller, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, pro. Sergt. Dec., '62, killed May 20, '63, near Vicksburg.  
J. Miller, —, 3 Cav., buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
Peter S. Miller, 37 Illinois Inf., buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
John Myers, B, 193, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
Guy Morgan, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. May, '63.  
W. W. Morgan, 111.  
William H. Morgan, C, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
John Morgan, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug. 13, died in Salisbury prison, Oct. 24, '64.  
Peter Murray, —, 72, buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
Stanley G. Morgan, L, 2, H. Art., en. July, '63, died at Cleveland, Ohio, Aug. 5, '64.  
William P. Naylor, C, 72, en. Dec., '61, w'd at Shiloh, dis. for dis. Nov. 5, '62.  
Binnager Odell, E, 25, en. Aug., '62, w'd and cap. at Gettysburg, m. o. May, '65.  
Hiram O'Dell, E, 25, en. May, '61, pro. Sergt., cap. at 2 Bull Run, next at Gettysburg, ex. in Jan., '64, re-enlisted Jan., '64, m. o. June, '66.  
Cyrus Odell, E, 25, en. June, '61, w'd Aug. 30, '62, dis. for dis. Oct. 4, '62.  
Hiram Ostrander, K, 144, formerly 25th, en. June 25, '61, dis. for dis. Nov., '61.  
Walter Ostrander, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65, latter part of service was orderly to Gen. I. R. Sherwood.  
Edward C. Owens, D, 72, en. Oct., '61, killed at Vicksburg, June 20, '63.  
William Parker, —, 169, buried in Chestnut Ridge.

Frank E. Palmer, is said to have entered the army.  
 Daniel M. Palmer, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, Va., was tr. from Libby to Salisbury prison, Oct. 9, '64.  
 Randolph Palmer, K, 144, en. May, '64, died in hospital at Ft. Dix, Md., July 14, '64.  
 Ezekiel Penn, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, pro. Cor., dis. for dis. Sept., '62.  
 Mahlon Penn, C, 72, died Aug. 17, '62, at Ft. Pickering, Tenn., having served from Dec., '61.  
 R. D. Phelps, E, 25, en. June, '61, w'd Dec. 13, '61, May 2, '63, July 1, '63, m. o. June, '66.  
 David M. Phister, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jacob D. Phister, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June, '66.  
 Wiley Peterson, 81 Regt., buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
 Truman Peterson, 81 Regt., buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
 Franklin Plantz, I, 72, en. Nov., '61, w'd Dec. 6, '64, m. o. May, '65.  
 E. Plantz, I, 72, en. Nov., '61, w'd at Shiloh, died April 8, '62.  
 S. Plantz, I, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. by C. A. in Jan., '62.  
 Daniel Potter, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, w'd Nov. 30, '64, and April 15, '65, m. o. June, '66.  
 Henry H. Powers, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Dec. '62.  
 Thomas Price, —, 169, buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
 Thomas Rainbow, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, Va., died in Libby prison, Oct. 4, '64.  
 Carrington E. Randall, E, 25, pro. 1st Sergt. from Sergt. Sept., '61, pro. 2 Lieut. March, '62, w'd May, '63, pro. 1 Lieut. Co. G, Oct. 20, '62, Capt. Mch., '63, Maj. Aug., '64.  
 John Riley, I, 72, en. Sept., '62, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 James Riley, I, 72, en. March, '64, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 J. W. Riley, L. 2. H. Art., en. July, '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 John A. Ringer, K, 144, en. May, '64, missing Aug. 13, '64.  
 Joseph Riffe, K, 144, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Orrin W. Sage, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug. 13, '64, in action near Berryville, Va., died in Salisbury prison, Dec. 1, '64.  
 Edwin R. Sage, K, 144, com. 2nd Lieut. May 2, '64, cap. near Berryville, Va., Aug. 13, '64, and was confined in prison at Lynchburg, Va., and in Libby prison, paroled, dis. Sept. 27, '64.  
 Edwin Sharp, E, 25, en. Aug., '62, wounded Dec. 6, '64, dis. July, '65.  
 Charles A. Sharp, soldier of Mexican war.  
 Chris. Sharp, Sr., K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 C. Sharp, Jr., K, 185, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 N. Sanderson, K, 144, and 72, en. 72, Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Feb., '63.  
 Daniel Shoe, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. near Ripley, m. o. June, '65.  
 Emanuel Shoe, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. near Ripley, killed on "Sultana," April 27, '65.  
 John W. Shoe, E, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Stone River, ex. pro. prin. mus., served to close of war.  
 Levi S. Shoe, B, '111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. Dec., '63, m. o. June, '65.  
 Conrad Sheffer, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 W. Shutt, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died in Libby prison, Oct. 4, '64.  
 Emanuel Smith, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. near Ripley, Miss., June 1, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Fred M. Smith, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. near Ripley, Miss., June 11, '64, wounded at Vicksburg, m. o. Feb., '65, was in prison at Mobile, Andersonville and Milan, Ga.  
 Conrad Smith, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. Sept. 8, '63, in action at Limestone Station, Tenn., died May 18, '64, in Rebel prison at Andersonville.  
 Hiram S. Smith, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, paroled Feb., '65.  
 Thomas Smith, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o., re-en. March, '65, Co. C, 195, Inf., m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Martin Smith, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Jan., '62.  
 Sam. Smith, I, 197, en. March, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Godfrey Stahl, I, 72, en. Nov., '61, died near Corinth, Miss., May 29, '62, buried in Chestnut Ridge.  
 Geo. Stahl, E, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Stone River, prisoner 2 years, m. o. June, '65.

John Stahl, I, 72, en. Oct., '61, died at Shiloh, Tenn., May 29, '62.  
 Jacob Stahl, Corp. D, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, wounded at Stone River, dis. April 1, '63, on Surg's cert. of dis., after having been in the hospital several months, re-en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 W. D. Stanton, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Dec., '62.  
 C. F. Stanton, —, 72, and K, 144, en. Dec., '61; in 72, pro. Cor.  
 David Stephenson, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, died in Andersonville, July 19, '64.  
 John Stephenson, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, died in Andersonville, Aug. 11, '64.  
 Reuben Stephens, —, 72, en. Dec., '61, dis. for dis. Sept., '62.  
 Columbus St. Clair, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Sept., '62.  
 James St. Clair, C, 72, en. Nov., '61.  
 Christian Stoudinger, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, apptd. Corp. March 3, '63, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 W. R. Stump, E, 25, en. June, '61, wounded July 1, '63, Dec. 6, '64, m. o. June, '66.  
 A. F. Stump, E, 25, en. June, '61, wounded May 2, '63, pro. Sergt. Nov., '64, wounded Dec. 6, '64, dis. June, '65.  
 J. A. Stump, E, 25, en. May, '61, pro. Sergt., wounded and cap. at Chancellorsville, dis. May, '64.  
 N. E. Stump, E, 25, en. Aug., '62, app. Cor. Dec., '62, Sergt. April, '64, dis. July, '65.  
 Levi R. Stump, D, 25, en. Oct., '64, m. o. Oct., '65.  
 E. J. Teeple, E, 25, en. May, '61, pro. Cor., next Sergt., wounded at Honey Hill, S. C., re-en. Nov., '63, m. o. June 18, '66.  
 Charles D. Trego, I, 72, en. Nov., '61, tr. V. R. C., Feb., '64.  
 John J. Underwood, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, killed May 19, '63, at Vicksburg.  
 James S. Underwood, C, 72, en. Nov., '61, died on hospital boat, City of Memphis, June 28, '63.  
 Wright Underwood, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Dec., '64.  
 Joseph Vallance, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, died at Columbus, Ohio, March 29, '64.  
 Henry Vallance, K, 21, en. Feb., '62, killed near Kenesaw Mt., May 31, '64.  
 John Vallance, K, 21, en. Feb., '64.  
 J. R. Vansise, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis., May, '62.  
 J. M. VanVorhis, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Perry Walter, I, 72, en. March, '64, cap. June 11, '64, died in Florence prison, Nov. 14, '64.  
 Clinton Walter, E, 25, en. June, '61, Wagoner.  
 Chauncey Walter, I, 72, en. Nov., '61, cap. June 11, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Michael Walter, I, 72, en. March, '64, cap. June 11, '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 F. Warden, —, 111.  
 John A. Weller, —, 72, buried in Chestnut Ridge Cemetery.  
 Theodore Whitman, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. Dec. 31, '62, at battle of Stone River, Tenn., ex. May 6, '63, wounded May 10, '63, and Sept. 19, '63, in battle of Chickamauga, Ga., m. o. Nov., '65. Veteran.  
 Lewis Whitman, H, 49, en. Aug. 15, '61, appt'd Corp'l Oct. 5, '63, Serg't Nov. 1, '64, wounded July 24, '64, in action near Atlanta, Ga., m. o. Nov., '65. Veteran.  
 James Whitman.  
 Leander Whitman, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, pro. Serg't, wounded at Atlanta, re-enlisted, m. o. July, '66.  
 Nathan Whitman, C, 193, en. March 6, '65, m. o. with Co., Aug. 4, '65.  
 Joseph Wideman, K, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 R. [Jerome?] Williams, —, 49.  
 D. Wise, E, 25, m. o. June, '66.  
 John Wise, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June, '66.  
 Samuel Wise, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June, '66.  
 Franklin Wright, E, 25, en. Aug. 7, '62, wounded Dec. 6, '64, dis. July, '65.  
 Joseph Wright, E, 25, en. June, '61, killed at Chancellorsville, May 2, '63.  
 Henry S. Wollam, H, 21, en. Apr., '61, m. o. Aug., '61, and B, 57, en. Sept., '61, dis. Aug. 10, '64, for wounds received in action at Resaca, Ga. Veteran.  
 Henry J. Wollam, Corp. B, 111, en. Aug., '62, died Jan. 9, '64, at Somerset, Ky.  
 R. H. Wollam, C, 193, en. March, '65, m. o. Aug., '65.

In the cemeteries of the township rest the remains of soldiers of previous wars as follows:

Revolutionary war, Andrew McBurney, buried east of Bradner. War of 1812, Philip Hathaway, George Lightner, Philip Shoe, C. Sheffler, Emanuel Walters, Jacob Plantz, John Dean, buried in Chestnut Ridge Cemetery; George Kieffir, Daniel Kimble, Nelson Shamblin, buried in the old cemetery; and Charles Smith, buried in the township.

### PERRY TOWNSHIP.

Perry township was represented in thirty-one Federal regiments, from April, 1861, to the close of the war of the Rebellion. In the roster, compiled by Capt. O. P. Norris and comrade veterans, the names of all are given; while an account of each, taken from the Adjutant-General's report, is added.

Henry F. Albert, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jacob Anderson, B, 111, en. Aug. '62, cap. at Lenoir, Tenn., Nov. 16, '63, m. o. June, '65.  
 James H. Anderson, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, par. March, '65, m. o. May, '65.  
 Daniel Anderson, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, died in Andersonville June 3, '64.  
 Austin Ash, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 Valentine W. Ash, K, 101, en. Aug., '62, died at Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 11, '63.  
 Edmond R. Ash, K, 101, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. June 14, '63.  
 Benjamin F. Ash, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 Amos Babcock, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Asa Babcock, A, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Cor. July, '65.  
 Joseph N. Babcock, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, Teamster, wounded at Kenesaw Mt., June 21, '64, dis. for dis. Feb. 17, '65.  
 David Baer, G, 25, en. Oct., '64, dis. July, '65.  
 George Baer, G, 25, en. June, '61, Cor. June, '66, m. o. June, '66.  
 David Baird, B, 55, en. Sept., '61, cap. Aug. 27, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Frank Bassett and James Bassett.  
 David Beedle, enlisted from this township.  
 William S. Bonnell, B, 57, commissioned as 2nd Lieut., '61, pro. 1st Lieut. April, '62, dis. Nov., '62.  
 Samuel L. Bishop, K, 49, en. Sept., '61, cap. Dec. 31, '62, cap. Sept. 19, '63, died in Andersonville June 17, '64.  
 John Bossler, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Sept., '64, also in Co. H, 21, three months.  
 Henry Bossler, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, pro. Sergt., m. o. June, '65.  
 Marsh Bradner, "Choctaw," navy.  
 Samuel Bradner, "Choctaw," navy.  
 Daniel W. Brown, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Henry G. Boncher, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept. '65.  
 Merryweather T. Burns, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. Nov., '63, died in Andersonville, July 14, '64.  
 George W. Carroll, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, m. o. May, '63.  
 William Carroll, K, 25, en. June, '61, dis. for dis. June, '62.  
 William H. Carroll, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, m. o. March, '63.  
 Ira Conley, I, 111, en. Jan., '64, Cor., tr. to F, 183, June, '65.  
 George C. Carman, B, 57, died at Memphis, '62.  
 William C. Conley, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, died in Andersonville, May 8, '64.  
 James F. Chilcote, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, appt'd 1st Sergt. Sept. 4, '62, com. 2 Lieut. Nov. 26, '62, res. Dec. 7, '63.  
 John W. Chilcote, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. Sept. 20, '63, at battle of Chickamauga, Ga., m. o. April, '65.  
 Marcus D. Chilcote, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.

Perry C. Chilcote, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. Sept. 20, '63, at battle of Chickamauga, Ga., and confined in Rebel prisons at Richmond, Danville and Andersonville, ex. Nov. 20, '64, m. o. Jan., '65.  
 Russell B. Chilcote, E, 49, en. Aug. 12, '61, dis. Nov. 24, '61, on Surg's cert. of dis., and E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug. 24, '64.  
 Samuel M. Chilcote, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, dis. April 18, '61, on Surg's cert. of dis., and E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 W. W. Chamberlain, G, 25, en. June, '61, dis. for dis. Nov., '63.  
 Albert Calvin, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. May, '65.  
 Aaron Coon, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, w'd Feb. 6, '63, died at Murfreesboro, Feb. 11, '63.  
 John Coons, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Addison P. Cory, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Solomon Cook, enlisted from this township.  
 William Crabbs, L, 123, en. March, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Franklin Crowell, enlisted from this township.  
 George W. Crowell, E, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Edward M. Curry, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, w'd Feb. 6, died March 10, '63, at Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
 Thomas Cuthbertson, G, 25, en. June, '61, w'd at Gettysburg, m. o. June, '64.  
 John Cuthbertson, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, w'd May 27, '64, dis. Oct. 28, '65.  
 Marcus Cuthbertson, D, 72, en. March, '64, cap. near Ripley, Miss., m. o. May, '67.  
 Edwin P. Dana.  
 David J. Daily, H, 49, en. Dec., '63, wounded at Kenesaw Mt., m. o. Nov., '65.  
 Samuel Daily, B, 49, en. Sept., '61, tr. Co. K, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 Francis Daily, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, duty at headquarters until m. o., '65.  
 John Daily, B, 55, en. Oct., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 William Davis, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, Teamster in '65, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Daniel Davis, B, 57, en. Feb., '64, died May 8, '64, at Chattanooga, Tenn.  
 Frank Delano, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 George S. Enos, L, I. H. A., en. June, '63, m. o. July, '65.  
 Joseph Enos, L, I. H. A., en. June 13, '63, m. o. with Company July 25, '65.  
 Lorenzo Emmons, E, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded Dec. 31, '62, tr. V. R. C. Sept., '63.  
 Levi England, E, 144, en. May, '64, pro. Cor., m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jacob Ebright, I, 123, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Winchester, Va., ex. Oct., '63, m. o. June, '65.  
 Clayton W. Everett, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, pro. Sergt. March, '62, wounded at Stone River, dis. April, '63.  
 Alfred Everett.  
 John A. Feidt, E, 186, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Thaddeus R. Fletcher, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, died in Andersonville.  
 Joseph Findlay, D, 72, en. Nov., '61, killed near Ripley, Miss., June 11, '64.  
 Ambrose Fry, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. Dec., '63, m. o. June, '65.  
 John Foreman, L, I. H. Art., en. June, '63, pro. 2 Lieut. Aug., '63, 1 Lieut. July, '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 George Foreman, A, 21, com. Lt. Sept., '61, pro. 1 Lieut. Feb., '62, resigned Nov., '62.  
 Albert B. Ford, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William H. Ford, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, w'd, killed at Nashville, Nov. 1, '64.  
 John H. Ford, E, 14, en. May, '64, pro. Cor., m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William Fry, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 Jacob B. Fry, E, 49, en. Aug., '61, pro. 1 Lieut. Dec., '64, resigned March, '65.  
 John J. Fry, F, 49, en. Aug., '61, pro. from Sergt., Dec., '64, to Lieut., re. March 9, '65.  
 Jeremiah B. Fry, K, 101, en. Aug., '62, died at Chattanooga, Tenn., Nov. 21, '63.  
 John W. Freese, E, 49, en. Feb., '64, wounded May 9, '64, dis. July, '65.  
 William M. Freese, I, 123, en. Aug., '62, missing at Winchester, June 15, '63.

- Isaac Gault, L. I. H. A., en. July, '63, injured in Kentucky R. R. ac. Oct. 29, m. o. July, '65.
- George Gunder, said to have resided here.
- Isaac G. Gunder, B, 57, en. Oct., '61, for three years.
- Soloman Gunder, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, killed at Pickett's Mills, Ga., May 27, '64.
- Samuel Gunder, E, 186, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.
- Geo. Goodwin, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. to E, 2 Inf., m. o. July, '65.
- William H. Gulick, G, 25, en. June, '61, m. o., killed at Gettysburg July 1, '63.
- Abram Grubb, K, 155, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.
- Bernard Hamilton, Navy.
- Lorenzo D. Hatfield, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. May, '65.
- Taylor Hale, G, 189, en. Feb. 9, '65, m. o. with Company, Sept. 28, '65.
- Edward Hays, L, I. H. A., en. July, '63, m. o. July, '65.
- Lorin N. Hays, K, 185, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.
- Charles Henry, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Orrin Henry, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, Cor. Sept., '62, Sergt. May, '65, m. o. June, '65.
- Thomas J. Henry, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Moses Heller, I, 123, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Winchester, ex. Oct., '63, m. o. June, '65.
- Andrew Helm, said to have served in the artillery.
- Elisha Hale, H, 49, en. Aug. 15, '61, died Jan. 8, '63, at Murfreesboro, Tenn., of wounds received Dec. 31, '62, in battle of Stone River, Tenn.
- Hiff Hukill, K, 49, en. Sept., '61, dis. Nov., '62.
- James A. Ilger, H, 49, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug. 26, '65.
- Cassius C. Jones, H, 49, en. Feb., '64, wounded at Pickett's Mills, dis. Dec., '64.
- Benj. Jones, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John Johnston, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded Sept. 20, '63, in battle of Chickamauga, Ga., again May 9, '64, in battle of Rocky Face Ridge, Ga., dis. June 20, '65, on Surg's cert. of dis. Veteran.
- Christopher Keefer, E, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. Aug. 24, '64.
- Abraham Keefer, E, 144, en. May 2, '64, com. 1 Lieut. May, '64, m. o. Aug. 24, '64.
- John Keefer, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, in action near Lenoir, Tenn., died March 20, '64, in Rebel prison at Richmond, Va.
- Eli Keifer, B, 111, en. July, '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, in action near Lenoir, Tenn., par. March 1, '65, m. o. May, '65.
- George Kempfer, K, 101, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. May, '63.
- W. H. H. Kiger, Sergt. I, 17, en. Aug., '61, dis. May, '62, on Surg's cert. of dis., E, 144, Sergt., en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Samuel Lambright, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John M. Locey, H, 49, en. Oct., died at San Antonio, Tex., Aug. 25, '65.
- Francis E. Lowe, E, 49, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Nov., '64.
- Jeremiah Loman, B, 57, en. Oct. 1, '61, apptd. Cor. Aug. 31, '64, m. o. Aug., '65. Veteran.
- Thomas B. Loman, L, I. H. A., en. June, '63, m. o. July, '65.
- George W. McEwen, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, Sergt., killed in battle of Pickett's Mills, Ga., May 27, '64. Veteran.
- Thomas C. McEwen, H, 49, en. Oct., '61, wounded June 25, '63, in battle of Liberty Gap, Tenn., m. o. Nov., '64.
- Milton C. Miller, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga.
- Orrison McClellan, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis. July, '63, at St. Louis, Mo.
- Stephen Mason, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- William McEwen, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Wm. C. McRill, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.
- Alvin C. McRill, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- James McCormick, L, I. H. A., en. June, '63, m. o. July, '65.
- Charles A. Musser, 9, Ind. Bat. L. A., en. March, '64, m. o. July, '65.
- Simpson C. Miller, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, Cor. Dec., '62, cap. at Chickamauga, ret. June, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.
- Charles F. Munger, B, 55, en. Oct., '61, m. o. July, '65, veteran.
- James H. Moffett, mustered in, moved to Cincinnati, and m. o. by State.
- Wm. W. Morgan, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June 27, '65.
- Omar P. Norris, H, 21, en. April, '61, in 3-mos. service, and G, 25, en. June, '61, dis. Nov., '61, on Surg's cert. of dis., re-enlisted in Co. B, 111, Aug. 1, '62, apptd. 1st Sergt. Sept. 6, '62, pro. to 2d Lieut. Jan. 12, '63, to 1st Lieut. March 13, '63, cap. Nov. 16, '63, near Lenoir, Tenn., escaped from prison Nov. 27, '64, reported to Regt. Feb. 8, '65, pro. Capt. Co. I, to date from Nov. 17, '64. (Was in Rebel prisons upward of 13 months.)
- Thomas C. Norris, B, 111, com. Capt. July, '62, pro. major Jan. 1, '64, com. Lt.-Col., m. o. as major, July 12, '65, died in 1867 at Fostoria, Ohio, from injuries received in a railroad accident during the war.
- James H. Norris, H, 49, en. Oct., '61, apptd. Corp. Oct. 1, '62, wounded in battle of Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 20, '63, apptd. Sergt. Feb. 1, '64, killed at Pickett's Mills, Ga., May 27, '64.
- John C. Ort, B, 57, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Jacob A. Ort, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, died at Vicksburg, Miss., Oct. 1, '63.
- John Ostein, B, 55, en. Sept., '61, killed at Bull Run, Va., Aug. 30, '62.
- William Osman, B, 57, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.
- Zibia Osman, 55 or 57.
- Fred Otman, supposed to have been in E, 144.
- William B. Otto, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, m. o. June, '65.
- Edward Otto, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Wilson Patterson, B, 55, en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis. Sept., '62.
- Nathaniel Patterson, B, 55, en. Sept., '61, tr. to Bat. 2, V. R. C, Oct., '63.
- William H. Patterson, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John Pelton, H, 49, en. Sept., '61, Vet. Co. K, Jan., '64, wounded May 27, '64, m. o. Nov., '65.
- Henry J. Pelton, B, 55, en. Sept. 20, '61, apptd. Sergt. from Corp. Sept. 1, '62, 1st Sergt. Oct. 1, '64, pro. to Quartermaster June 7, '65, to 1st Lieut. July 10, '65, veteran, m. o. July 11, '65.
- George Paine, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Henry Padgham, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Amos K. Raney, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, in action near Lenoir, Tenn., died in Rebel prison at Andersonville, Ga., June 18, '64.
- Jonathan Rice, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Lawrenceburg, par. Oct., '62, killed at Pickett's Mills.
- Perry Rice, D, 49, en. Sept., '61, tr. Co. K, m. o. Sept., '64.
- Amos B. Rich, B, 57, Feb. to Aug., '64.
- Christ A. Riser, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, pro. Cor. Sept., '64, Sergt., June, '65, m. o. Aug., '65.
- William Rollins, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, ex. Jan., '65, m. o. Jan., '65.
- George Richard, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, Musician, died at Chattanooga, May 15, '64.
- John Richard, Jr., B, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- John L. Richard, B, 111, Corpl. en. Aug., '62, cap. Nov. 16, '63, in action near Lenoir, Tenn., par. Nov., '64, m. o. June, '65.
- Orrin S. Richardson, G, 189, en. March 1, '65, died in hospital at Huntsville, Ala., March 25, '65.
- Leland Richardson, B, 57, Sept., '61, to Aug., '65.
- Jacob Rumbaugh, H, 49, en. Oct., '62, drafted, m. o. July, '63.
- Jeremiah Rumbaugh, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, wounded at Kenesaw Mt., died in Ga., Sept. 6, '64.
- William M. Rumbaugh, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Daniel Shaffstall, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, died at Murfreesboro, June 15, '63.
- Henry Shaffstall, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died June 20, '63, at Glasgow, Ky.
- Jacob R. Slatterbeck, H, 21, en. April, '61 (3 mos. Regt.) m. o. Aug., '61.
- Samuel Slatterbeck, B, 111, en. July, '62, wounded in action and dis. Sept. 18, '63.
- John Slatterbeck, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, Wagoner until m. o. June, '65.
- George W. Slatterbeck, H, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. with Co., Aug. 12, '61, B, 57, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis., July, '63, wounded in right arm in battle of Arkansas Post.
- Samuel Shaver, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, tr. to S. C., m. o., Oct., '63.

Jacob Sidles, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Simon Shoe.  
 Henry Sherman, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Joseph Sidle.  
 Silas W. Simons, E, 49, en. Aug. 12, '61, appt'd 1st Serg't from  
 Serg't, July 4, '62, pro. 2nd Lieut. Co. H, June 18, '63,  
 1st Lieut. from 2nd Lieut. Co. H, March 10, '64, killed  
 May 27, '64, in battle of Pickett's Mills, Ga.  
 Benjamin Spittler, K, 123, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Winchester,  
 m. o. June, '65.  
 John H. Spittler, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Alexander Smith, K, 101, en. Aug., '62, died at Nashville,  
 Dec. 8, '62.  
 John W. Smith, G, 25, en. Sept., '61, wounded '64, dis. July, '65.  
 Wm. Orr Smith, I, 111, en. Jan., '64, died at Chattanooga,  
 July 10, '64.  
 Isaac Stambaugh, E, 49, en. Oct., '62, drafted, dis. July, '63.  
 A. D. Stewart, G, 25, en. June, '61, wounded at Gettysburg,  
 July 1, '63, m. o. July, '64, Serg't.  
 Frank R. Stewart, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded at Stone  
 River, Dec., '62, appt'd 1st Serg't, April, '63, pro. 2nd  
 Lieut., Oct., '63, tr. Co. K, June, '64, veteran, pro. Capt.  
 from 1st Lieut. Co. F, Dec., '64, m. o. with Co., Nov., '65.  
 James M. Stewart, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, pro. Serg't, m. o.  
 June, '65.  
 John T. Stewart, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, as Corp'l.  
 William Stewart, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Orrin Stearns, B, 55, en. Sept. 23, '61, appt'd Corp'l, June 1,  
 '64, pro. 1st Serg't July 8, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Joel Swineheart, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Gabriel Swineheart, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. Oct. 13, '62,  
 par. May, '63, Corp'l Oct., '63, m. o., Serg't, Nov., '65.  
 John W. Swineheart, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, pro. Serg't, cap.  
 Nov. 16, '63, died in Andersonville, May 24, '64.  
 Jacob Swartz, E, 49, en. Oct., '62, drafted, died at Bowling  
 Green, Ky., Jan. 10, '63.  
 William H. Swineheart, H, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Charles W. Thomas, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. May, '65.  
 Lott Todd, B, 57, en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis. Dec. 16, '62.  
 Michael Todd, I, 123, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Wilber Vining, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, died Jan. 4, '63.  
 James H. Vosburg, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded May 27,  
 '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Benjamin F. Wardin, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Hiram Whiteford, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. Oct., '62, ret.  
 Jan., '63, wounded at Chickamauga and at Nashville,  
 m. o. April, '65.  
 William Werner, B, 55, en. Oct., '61, m. o. with Co. July 11,  
 '65. Veteran.  
 Moses Wimer, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 David H. Wonder, D, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Joseph F. Wonder, D, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Henry S. Williams, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, pro. 2nd Lieut.,  
 March, '65, 1st Lieut. Co. B, Sept., '65.  
 Philip J. Wickard, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. May, '65.  
 Henry Wickard, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Stone River,  
 ex. May, '63, wounded Nov. 25, '63, m. o. March, '65.  
 Elmer Yates, claimed as a soldier from this township.  
 John W. Yates, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, pro. Serg't, Oct., '63, 1st  
 Serg't, Nov., '64, killed Dec. 16, '64, in battle of Nash-  
 ville, Tenn. Veteran.  
 Daniel M. Yates, H, 49, en. Aug. 15, '61, apptd. Cor. Nov. 1,  
 '64, Serg't, April, '65, m. o. Nov. 30, '65.  
 William L. Yates, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, apptd. Cor. April 15,  
 '65, m. o. Nov. 30, '65. Veteran.  
 Lewis L. Yates, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Solomon Yonker, I, N. Y. Inf., killed in battle.  
 Samuel Yonker, I, 123, en. Dec., '63, m. o. June, '65.

## PERRYSBURG TOWNSHIP AND VILLAGE.

The roster and record of Perrysburg soldiers are founded on muster rolls and private docu-

ments in possession of Hiram Charles, sundry military notices in the *Perrysburg Journal*, and memories of several veterans. The lists were submitted to Messrs. Hayes, Kingsbury, *et al.*, of Perrysburg; LaFarree, Merry, Evers, Yeager and Finkbeiner, of Bowling Green; J. W. Brownsberger, of Weston, and others; and to the names thus obtained the records of service were added from the Adjutant-General's reports.

G. A. Adams, 11 Cav., chaplain, en. July, '63, resigned Nov. 25, '64.  
 John H. Adams, H, 67, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Albert Alden, C, 3 Cav. en. Sept., '61.  
 John C. Albert, C, 21 (3 mos.), H, 67, com. Capt., Feb., '63, killed at Fort Wagner, S. C., July 18, '63.  
 Henry E. Averill, 11 Cav. en. June, '63, ap. R. Q. M. dis. at Omaha, Nebr., April, '65.  
 James P. Averill, G, 21 (3 mos.), and F, 144, First Serg't., of 144, from May until Aug., '64.  
 Philip Artz, G, 130, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Frank Artz, G, 37, en. Sept., '61.  
 John Barton, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William Barton, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John Bader, I, 111, com. 2nd Lieut., Aug., '62, resigned Oct. 20, '62.  
 Ed. L. Baird, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, en. for 3 years, Sept., '61, pro. 1st Lieut., and Adj., Dec., '61, served to Dec., '64.  
 Charles C. Baird, E, 72, and C, 144, en. in 144, May, '64, Serg't., until Aug., '64.  
 Charles Barnes, H, 67, en. Oct., '62.  
 D. D. Bates, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Melvin Barlow, Lieut. 27th Mich. Infantry.  
 Bradford Barlow, 27th Mich. Infantry.  
 Alexander Beard, H, 57, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Aug., '65, with rank of Corporal.  
 Alexander Baird, H, 67, en. Oct., '62, dis. Aug., '65.  
 George Beard, H, 57, en. Jan., '62, m. o. Jan., '65.  
 John Beach, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Gilbert Beach, Fifth Wis. Inf.  
 Peter Bell, H, 67, com. 2d Lieut. Oct., '62, resigned Nov., '63.  
 Francis X. Belanger, C, 21 (3 yrs.), en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62, being then sergeant.  
 Chris. Bensman, G, 189, en. Feb., '61, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Christopher Betz, E, 1 Mich. Cav.  
 Jacob Belleville, C, 21 (3 mos.), April, '61, to Aug., '61.  
 Freeman Belleville, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '63, died May 13, '64, at Chattanooga.  
 William Belleville, K, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June, '66.  
 Charles Belleville, C, 128, en. June, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 James Belleville, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Lyman Belleville, C, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Davis B. Bentley, C, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, and C, 21 (3 yrs.), en. July, '62, cap. at Chickamauga, died at Richmond, Nov. 19, '64.  
 Andrew Bloomfield, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Julius E. Blinn, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John H. Blinn, E, 72, Capt.  
 Leonard B. Blinn, C, 21 (3 mos.), and A, 100, com. Capt., May, '63, pro. from 1st Lieut., resigned March 3, '65.  
 John H. Byers, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Franklin Blinn, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Richard F. Blinn, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis. Jan., '63, with rank of Serg't. Also served in F, 144, from May to Aug., '64, but first in Co. C, 21, 3 mos.  
 Marshall K. Blinn, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, dis. Sept., '65.  
 Dock Blinn, F, 144, en. May, '64.  
 Ignatius Boff, K, 123, en. Aug., '62, pro. Corp., dis. for dis. May, '63.  
 Gustavus Borden, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, accidentally injured, tr. 15th Regt. V. R. C., m. o. July, '65.  
 John S. Borden, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Augustus Bradford, 19 Ind. Infantry.

- Levi Bricker, G, 61, en. March, '62, dis. March, '64.  
 Andrew J. Brownsberger, A, 100, en. July, '62, wounded at Limestone Sta., Sept. 8, '63, died at Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 26, '63.  
 John W. Brownsberger, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., Sept. 8, '63, was confined in Libby, Belle Isle and Castle Thunder prisons, ret. June, '64, apptd. Corp. Dec. 1, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 James M. Brown, H, 57, en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis., Dec., '62.  
 W. W. Brown, F, 21, en. Sept., '61, one of the volunteers for the Mitchell Raid, dis. May 15, '64, awarded medal of honor by Congress, July, '62.  
 William Broka, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. 1 Batt. V. R. C., April, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Henry C. Broka, G, 3 Cav., and B, 55, en. in Cav. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Alexander R. Bruce, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. with Co. Aug., '61, C, 128, en. June, '62, dis. Oct., '62, on Surg's cert. of dis., F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jesse Bruce, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. with Co. Aug. 1, '61, and F, 144, en. May, '64, Corp., m. o. with Co. Aug., '64, Navy, 2.  
 Joseph Bruce, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. with Co., Aug., '64, and Navy, en. Co. F.  
 George Burkert, I, 72, en. Oct., dis. for dis. March, '63.  
 Andrew Burns, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 George W. Button, H, 55, en. Dec., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 James Carter, B, 111, en. Aug., dis. for dis. Dec., '62.  
 James A. Cavenaugh, B, 156, Ill. Inf.  
 Edward C. Carroll, Navy.  
 John B. Campbell, C, 38, Penn. Inf.  
 William Canfield, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
 Charles W. Chappel, H, 67, en. Jan., '62, m. o. Dec., '65, w'd at Ware Bottom, May 20, '64.  
 John W. Chappel, C, 21, and E, 1 Mich. Cav.  
 John Chamberlain, A, 100, en. July, '62, tr. to V. R. C.  
 Franklin Charles, A, 100, died in Andersonville, Aug. 9, '64, cap. at Limestone Sta., Sept., '63.  
 Hiram Charles, A, 100, en. July, '62, pro. Sergt. and 1 Sergt., cap. Sept. 8, '63, ret. May, '65, m. o. June, '65.  
 James M. Charles, Jr., F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 W. P. Clark, C, 24, en. June, '61, dis. March, '63.  
 John Cornelius, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, dis. Sept. '64.  
 Daniel Cornelius, F, 144.  
 Noah W. Cox, I, 47, en. June, '61, tr. from Co. F, served until Oct., '65.  
 Henry L. Cook, L, 3 Cav., en. Dec. '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Allen Cook, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62.  
 Asher Cook, C, 21, and F, 144, Capt. of Co. C, 21, for three months, Capt. of Co. F, 144, for term of service.  
 Edward C. Contine, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Edward Conrad, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. May, '65.  
 R. H. Chubb, "Squirrel Hunter."  
 Henry L. Crane, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Wesley Cranker, G, 3 Cav., en. Jan., '64, apptd. Farrier, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Joseph Croft, H, '67, en. Jan., '62, m. o. as Corp. Dec., '65.  
 John Croft, H, 67, and E, 72, Musician of H, 67, from Oct., '62, to Oct., '65, en. in 72, Nov., '61, dis. July, '62.  
 William Crook, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Herbert Crook, C, 21, died at Richmond of smallpox Dec. 3, '63, having been cap. at Chickamauga.  
 Thomas Crook, C, 21, en. Aug. 9, '61, m. o. as Sergt. July, '65.  
 James Cullen, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, died May 25, '62.  
 G. W. Cummins, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, pro. Sergt. and 1st Sergt., m. o. Dec., '65, and a Mexican soldier.  
 William Darling, C, 128, en. June, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Benjamin F. Darling, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, and C, 128, from May, '62, to June, '65.  
 Robert M. Davis, C, 3 Cav., en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Nov., '62, re-en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Charles Dustin, C, 130, en. May, '64, dis. Sep., '64.  
 Jacob Davis, U. S. N. Paymaster.  
 Frank G. Davenport, B, 111, en. Aug. '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Wm. H. Davenport, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 J. M. Deems, E, 11, Vir. Inf.  
 Edward W. DeVerna, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept. 24, '62, m. o. Aug. 4, '65.  
 August Degner, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, apt. Sergt. Sept. '62, w'd. at Franklin, m. o. June, '65.  
 Samuel DeFrehne, I, 48 Tenn., June, '61, dis. Aug., '65.  
 Noble Dibert, H, 67, en. Nov. '61, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Michael Dibert, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Jan., '65.  
 Henry Dillsworth, H, 67, en. Oct. '61, m. o. Aug., '63.  
 Joseph Dorr, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. March, '64.  
 Wm. Douglas, C, 72, en. Dec., m. o. Sept., '65.  
 James Driscoll, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, m. o. as Sergeant Dec., '65.  
 Jonathan Duhamel, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. 5 Regt. V. R. C., '63, m. o. July, '65.  
 Alfred Edwards, H, '67, en. Oct., '61, tr. V. R. C.  
 Jacob Emch, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed near Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 14, '63.  
 Fred Finkbeiner, 18, Ill. Inf. (3 mos.), later on "Unadilla" and "Lafayette" of Navy.  
 Christopher Finkbeiner, E, 72, en. Dec. 4, '61, dis. July 25, '62, on Surg's cert. of dis. having had typhoid fever, L, 3rd Cav., en. July 1, '63, dis. March 16, '65, for wounds received in action Oct. 25, '64, losing right foot.  
 John Finkbeiner, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded at Jonesboro, m. o. July, '65.  
 Christian Fick, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. July, '65.  
 John Fink, B, 55, en. Dec., '61, cap. Feb. 24, '65, ret. to Regt., m. o. June, '65.  
 Lewis Fink, K, 52, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Peter Fierstein, I, 67, en. Dec., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 James F. Fleming, F, 13, Penn., wounded at Cross Keys, Va.  
 Terry O. Fleming, H, 67, en. Jan., '64, killed May 10, '64.  
 Charles Fowler, A, 100, died in Andersonville, Sept. 22, '64, having been cap. at Limestone Sta., Sept. 8, '63.  
 D. F. Frasier, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, died at Washington, D. C. January 6, '63, in hospital.  
 James Frusher, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, m. o. July, '65, Vet.  
 Thomas Frusher, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 James Graham, I, Mich. Cav.  
 Geo. W. Goodman, L, 3 Cav., en. Aug., '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Albert Griffin, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, killed at Ft. Wagner, S. C., July 18, '63.  
 Washington Goodman, L, 3 Cav.  
 Marion Goodman, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Christian Getz, vet. of Mex. war, also B, 67, Dec., '61, to Dec., '65.  
 Oliver Goodman, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, w'd June 27, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Thomas Goodman, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, dis. Aug., '65, Veteran.  
 Charles Gross, B, 101, en. Aug., '62, w'd at Chickamauga, tr. 19 Regt., V. R. C., m. o. July, '65.  
 Enos Greiss, A, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, m. o. as Sergt. Aug., '65.  
 C. Guisbuehler, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Gotlieb Guyor, F, 64, en. May, '64, dis. July, '64.  
 John Gunder, B, 111, July, '62, m. o. with Co. June, '65.  
 Thomas Hayes, L, 3 Cav., en. Jan., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 William Hayes, F, 12 U. S. Inf., w'd at Fredericksburg.  
 James Hayes, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, w'd May 9, '64, and April 2, '65, at Petersburg, pro. Sergt. July, '64, dis. for dis. July, '65, Veteran.  
 Henry Hahn, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 James Hamilton, unassigned colored troops.  
 Simon Hartsing, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Andrew Hartzing, B, 67, en. Nov. '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
 Thomas Hartson, A, 100, en. July, '62, tr. to 74 Co., 2 Bat., V. R. C., dis. for dis. April, '65.  
 Christopher Held, 7 Co., Ind. Sharpshooters, en. Nov. 11, '62, died July 28, '65.  
 David Hatcher, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 John C. Hemmelman, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Fred Hirth, C, 21, en. April, '61, dis. Aug., '61.  
 William Heckler, F, 67, en. March, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 Joseph Hillabrand, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. 17 Regt., V. R. C., m. o. June, '65.  
 G. W. Hollenbeck, C, 128, en. Sept., '62, pro. from ranks, through grades to 1 Lieut. of Co. A., m. o. Jan., '65.  
 D. K. Hollenbeck, "Squirrel Hunter."

- Vitus Haas, I, 111, killed at Franklin, Tenn., Nov. 30, '64.  
 Henry Holt, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 W. H. Hollenbeck, C, 128, en. Sept., '62, m. o. as Corporal June, '65.  
 Henry H. Houston, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Cor. July, '65.  
 H. M. Hoover, K, 10 Cav.  
 Judson Huntingdon, 12 Mich. Infantry.  
 H. C. Huntingdon, served in a Pennsylvania Regt., and in C, 21st, three months.  
 George W. Hufford, C, 21, en. Sept., '62, tr. V. R. C., April, '64.  
 C. C. Hum, Sgt. A, 100, en. July, '62, dis. Feb., '64, to accept com's'n in 1st Regt. U. S. Col. H. Art., from which m. o. March, '66, as 1st Lieut.  
 J. G. Hoffman, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 George J. Hoffman, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 George Inaman, Navy, lost on "Sultana."  
 Robert Ireland, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died in Richmond prison March 14, '64.  
 Henry Ireland, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. March, '63.  
 John W. Jennings, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 William H. Jennings, H, 87, en. June, '61, cap. at Harper's Ferry, par. pro. 2 Lieut., en. in G, 43, m. o. July, '65.  
 B. W. Johnson, Lt.-Col. 111, now of Marshalltown, Iowa, com. Lt.-Col. Aug., '62, resigned Feb., '63, by reason of physical disability.  
 Albert Johnson, H, 67, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Freeman Johnson, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64. First en. C, 21, April 25, '61 (3 mos.), m. o. with Co., Aug. 12, '61.  
 Oscar Johnson, I, N. Y. Art.  
 James Jones, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Will H. Jones, Major and Paymaster.  
 Jacob Keller, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 George F. Kemp, K, 25, en. Nov., '63, m. o. June, '66.  
 Jacob Klever, 18 Mich., Inf.  
 J. J. Kenzig, B, 25, Ill. Inf.  
 Christian Knurr, G, 37, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Jonathan Knapp, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 William Knapp, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Aaron Knull, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Ira Knull, L, 3 Cav., en. July, '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Barney Kokenge, A, 58, en. Oct., '61, as Bernhard Kokenge.  
 Samuel M. La Farree, C, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Louis LaFayette, L, 3 Cav., en. Oct., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Henry LaFayette, —, 15, U. S. Regt.  
 John Lang, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., Dec. 9, '62.  
 Joseph B. Lindsay, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, re-en. Aug., '61, for three years, tr. to G, 1 Art.  
 Henry C. Lindsay, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, dis. Sept., '65.  
 William Lininger, B, 67, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Levi Lininger, B, 67, en. Nov., '61, wounded near Chester, m. o. as Sergt. Dec., '65.  
 George Limmer, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65, as Corp.  
 C. D. Lindsay, H, 67, en. Jan., '62, pro. Q. M. S., Sept., '62.  
 George Loeber, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. as Corp. June, '65.  
 Philip L. Maher, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Dr. McCray, 11 Indiana Infantry.  
 John McFall, B, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, m. o. Aug., '65. Vet.  
 Geo. S. McKnight, H, 11 Mich. Inf., served until Sept., '64.  
 Arnold McMahan, C, 21, com. 1st Lieut. of 3-mos. Regt., then Capt. of 3 yrs. Regt., pro. Major June 14, '63, cap. at Chickamauga, ret. March, '64, meantime was pro. Lieut.-Col., brevetted Colonel March, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Edward McMahan, E, 72, Musician, Nov., '61, to Sept., '65.  
 Frank McMahon, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. by order of War Dept.  
 Peter McMahan, Jr., A, 26, en. June, '61, dis. July, '65.  
 Michael McMahan, C, 128, en. May, '62, m. o. as Sergeant June, '65.  
 Hugh F. McAllister, 49 Inf. and 3 H. Art., served July, '61, to Nov., '65.  
 George W. Merry, C, 128, en. May, '62, m. o. June, '62.  
 Earl W. Merry, C, 21 (3 mos.), to Aug., '61, C, 21 (3 yrs.), from Aug., '61, to July, '65, pro. Sergt.-Maj. Nov., '63, wounded at Peach Tree Creek July 20, '64.  
 George Markloff, G, 189, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Ichabod Mead, C, 168, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Henry E. Mandell, H, '67, and G, 3 Cav., en. in Cav. Dec. '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Jacob Metzgar, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. June, '65.  
 Conrad Mahlman, G, 189, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 George Miller, E, 1st Mich. Cav.  
 Fred. R. Miller, 21 and 144, com. R. Q. M., April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, com. Lieut.-Col. 144, May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John Mitson, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 John W. Mogle, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, detached as Teamster, Oct. 25, '63.  
 Daniel Mogle, G, 3 Cav., en. Aug., '64, m. o. as Corp'l, Aug., '65.  
 Lewis Morlock, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John A. Morlock, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John Mullet, G, 189, en. Jan., '65, dis. Sept., '65.  
 Guy C. Myers, A, 100, en. '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 John Nellis, A, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '63, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Geo. H. Newton, K, 25, en. Feb., '64, m. o. June, '66.  
 John Neubauer, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Chauncey A. Norton, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Jesse S. Norton, —, 21 (3 yrs.), com. Colonel, Sept. 19, '61, resigned Dec. 20, '62; also Col. of 21. 3-mos. service; wound'd and cap. at battle of Scarytown, Va., July 17, '61; m. o. with Reg. Aug. 12, '61; died at Toledo, 1886.  
 C. W. Norton, Pro. Marshal.  
 Edward O'Connor, H, 67, en. July, '62, served as Musician, served to Dec., '65.  
 John Otterbacher, B, 55, en. Dec., '61, wounded, arm amputated, dis. Aug., '64.  
 Samuel Pence, B, '61, en. March, '62, dis. March, '65.  
 Ezra Perry, A, 14, en. Sept., '61, dis. March '62.  
 Wilkinson D. Perrin, C, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. April, '61, aud 1st Light Art., killed in battle at Cold Harbor, in '64.  
 William C. Perrin, C, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. April, '61.  
 Henry Pierce, A, 100, July, '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., died in Andersonville, July 18, '64.  
 Guy D. Pierce, I, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, m. o. Oct., '64.  
 James H. Pierce, served with "Squirrel Hunters."  
 J. F. Price, Major and Paymaster.  
 Charles A. Phelps, B, 14, en. Oct., '62, dis. July, '65.  
 Henry Purvis, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Jarret Puse, E, 72, en. Dec., '61, dis. Dec., '64.  
 Charles Pocklington, 18 Mich. Inf.  
 Henry M. Powers, C, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Louis Raab, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Levi Reitsnyder, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, cap. Oct. 4, '62, par., m. o. Oct., '64.  
 John H. Reid, D, 86, Com. Capt. July, '63, m. o. Feb., '64, Quartermaster 144th O. V. I.  
 J. T. Reither, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Philip Reither, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Charles Roe, B, 123, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Worthington Robbins, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, cap. at Deep Bottom, Va., par., m. o. March, '65.  
 Henry Root, gunboat "Kingston," U. S. N.  
 Conrad Ross, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., died Feb. 15, '64, while being transferred to Andersonville.  
 Levi Roth, 111th Penn. Infantry.  
 John Sangmeister, 1st Maryland Ringgold Cavalry.  
 Frank Sampson, served from Jan. to Sept., '65.  
 Franklin J. Sauter, B, 55, com. Capt. April, '63, having passed grades from Sept., '61, killed May 2, '63.  
 Fred Schwind, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, w'd at Campbell's Sta., m. o. May, '65.  
 Jacob Sholl, E, 124, en. May, '63, dis. July, '65.  
 Gottlieb Scholl, F, 37, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.  
 Fred Schaller, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. as Sergt. June, '65.  
 George Schaller, F, 37, en. Oct., '62, w'd near Vicksburg, dis. for dis. Aug., '63.  
 Siegmund Schaller, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Lewis Schaller, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 A. J. Schaumlöffel, I, 67, en. Dec., '61, tr. to 7 N. Y. Ind. Bat., Aug. 18, '62.



- W. P. Scott, A, 25, com. Capt. Feb., '64, w'd April 9, '65, m. o. June, '66.
- George R. Scott, F, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. June, '65.
- A. L. Scott, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John A. Shannon, A, 100, com. Capt., July, '62, pro. Major, May, '63, pro. Lieut. Col. I. N. S. Col. H. A. Jan., '65.
- William Shannon, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, tr. I Penn. L. Art.
- Michael Sheehy, C, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.
- Albert J. Seely, H, 67, en. Dec., '61, died at Richmond, Va., Aug. 9, '65.
- Patrick Sheridan, 40, Iowa Inf.
- A. F. Sheppard, B, 4, Mich. Cav., was killed in railroad accident at Toledo, '88.
- W. T. Sheplar, A, 100, en. July, '62, dis. for dis. Nov., '62.
- Thomas F. Shaw, A, 100, en. July, '62, pro. 2 Lieut. I. N. S. Col. H. Art., Nov. 4, '64, resigned Nov., '65.
- John Swartz, John F. Snyder, John Spiers and H. D. Stouffer, en. G, 189, in Feb., '65, were m. o. Sept., '65.
- Joseph Shertzer, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, Wagoner, dis. for dis. Nov. 27, '62.
- Thomas Shanor, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died May 29, '63, at Bowling Green.
- Wesley Shanor, C, 21, en. April, '61, died Aug., '61.
- Adam Shanor, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Sept., '63.
- Russell M. Shanor, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Jan., '63.
- C. Seiling, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Oct., '63.
- Dunham Simmons, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Robert Sisson, K, 25, en. Feb., '64, dis. June, '65.
- John Skahan, F, 100, en. Aug., '62, tr. V. R. C., Jan., '65.
- John Slawson, H, 67, Musician, dis. for dis. June, '62, died at Haskins, 1875.
- James Slawson, com. Lieut. 12 Mich. Inf., was accidentally killed by one of his Company, Oct., '61.
- Patrick S. Slevin, —, 100, Lieut. Col. Aug., '62, pro. Col. May, '63, wounded at Utoy Cr., dis. for dis. Nov., '64, died at Toledo, 1895.
- Everett E. Smith, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Gus. F. Smith, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, pro. Sergt. Major, July, '63, pro. 2nd Lieut. E, April, '64, 1st Lieut. March, '65, m. o. May, '65.
- Conrad Smith, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., died in Andersonville, May, 18, '64.
- Fred. Snyder, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Leonard Snyder, F, 144, en. May, '64, died June 14, '74, at Annapolis Junction, Md.
- Casper Snyder, C, 49, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Sergt., Nov., '65.
- John B. Spafford, H, 67, com. Capt. Oct., '61, resig'd Feb., '63.
- Ara C. Spafford, C, 21, en. Sept., '61, com. 2d Lieut. Oct., '62, cap. at Chickamauga, died a prisoner of war at Columbia, S. C., Oct. 14, '64.
- Henry Speck, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed at Franklin, Nov. 30, '64.
- Alex. R. Stewart, B, 55, en. Oct., '61, dis. Jan., '63.
- Edward Stevens, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed Nov. 30, '64, near Spring Hill, Tenn.
- Charles Stevens, I, 145, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.
- Martin Stevens, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Lenoir, par. Dec., '63, m. o. June, '65.
- Derrick Stone, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Ephraim Strickland, D, 111, en. Aug. 14, '62, wounded at Franklin, died Dec. 21, '64.
- Nathan Strickland, A, 14, Inf., first in C, 21 (3 mos.), en. in A, 14, Aug. 8, '61, dis. July, '65.
- Sylvester Stump, C, 21, and L, 3 Cav., killed by a falling tree March 24, '65, in Alabama.
- George Sweet, G, 3 Cav., en. Jan., '64, m. o. June, '65.
- Samuel Swigart, A, 20th Indiana Infantry.
- Baldwin Swigart, I, 111, Musician from Aug., '62, to Jan., '63, when he was discharged for disability.
- George Sheppard, C, 21, up to Aug., '61, and 100 N. Y., Sept., '61, for three years.
- E. Tefft, "Squirrel Hunter."
- Nathan Tefft, C, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, and in C, 128, from May, '62, until June, '65.
- Parmer L. Tefft, "Squirrel Hunter."
- Lewis Teideman, A, 100, en. July, '62, pro. 2d Lieut. E, 1, Tenn. Cav., Nov. 4, '63.
- Simon Thomas (colored), unassigned troops.
- James Timmons, I, 5 Inf., com. Lieut., cap. at the battle of Port Republic, June, '62, escaped from Salisbury prison.
- Oliver Thompson, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John Thompson, F, 111, Tenn. Inf., en. Nov., '61, dis. July, '65.
- Charles A. Thompson, 17 Mich., Lieut., cap. June, '62, two years in Libby prison.
- F. H. Thompson, C, 21, served three months, m. o. as Corp.
- J. J. Thornton, C, 21, and E, 72, en. in 21, April, '61, m. o. April, '61.
- Israel Thornton, F, 144, did not leave the State.
- Reed Thorton, C, 21 (3 years), en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Feb., '63.
- David L. Tremaine, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, cap. at Bardstown, par., m. o. Oct. 3, '64.
- Fred Trenchell, B, 55, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Feb., '63.
- Basie Trombla, F, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. as 1st Sergt. May, '65.
- Henry Trumpey, E, 1 L. Art.
- Philemon Turner, G, 30, en. June, '61, dis. Aug., '65.
- Frank S. Tyler, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- D. A. Vass, C, 21 (3 months), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.
- Thomas Veitch, 47, N. Y.
- James W. Wallace, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Philip B. Wallace, A, 100, en. July, '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., ret. June, '64, m. o. June, '65.
- John Wallace, D, 86, en. June, '63, dis. Feb., '64.
- Richard Wallace, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.
- William Walters, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. 8 Regt. V. R. C. Jan., '65, m. o. July, '65.
- Thomas Walters, E, 111, en. Aug., '62, com. 2nd Lieut. from 1 Sergt., m. o. June, '65.
- Christian Walter, G, 37, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.
- Thomas Warren, E, 7, en. June, '61, m. o. July, '64.
- Thomas L. Webb, C, 21, en. Aug., '64, dis. for dis. Dec., '63.
- D. H. Waters, D, 182, en. Sept., '64, dis. July, '65.
- James K. Webb, G, 3 Cav., en. Jan., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.
- T. C. Webb, Ind. Inf., en. Aug., '61, dis. Aug., '65, lost left arm at Pea Ridge.
- William W. Webb, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Aug. '65.
- Clayton Webb, 3 Cav.
- Thomas J. Webb, —, 21.
- Michael Weaver, L. Art., en. April, '63, dis. May, '65.
- John L. Wetherill, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, absent, sick at Danville, Aug. 17, '63.
- Charles A. Westcott, L, 3 Cav., en. Dec., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Nicholas Widertz, B, 9, en. May, '61, m. o. June, '64.
- John Wells, E, 111, Aug., '62, to June '65.
- John E. Wilkinson, C, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.
- W. D. Wilkinson, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Jesse Williams, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Lewis E. Wilson, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Michael Witzler, G, 37, en. Sept. 12, '61, cap. in battle of Atlanta, Ga., died Jan. 26, '65, in Rebel prison at Florence, S. C.
- William Witzler, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. June, '65.
- Peter Witzler, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65, as Corp.
- John Wiltsie, H, 1 L. Art., en. Aug., '62, dis. June, '65.
- Isaac T. Whitson, C, 3 Cav., en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Henry Wygant, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, tr. to V. R. C. Aug., '63.
- Henry Wolf, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Hezekiah Wolf.
- John Wolford, B, 55, killed at Bull Run, Aug. 30, '62, aged 14 yrs.
- Fred Wolford, B, 55, en. Oct., '61, tr. to 2. Batt. V. R. C.
- Charles Yates (colored), unassigned.
- John Yeager, I, 111, com. Capt., Aug. 14, '62, dis. Feb. 7, '64.
- Fred. Yeager, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, as Musician; E, 181, en. Oct., '64, app'd Corp'l, Oct., '64, Serg't, Dec., '64, m. o. with Co., July, '65.
- John H. Younck, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. July, '65.
- Charles Zinger, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Christian Zanger, en. in some Reg't, Sept., '61, dis. Sept., '64.

Among the residents of the township who had served in previous wars were: Valentine Link,



H. P. Averill, Edward Mills, Alfred Ratcliff, Peter McMahon, Sr., 2nd U. S. Infantry, and Dennis McConnell, of the Mexican war; Joseph Chappel, Joseph Badger, Thomas Beaver, H. Hall, T. R. McKnight, John Moore, Orlin Randall, and Wm. Soles, of the War of 1812; John Hall, of the Revolutionary war.

### PLAIN TOWNSHIP.

The following roster of Plain township was compiled by Prof. J. N. Baker, being the only one of the rosters, furnished by township military committees, arranged alphabetically with complete record, and one of the two complete records furnished to the writer. Like other rosters, it was submitted to Mr. C. W. Evers, and resubmitted by him to veterans of Plain.

John B. Avery, H, 67, en. Jan. 1, 1864, m. o. Dec. 7, '65.  
Joseph Alcorn, A, 100, en. July, '62, app. 1 Sergt., Aug. 24, '62, pro. to 2 Lieut. March, '63, to 1 Lieut. July, '64, m. o. June 20, '65.  
Joshua O. Avery, K, 185, en. Feb., '65, m. o. June, '65, at Columbus, Ohio.  
George Avery, K, 185, en. Jan. '65, m. o. Sept. 26, '65.  
Ervin E. Avery, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug. 31, '64.  
William Allen, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, died in camp at Green Ridge, Ky.  
William W. Alcorn, A, 100, en. Aug. 17, '61, dis. Sept., '64, at Atlanta, Ga.  
Reason Bates, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, Sergt., m. o. July, '65.  
Jerry Bennington, C, 21, en. Aug., '61.  
Andrew Bosdorf, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
Dennis Bently, C, 21, en. July, '62, cap. Sept., '63, in battle of Chickamauga, died Nov. 19, '64, in Libby prison.  
David Brown, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, died at Newport News, Aug. 20, '62.  
Merritt Brown, died before reaching regiment.  
John R. Bullis, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, dis. March, '62, and C, 144, May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.  
Amos Brown, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
Sydney Briggs, H, 67, en. Nov. 1, '61.  
James F. Briggs, H, 67, en. Nov. 1, '61, dis. for dis. Jan. 19, '62.  
Nathaniel S. Badger, C, 7, en. June, '61, wounded at Cedar Mountain, Va., Aug. 9, '62, m. o. July, '64.  
Jasper W. Brewster, A, 49, en. Aug., '61, 1st Sergt., dis. for dis. July 22, '62.  
Martin Butler, A, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded at Stone River, Tenn., Dec., '62, m. o. Sept., '64.  
Paul J. Brown, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, app. Sergt., dis. for dis. May 20, '63.  
Bangor B. Brown, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, app. Cor., dis. for dis. June 26, '64.  
Christopher Burkhardt, D, 111, en. Aug. 14, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
George M. Brown, C, 144, Corp. en. May, '64, m. o. with Co. Aug., '64, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, Sergt., m. o. Sept., '65.  
Geo. W. Bettus, L, 3rd Bat. 16th, U. S. I., en.  
George Bradley, C, 144, en. May, '64, Cor., m. o. Aug., '64.  
Cyrus L. Brown, C, 144, en. May, '64, Cor., m. o. Aug., '64.  
Marquis D. L. Buell, Major, 144, en. May, '64, to Aug., '64.  
Abel Comstock, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, app. Cor. Jan. 1, '64, m. o. April 8, '65, at Columbus, Ohio, veteran, was a prisoner from Dec., '64, to March, '65, was cap. near Savannah, Ga., taken to Augusta, thence to Florence, S. C., and to Goldsboro, N. C.

Philip H. Condit, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, died March 23, '64, at Tyner's Station.  
Aaron H. Coen, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, re-en. as veteran.  
William Chapman, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded at Chattanooga, died Sept., '64.  
John M. Carr, H, 67, en. Dec., '63, app. Cor., Aug. 6, '65, m. o. Dec. 7, '65.  
Cassius M. Campbell, H, 67, en. Oct. 21, '61, died at Folly Island, April 28, '63.  
Benjamin F. Campbell, H, 67, en. June, '64, m. o. Dec., '65.  
Addison Campbell, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, killed May, '64, near Chester Station.  
William Campbell, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
James M. Callin, H, 67, en. Sept., '62, wounded July 18, '63, at Ft. Wagner, S. C., again May 9, '64, near Chester Sta., Va., m. o. June, '65.  
Henry Challen, A, 49, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
Warren L. Chadwick, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, tr. to V. R. C., March, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
Edmund Constable, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, Sergt., dis. for dis. Oct., '63., at Louisville, Ky.  
Thomas S. Clark, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
Alonzo L. Condit, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
Thomas M. Carr, B, 6, en. June, '61, app. Cor. Dec. 8, '61, Sergt. Feb. 20, '63, m. o. June, '64.  
Luke Carr, H, 1st O. L. A. Bat., en. Oct., '61, app. Cor., pro. to Sergt., Jan., '63, dis. for dis. June 3, '65, on Surg's. cert. of dis. Veteran.  
John H. Callin, 21, Ind. Bat. O. L. A., Sergt., en. Dec., '62, m. o. May, '65.  
George W. Callin, 21, Ind. O. L. A., en. Dec., '62, m. o. Aug., '65, at Detroit.  
Ebenezer Coen, B, 144, en. May, '64, killed at Monocacy, Md., July 9, '64.  
David Cargo, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
Levi Chapman, C, 144, en. May, '64.  
George A. Chadwick, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
Frederick Chandler, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
David DeFrance, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Stone River, Dec., '62, died Jan., '63.  
Thomas Denton, C, 21, en. Aug., '61.  
John I. Dalahan, C, 21, en. Sept., '64, pro. to Hospital Steward, Oct., '64.  
Eli Dotts, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., April 21, '63.  
Osborn L. Dotts, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
Merritt Dunbar, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, Sergt., m. o. at Louisville, Ky., May 24, '65.  
James Evans, C, 21, en. Aug., '61.  
Freeman Ellsworth, H, 21, en. Aug., '62, died at Murfreesboro, Tenn., Feb., '63.  
Orlando W. Evers, H, 67, en. Jan., '64, died at Washington, D. C., April, '64.  
John J. Evers, C, 7, en. June 20, —, apptd. Corp. Nov., '61, killed Aug., '62, at Cedar Mountain.  
Charles W. Evers, H, 2, Ky. Inf., en. June, '61, wounded and cap. at Chickamauga, Sept., '63, par. Nov., '63, at Richmond, Va., m. o. June, '64.  
Oramil Forbes, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded May 27, '64, near New Hope, Ga., apptd. Corp. Mar., '65, Sergt. April, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
Medwin Forbes, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
John W. Flack, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62.  
James Fishburn, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June 5, '65, at Washington, D. C.  
Austin Fowler, H, 67, en. Oct. 18, '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62.  
Ira J. Fenn, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
Simillis Fowler, D, 111, en. Aug. 12, '62, dis. for dis. Nov., '62.  
Clinton Fay, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
George Funk, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
William Gray, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62, also in B, 144.  
Charles Gano, K, 21, en. Aug. 24, '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
Thomas Goodman, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, Cor., dis. Aug., '65.  
Ira D. Green, —, 100, en. July, '63, tr. to V. R. C.  
John R. Green, E, 67, en. Dec., '61, dis. July, '62, at Washington, D. C.

- James Gossett, D, 86, en. July, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Richard W. Gorrill, served in Volunteers, and in U. S. Navy.  
 John Gregory, C, 63, en. Feb. 16, '64, tr. to Co. A, March, '64, died April 17, '65.  
 James Harris, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, died April 30, '63, at Bowling Green, Ky.  
 Robert M. Hampton, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, wounded Sept. 1, '64, at Jonesboro, Ga., died Sept. 20, '64, at Atlanta, Ga.  
 Seneca Hodge, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, killed at Stone River, Tenn., Dec. 31, '62.  
 George W. Holt, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, died at Nashville, Tenn., Jan., '63.  
 Richard A. Housley, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64, and A, 182, Oct., '64, Corp'l, m. o. July, '65.  
 Henry Hosford, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis., Oct., '62.  
 James Hughes, E, '67, en. Jan., '64, app'td Corp'l, Oct., '65, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Frederick Hartman, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, wounded at Fort Wagner, July, '63, again at Chester Sta., Va., app'td Corp'l, July, '64, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 David Hartman, H, 67, en. March, '64, dis. for dis., Aug., '65.  
 William F. Huff, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, died at Martinsburg, Va., '62.  
 William Haney, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis., Feb., '63, at Fortress Monroe.  
 Conrad Heiser, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 George W. Hunter, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, died Dec. 12, '63, at Knoxville, Tenn.  
 Nathan Hunter, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. Co. I, 17 Reg't, V. R. C., Nov., '63, dis. for dis. as Corp'l, April, '65.  
 Hiram A. Hunter, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, app'td Corp'l, Sept., '62, Serg't, Dec., '62, cap. Nov., '63, par. Nov. 27, '64, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 Milo C. Hunter, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 William Huff, K, 111, en. Aug. 14, '62, tr. V. R. C., Jan. 15, '65, m. o. June 26, '65.  
 Cornelius Humes, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis., May, '63.  
 Ira Hull, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis., Dec., '62.  
 George W. Hower, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Jacob H. Hower, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 David L. Hixon, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John A. Haight, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Robert Ireland, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, prisoner at Richmond, Va., died March 14, '64.  
 Wesley Jones, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis., April, '63.  
 Horace Jones, C, 21, en. Aug., '61.  
 Reuben A. June, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 Ithamar Judson, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 J. R. Judson, C, 13, May 20, '61, tr. to D, 11, June, '61, dis. July, '61, for disability.  
 Franklin Johnson, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 George F. Kidd, K, 67, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. at Hilton Head, S. C., May, '63.  
 Jeremiah Kitchen, C, 144, en. May, '64, as Captain, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Hiram Lamb, H, 67, en. March, '64, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Timothy Lawler, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for wounds received at Franklin, Tenn., Nov., '64.  
 Samuel J. Lamb, K, 185, en. Feb., '65, as 1st Lieut., m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Charles Lewis, K, 39, en. Jan., '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Charles W. Lamb, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, Musician, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Daniel W. Lowell, C, 144, en. May, '64, Serg't., m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John H. LeGalley, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William T. LeGalley, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 C. C. Layman, B, 20, pro. Cor., pro. Serg't., en. as veteran Jan., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Henry Muncil, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Chattahoochee River, Ga., July 9, '64, dis. at Columbus, Ohio, Jan., '65.  
 Orlando McMillin, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, tr. B, 4th U. S. Cav.  
 John McCrory, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, tr. to V. R. C. Sept., '63, by order War Dept.  
 Jacob D. Minton, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, apptd. Cor., wounded at Ft. Wagner, S. C., July 18, '63, and died Aug. 11, '63.  
 David Maginnis, H, 67, en. Oct., '62, dis. for dis. Nov., '63, at Folly Island, S. C.  
 David Maginnis, H, 67, en. March, '64.  
 William McVetta, H, 67, en. Dec., '63, m. o. at McKirns Hos., Baltimore, Md.  
 Shubal Martindale, H, 67, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 John Moore, H, 67, en. Oct., '64, m. o. Oct., '65, at Richmond, Virginia.  
 Samuel Morehead, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, tr. to 7th N. Y. Light Artillery.  
 Perry McMillin, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, tr. V. R. C. April, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 Andrew J. Munn, A, 100, en. June 20, '62, cap. Sept. 8, '63, escaped and ret. July, '64, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 George W. Moore, G, 111, en. Aug., '62, 2nd Lieut., pro. to 1st Lieut., June 5, '63, dis. for dis. Sept. 28, '64.  
 Joseph Mitchell, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. at Murfreesboro, Tenn., July 4, '65.  
 Moses Moore, D, 111, en. April, '63, tr. to Co. G, Dec. 25, '63, m. o. June, '65.  
 Thomas McVetta, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. March, '62.  
 Seth Munsell, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 James H. Morse, D, 11, en. June, '61, w'd at South Mountain, Md., Sept. 14, '62, sick at Evansville, Ind., m. o. June, '64.  
 James Marshall, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 John McCain, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Edwin Matthews, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William H. Mathews, B, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, W. M. M., and K, 67, en. Feb., '63, died Aug. 16, '64, at Fortress Monroe, Va., and buried at Bermuda Hundred.  
 George R. Matthews, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug. 13, '64, m. o. May, '65.  
 J. R. Moore, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Albert G. Matthews, B, 144, en. May, '64, Musician, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John S. Matthews, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Silas H. Munsell, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William Minton, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 James Munn, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Joseph B. Newton, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, pro. to Serg't. Major from Cor., pro. to 2d Lieut., Co. B, Nov., '62, pro. 1st Lieut., Co. H, Feb., '63, app. Adj., Aug., '63, pro. Capt., Co. A, Nov., '64.  
 Guy C. Nearing, B, 6, en. June, '61, was w'd at Stone River, Dec., '62, app. Cor. Jan., '63, Serg't., Aug., '63, m. o. June, '64.  
 William Northrup, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Hiram Ordway, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, app. Cor. Jan., '64, killed Sept., '64, at Jonesboro, Ga.  
 James Ordway, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. May, '65.  
 Nehemiah Ordway, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Albert Osborn, C, 7, en. June, '61, dis. for dis. May, '63, A, 14, en. Jan., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Frantz Peinert, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. Sept., '63, died in Andersonville prison, Sept., '64.  
 Francis C. Powers, A, 49, en. Sept., '61, Serg't., killed May 27, '64, at Pickett's Mills, Ga.  
 John Peek, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died April 20, '62, at Louisville, Ky.  
 Pearley P. Pope, C, H, 67, en. Oct. '61, w'd May 10, '64, died May 22, '64.  
 James L. Pope, H, 67, en. Sept., '62, killed May 10, '64, near Chester Sta., Va.  
 Fred W. Peck, D, 86, en. June, '63, died Jan., '64.  
 John J. Parsons, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, pro. to Serg't., pro. 2d Lieut. Feb. 18, '64, pro. to 1st Lieut. Aug. 11, '64, killed Aug. 16, '64, at Deep Bottom Run, Va.  
 Julius Plemon, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 James F. Payne, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, died Feb. 1, '65.  
 George N. Parsons, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, pro. to 2d Lieut. Co. D, Oct., '62, wounded July, '63, dis. Dec., '63.  
 John B. Porter, H, 67, en. Dec., '63, dis. July 20, '65.  
 Oliver J. Plemon, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, dis. Aug., '65.  
 Harlon P. Pelton, A, 49, en. Aug., '61, killed Aug., '64, near Atlanta, Ga.  
 Henry P'erce, A, 100, en. July, '62, cap. Sept., '63, died July 18, '64, in Andersonville prison.

John H. Pugh, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, apptd. Corp. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Charles T. Pope, K, 185, en. Jan., '64, apptd. Corp. May 24, '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 William Peacock, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Jesse Pugh, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Isaac Parkason, C, 144, en. May, '64, cap. Aug., '64, m. o. March, '65.  
 Andrew S. Rush, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, tr. to B, 4th U. S. Cav.  
 William B. Rush, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died May 18, '62, near Huntsville, Ala.  
 Benjamin Rhodes, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. Sept. 19, '63, at Chickamauga, Tenn., m. o. April 8, '65.  
 Dallas Ralston, H, 67, en. Dec., '63, died in camp at Arlington, Va., April 18, '64.  
 George S. Richardson, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded Sept. 20, '63, at Chickamauga, Tenn., dis. for dis. Sept., '64.  
 Steven J. Rinkleke, H, 67, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Sept., '64.  
 Samuel Ross, H, 67, en. Sept., '62, apptd. Corp. July 1, '64, Sergt. March 28, '65, m. o. June, '65.  
 Henry B. Rudesil, A, 49, en. Aug., '61, died Jan. 21, '62.  
 Austin W. Rice, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, died March 21, '63, at Lexington, Ky.  
 Orange J. Rickard, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept. 26, '65.  
 Thomas Rutter, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Albertus Russell, G, 10, Cav., en. Dec., '63, m. o. July, '65.  
 Jabez Russeil, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Joseph T. M. Reed, C, 144, en. May, '64, Sergt., m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Henry Sholes, H, 21, en. Aug., '62, wounded July 9, '64, at Vining Sta., Ga., died Aug. 10, '64.  
 William Simonds, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Jan., '63.  
 John Shaw, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 Michael Shoffstall, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, died May 21, '64.  
 Sylvester Stump, Co. C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. March, '62.  
 Jacob D. Smith, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, died Sept. 29, '64, at Marietta, Ga.  
 Nelson W. Sizer, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, died Aug. 17, '63, at Louisville, Ky.  
 Henry Sheets, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. May, '65.  
 John Shoffstall, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Dec., '62.  
 John Sheets, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded June 27, '64, died July 14, '64.  
 Henry Shoffstall, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died June 20, '63.  
 William Stautzenberger, A, 14, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 James B. Smith, M. D., A, 14, en. Aug., '61, Sergt., pro. to Hos. Steward, and tr. to Field and Staff, July 1, '62.  
 Albert A. Sheets, A, 14, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. June, '62, and C, 144, '64.  
 Ed. H. Selkirk, D, 86, '63, C, 144, '64, and K, 185, en. Jan. '65, 1st Sergt., m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Abram Spoor, G, 24, en. June, '61, m. o. June, '64.  
 Adolph Schroepfer, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Austin J. Stone, C, 144, en. May, '64, Musician, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 John A. Stearns, E, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Reason Skinner, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 William F. Smith, C, 144, en. May, '64.  
 John Sizer, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 James Sturgeon, I, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Isaac Taylor, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64, also in 18, Penn. Cav.  
 Allen W. Truesdale, H, 67, en. Jan., '64, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Perry Thomas, C, 144, en. May, '64, Cor., m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Henry Van Camp, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, Sergt., pro. to Com. Sergt., April 1, '65.  
 Benjamin F. Van Camp, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 George W. Vail, A, 49, en. Aug., '61, cap. Dec., '62, ret. to company, June, '63, app. 1st Sergt. March, '64, wounded May 27, '64, pro. 1st Lieut. Feb., '65, m. o. Nov., '65.  
 John Van Camp, D, 11, en. June, '61, wounded at Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 20, '63, died Oct. 11, '63.  
 Lyman C. Wilson, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, app. Cor. March, '65, Sergt., April, '65, m. o. July, '65.  
 McDowell Wilson, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis., March 24, '63.

William Wakefield, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, killed July 9, '64, at Chattahoochee River, Ga.  
 Ebenezer F. Wade, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 John A. Wilson, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, awarded Medal of Honor by War Dept., under resolution of Congress, approved July 12, '62, for special services on Mitchell's raid.  
 Mark Wood, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, app. Cor., pro. 2nd Lieut. Co. F, Feb. 26, '64, awarded Medal of Honor by War Dept., under resolution of Congress, approved July 12, '62, for special services under Mitchell.  
 Enoch B. Wiley, C, 21, en. Sept., '61, pro. to 2nd Lieut. Oct. 3, '63, wounded Dec. 31, '62, died Jan. 5, '63.  
 Thomas L. Webb, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis., Dec. 9, '63.  
 Lewis Wilber, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, transferred to V. R. C. Nov., '63.  
 Rolson Winton, H, 67, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 John H. Whitehead, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, wounded July 18, '63, at Ft. Wagner, wounded May 9, '64, near Chester Sta., Va., app. 1st Sergt., July 1, '64, pro. 1st Lieut. and Adj. March, '65. Veteran.  
 William Wakefield, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 John C. Woodbury, A, 100, en. July, '62, died Dec. 3, '62, at Lexington, Ky.  
 George Walker, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 William Wilson, C, 21, and K, 185, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 Adolph Wolf, K, 37, en. Nov., '61, app. Cor. Dec. 7, '61, Sergt., March 1, '62, dis. for dis. Aug., '63.  
 Lewis F. Webb, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Nathan Webb, C, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.

## PORTAGE TOWNSHIP.

The names of the majority of this list were obtained from veterans, now residing in Portage village and Portage township. In searching the records, other names were added, and the roster and record submitted in typescript to Messrs. Clough, Mears, Norris, Dienst and John Johnston for correction and revision.

Manning Abbott, C, 21, en. Aug., '61.  
 Charles Abbott, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, pro. Cor. and Sergt., wounded at Limestone Sta., died at Knoxville, Oct. 9, '64.  
 Joseph O. Allen, K, 111, com. 1 Lieut. Aug. 25, '62, dis. Nov., '65.  
 Charles Baldwin, B, 55, en. Sept., '64, sub., wounded at Averysboro, m. o. May, '65.  
 Charles Bay, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Harrison Barmen, is said to have enlisted and served in an Ohio regiment.  
 David Barnhart, G, 99, en. Aug., '62, killed near Atlanta, Aug. 4, '64.  
 N. Barkheimer, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. April, '63.  
 Charles Besanson, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded at Chickamauga, died Sept. 24, '63.  
 James Besanson, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 Augustus Besanson, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, pro. 1st Sergt. Jan. '64, pro. 1 Lieut. Feb., '65.  
 George Bell, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, cap. at Savannah, Ga., par., m. o. April, '65.  
 Daniel D. Bremer, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Sept., '63.  
 William Carter, K, 185, en. Jan., '65, m. o. May, '65.  
 Geo. C. Caswell, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died in Andersonville, Sept. 1, '64.  
 John Clemens, B, 55, en. Oct., '64 (sub.), m. o. July, '65.

E. Price Clough, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at battle of Stone River, Tenn., confined in prison, par. twenty-two days later and was sent to Annapolis, Md., rejoined the Co. in July, '63, apt'd. Corpl. April 1, '65, m. o. with Company July 25, '65. Veteran.

Edward Coyn, A, 100, en. July, '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., died in prison at Richmond, April 1, '64.

William Cox, G, 10, Cav., and H, 192, en. Dec., '63, tr. to 15, Regt., V. R. C., m. o. Aug., '65.

John W. Cox, G, 10, Cav., en. Dec., '63, m. o. July, '65.

Alfred Davidson, D, 78, drafted Sept., '64, m. o. May, '65.

W. A. (Adam) Dauterman, C, 21, en. July, '62, killed at Stone River, Jan. 1, '63.

Andrew Dienst, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. Sept. 19, '63, at Chickamauga, Ga., par., m. o. April 8, '65.

Nicholas Dienst, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded June 24, '64, in action near Kenesaw Mt., Ga., appt'd. Corpl. April 1, '65, m. o. July, '65.

Lewis Dienst, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, appt'd. Sergt., Sept. 6, '62, and 1 Sergt., Dec. 5, '63, pro. to 2 Lieut., Co. G, April 12, '64, m. o. July 27, '65, then 1st Lieut.

Henry Dienst, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.

John Dienst, 21 Ind. Baty. L. Art., en. Dec., '64, tr. from Co. F, 112 Ill. Inf., July 21, '64, m. o. July, '65.

Jacob Dienst, L, 2 Cav., en. Sept., '61, died at Ft. Leavenworth, May 29, '62.

Thomas Denton, C, 21, en. Aug., '61.

Oscar DeWitt, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, died Nov. 30, '62, at Bowling Green, Ky.

Joseph C. Eberly, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65, in hospital at Ft. Schuyler, New York.

Benjamin Eberly, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, tr. V. R. C., Jan., '64.

Christopher Eisenmenger, F, 72nd, served three years.

Peter Foster.

Joel Fox.

Wm. S. Franklin, H, 49, en. Aug., '61, wounded near Atlanta, m. o. Nov., '65.

Solomon S. Frederick, H, 49, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Nov., '65.

John Fryman.

John Fulmer.

Henry Grahman, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, pro. from Corp'l to 1st Serg't, m. o. July, '65.

Abraham Hampshire, I, 111, Musician, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.

John H. Harrison, D, 86, en. June 18, '63, m. o. Feb. 10, '64, also in 144th Reg't, O. V. I., was cap. at battle of Stone River and confined in Libby prison.

Almon G. Harrison, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Corporal, Sept., '64.

Demas L. Hill, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, m. o. Dec., '65.

John Hill, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.

William Hill, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, detached Feb., '64.

Henry Hosford, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis., Oct., '62, later G, 10 Cav.

George Hodge, H, 67, en. Oct., '61, wounded May, '64, m. o. Dec., '65.

Seneca Hodge.

James Holmes, A, 100, en. July, '62, cap. near Atlanta, Aug., '64, par., m. o. June, '65.

Theo. Holmes, G, 10 Cav., died in service.

John Holmes, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. May, '65.

Thomas Holmes, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed near Knoxville, Tenn., Jan. 22, '64.

Pascal E. Hubbard, G, 10 Cav., en. Nov., '62, m. o. July, '65.

Edward Hubbard, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Aug., '63.

Langdon C. Hubbard, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, cap. Feb. 10, '65, ex., m. o. June, '65.

John Johnson, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o., as Corp., June, '65.

James Johnston, G, 25, en. Oct., '64, m. o. Oct., '65, killed in a storm, '66.

Wesley Jones, C, 21, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. April, '63.

Horace Jones, C, 21, en. Aug., '61.

William Keeran, B, 55, en. Sept., '64, w'd at Aversysboro, N. C., m. o. June, '65.

William Kinney, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Alfred Kinney, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Daniel W. Landis, G, 100, from Feb. to July, '65.

James H. Leaf, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Corp. Sept., '64.

James F. Long, I, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, w'd March 9, '65, ret. to Regt. July, '65, dis. Aug. 10, '65.

Henry Long, A, 100, en. July, '62, died at Cincinnati, Sept. 24, '62.

Charles Long, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.

Henry Lembrich, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, par., m. o. May, '65.

James F. McClure, H, 144, en. Aug. 16, '62, tr. to 120 and 48th.

Marion McKissen.

Geo. E. McIntire.

Ebenezer McIntyre, D, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Mar., '63.

Jerome Miltz.

David Mercer, unassigned recruit of 181 Regt.

John Morgan, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died in Salisbury prison, Oct. 24, '64.

David Muder, A, 4 Mich. Cav.

William Nurnberger, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Fred. Wm. Nurnberger, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. as Cor., July, '65.

Albert P. Palmerton, F, 57, en. Nov., '61, m. o. Aug. 14, '65.

Benjamin Palmerton, G, 99, en. July, '62, tr. Co. A, 50, Inf., Dec., '64.

W. F. Palmerton, entered from this township.

Alfred Patterson, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, tr. V. R. C., Sept., '63.

John Phillips, G, 10 Cav., en. Dec., '63, m. o. July, '65.

Amos A. Phillips, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.

John Peak, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, died at Louisville, Ky., April 20, '62.

James Place, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, m. o. July, '65.

John L. Prescott, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., par., m. o. May 29, '65.

Elisha A. Prescott, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., died at Baltimore, Md., April 24, '64.

Monroe Richardson.

Nathan Ricketts, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.

C. L. Rood, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.

John Rubel, K, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died in Salisbury prison, Dec. 6, '64.

Ben Rhodes, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, par., m. o. April, '65.

John Sargent.

George Sawyer, G, 10 Cav., en. Dec., '63, m. o. July, '65.

William Sawyer, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Knoxville, Feb. 23, '64.

Michael Shaffstall, C, 21, en. Feb., '64, died at Nashville, May 21, '64.

John Shaffstall, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Dec., '62.

Fred Sharon, G, 57, en. Nov., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.

Samuel Shroyer, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., par., m. o. June, '65.

Levi Shroyer, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, wounded Dec. 6, '64.

Lewis Shinew, B, 55, en. Sept., '64, drafted, m. o. June, '65.

Peter Shinew.

Adam Shellars, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.

John Shoup, E, 25, en. Feb., '64, wounded at Honey Hill, S. C., dis. Oct., '65.

William Shoup, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Resaca, died May 22, '64.

Harvey Shade, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65, as Corp.

Francis Sigler.

Lafayette Sigler.

Anson Sizer, D. W. Sizer and R. Sizer.

Nelson W. Sizer, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, died in hospital at Louisville, Ky., Aug. 17, '63.

William H. Scott, A, 182, en. Sept., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Joseph A. Smith, D, 86, en. June, '63, died in Camp Nelson, Ky., Dec. 6, '63.

Harvey Spencer, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died in Danville prison, Jan. 3, '64.

Reuben Stevens, G, 25, en. Oct., '64, m. o. Oct., '65.

Edward Stevens, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, killed near Spring Hill, Tenn., Nov. 30, '64.

Alex. Stewart, C, 180, en. B, 55, Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Jan., '63.

Sylvester Stump, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. March, '62.

Frederick Sommers, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, tr. to H, 19th V. R. C., Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.

Cephas Taylor.

John Waggoner, F, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Cincinnati, July 27, '63.

Henry Whitacre, D, 67, en. Oct., '64, tr. Co. B., Sept., '65, m. o. Oct., '65.

Hiram Whitacre.

Dan. Whetstone, G, 10 Cav., en. Dec., '63, dis. for dis. July, '64.

## ROSS TOWNSHIP.

The roster of the soldiers, who went from Ross township into the service during the Civil war, is based on a list of names obtained from Isaac Rideout and other veterans of the township. At the breaking out of, and during, the war, the narrow strip of territory now comprising the township was only thinly settled, and necessarily furnished but few soldiers.

Henry Bassinger, G, 37, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.

Francis Brenot, H, 2nd Mich. Infy.

Bradley M. Crandall, C, 3rd Cav., drafted Oct., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.

Henry E. Cowles, B, 67, en. Dec., '61, dis. Aug., '65.

M. Ferdigs, 3rd Ohio Cav.

William Goss, A, 3rd Cav., en. Aug., '64, m. o. Aug., '64.

Lewis Goss.

John L. Goss, --, 72, en. Oct., '61, dis. June, '63.

Horace N. Martin, E, 34, en. Aug., '61, killed in Virginia, Sept. 18, '64.

Joseph H. Martin.

Robert H. Martin, E, 34, en. Aug., '61, cap. Oct. 19, '64, m. o. June, '65.

Isaac G. Rideout, B, 67, en. Oct. 22, '61, appt'd. Sergt., pro. Corpl., 1st Sergt. Sept., '65. Veteran.

DeWitt Stevens, served in Heavy Arty., enlisting at Perrysburg in 1864, then, at close of war, served 5 years in the U. S. army.

Robert Tiplady, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded June 24, '64, m. o. May, '65.

Andrew J. Wales, A, 130, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., 1864.

George Wales.

William Ward, A, 130, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64, B, 189, Sergt. from Feb., '65, to Sept., '65.

Jacob C. Whitmore, --, 72, en. Nov. '61, m. o. Sept., '65.

Ross township lying adjacent to the city of Toledo, a number of the soldiers of that part of Lucas county, who resided close to Ross, were in a manner of the Ross neighborhood. Some of them came into Ross just after the close of the war, among them:

Elijah Whitmore (came in the fall of '65), B, 67, en. Oct. 12, '61, mustered as Cor., pro. to 2d Lieut. Oct. 2, '62, w'd at Ft. Wagner, S. C., July 18, '63, and resigned Jan. 28, '64.

Sylvanus O. Crandall (came in '66), B, 15th Vermont, en. Aug. 8, '62, dis. Aug. 5, '63.

Francis Brenot (came in '64), Co. H, 2d Mich., three-months' service, re-enlisted, was w'd at Knoxville, Tenn., dis. July, '64.

James Rideout (of Lucas Co., and father of Henry, of Ross), A, 130, en. May, '64, m. o. Sept., '64.

Frank H. Venia (came in '67), 18th Regt., U. S. regulars, en. Aug. 27, '62, taken prisoner at Jonesboro, Ga., Sept., '64, and confined in Rebel prison at Andersonville, Ga., dis. Aug. 27, '65.

Among the residents of the township in 1895, who had served in the war from other sections of the county, were:

W. C. Harris, 130 Ohio Inf.; J. D. Hubert, 4 U. S. Art.; Joseph Long, 14th Ohio; H. H. Napier, 54th Ohio; W. Nellis, 47th Indiana; W. M. Warner, 144.

## TROY TOWNSHIP.

This roster is based on lists made by the writer at Luckey and Stony Ridge. The records were added, and all submitted, in typescript, to the leading veterans of the township, such as Messrs. Furry, Smith, Seaman and Hathaway.

Sydney Brewster, C, 21, en. July, '61, wounded at Chickamauga, Sept. 20, '63, died same day.

Michael Burgemeister, I, 21, April, '61, re-en. Oct. '61, I, 68, re-en. June, '64, m. o. July, '65.

Frank Blandin, in a New York regiment.

John Clauser, --, 72, Oct., '61, not present at muster out.

H. S. Clifford, L, 3, Cav., en. Dec., '63, m. o. Aug., '65.

Isaiah Chamberlain, a Mexican soldier, also in 8 Inf., wounded at Antietam.

George Cramer, --, 72, en. Nov., '61.

William H. Corbin, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Resaca.

Charles D. Dennis, a Mexican soldier, en. E, 72, Oct., '61, pro. 1 Lieut. and Capt., wounded at Vicksburg May, 18, '63, dis. Aug., '63, en. G, 189, Jan., '65, com. Capt., dis. at Nashville, Sept., '65.

James P. Daily, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. July 8, '62, died of smallpox at home, January, '63.

Richard Elder, E, 72, en. Dec. 1, '61, died July 9, '62.

John Elder, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.

John Homer Fisher, E, 72, Oct., '61, dis. Memphis, Tenn., en. 4th Mich., wounded at Fair Oaks, Va.

Bryan Gaghan, --, 72, en. Nov., '61, died at Stony Ridge, April 26, '62.

James Gilbert, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, killed at Shiloh, April 6, '62.

Thomas A. Gorrill, E, 72, en. Dec., '61, dis. April 8, '65, 1 Lieut. G, 189, April, '65, m. o. with Co., Sept. 28, '65.

Samuel B. Gorril, G, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. at Nashville, Sept. 28, '65.

Marion Goodell, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. with Company, June 27, '65.

Alexis T. Gorrill, --, 72, and Lieut. 189, en. in 72 Dec., '61.

James R. Hutchinson, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.

George Hazell, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, wounded at Shiloh, '62, dis. for dis. Feb., '63.

Daniel I. Haggerty, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, Sergt., cap. near Ripley, Miss., June, '64, died in Andersonville, Feb. 7, '65.

James Hopper, C, 21, wounded at Chickamauga, Sept. 20, '63.

Ben. Hopper, C, 21, cap. at Savannah, Nov., '64.

Fred Kepler, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, in hospital at Moscow, Tenn., April 30, '62.

George Leatherer, K, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, tr. Co. A, Dec., '61, dis. Nov., '62.

Fred Linker, enlisted from this township.

Augustus La Farree, of the "Squirrel Hunters" brigade, dis. Sept., '62.

Henry Linker, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded Nov. 28, '64, died Dec. 1, '64.

George McFall, K, 21, en. Feb., '61, died at Louisville, Ky., Dec. 22, '61.

James McCutchen, Jr., K, 111, en. Aug. 15, '62, apptd. Corpl. Nov. 30, '64, m. o. June 27, '65.

Samuel McCutchen, K, 111, en. Aug. 15, '62, apptd. Corpl. Sept., '62, then Sergt., died Dec. 12, '64, of wounds received Nov. 30, '64, in battle of Franklin, Tenn.  
 Jacob Mayer, Jr., en. Nov., '61.  
 Louis Rolfes, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 John Rolfes, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Glasgow, Ky., June 27, '63.  
 John Rife, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Henry F. Sternaman, I, 68, en. Aug., '62, m. o. May, '65.  
 William R. Sternaman, I, 68, en. Aug., '62, m. o. May, '65.  
 Jacob Snyder, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, wounded at Corinth, cap. near Ripley, Miss., m. o. May, '65.  
 Michael Shriner, E, 72, en. Oct., '61, died May 15, '62, at New Albany, Ind.  
 Abraham V. Smith, C, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga Sept. 20, '63.  
 Joshua V. Smith, C, 21 (Wagoner), en. Aug. 29, '61, dis. Oct. 6, '62, on Surg's cert. of dis., L, 3 Cav., en. July 22, '63, m. o. Aug. 4, '65.  
 Jacob Smith, E, 72, en. Oct., '61 (3 years), dis. Jan. 3, '63, at Memphis, Tenn., on Surg's cert. of dis.  
 Jacob Swartz, K, 111, en. Aug. 13, '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., Nov. 30, '62.  
 Frederick Swartz, K, 111, en. Aug. 13, '62, wounded in battle of Resaca, Ga., May 14, '64, dis. March 15, '65.  
 Miles Treat, —, 72, en. Oct., '61, died at Memphis, Tenn., Nov. 26, '62.  
 H. L. Wood, Sr., Commissariat.  
 H. L. Wood, Jr., —, 189, en. Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 John C. Webb, C, 21, en. Feb. 11, '64, m. o. July 25, '65.  
 John Wellman, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded June 27, '64, tr. V. R. C., m. o. June, '65.

Many soldiers from other townships of Wood county, such as S. P. Hathaway, and from other counties of Ohio and the Eastern States, have settled here since the close of the war, while many of those who went out from Troy in 1861-65 are now absent.

## WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

The roster and record are based upon a list of names, compiled by C. C. Gundy, E. B. Beverstock and other soldiers, with additional names discovered by C. W. Evers. To the two lists, the names of the Washington Minute Men, or "Squirrel Hunters," were added, and then a search made for the records of each man in the Adjutant-General's reports. Capts. Thomas Mawer and Luther Black were subsequently consulted, and made corrections.

John Alcorn, I, 21, en. Aug., '61, wounded at Jonesboro, m. o. Dec., '64.  
 Nelson Alcorn, G, 1, L. Art., en. '62, m. o. '65.  
 Wm. Anglebeck, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. at Monocacy, par., m. o. April, '65.  
 Nelson Ashley, Washington Minute Men.  
 Melville Ashley.  
 Wm. A. Barry, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 C. L. Bamber, H, 21, en. '64, m. o. '65.  
 William U. Baker, Corp., I, 41, en. Sept., '61, dis. Sept., '62, on Surg's cert. of dis. in 1864, re-en. in 179th Battalion.

J. W. Barber, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.  
 G. W. Barber, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65 (3 mos.).  
 W. H. Barber, B, 21 (served 3 mos.), H, 21 (3 yrs.), m. o. as Sergt., July, '65.  
 J. M. Barber, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, dis. for dis. Nov., '64, lost a leg.  
 Thomas Bayliss, W. M. M., and B, 144, May, '64, to Aug., '64.  
 Elias F. Benn, W. M. M., and B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, wounded.  
 Wm. Benn, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Ed. B. Beverstock, G, 1, L. A., en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65. Veteran.  
 Silas Beverstock, W. M. M., and 144, en. B, 144, May, '64, m. o. as Corp. Aug., '64.  
 Abner Black, G, 1, L. Art., en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Calvin Black, K, 67, en. Nov., '61, dis. for dis. Aug., '62.  
 Robert Black, H, 21, and F, 67, en. Oct., '61, tr. from C, 62, Sept., '65, m. o. Dec., '65.  
 Wm. Black, W. M. M. and F, 86, June, '63, m. o. as Serg't., Feb., '64, served in 4 Minn. Inf., in '61.  
 Wm. G. Black, W. M. M. and G, 10 Cav., en. Nov., '62, dis. for dis. June, '63.  
 Luther Black, W. M. M., 63, en. April, '61, B, 21, for 3 mos., m. o. Aug., '61, com. Capt. of Co. B, 144, May, '64, pro. from First Lieut., cap. in action near Berryville, Aug., '64, and confined in Libby prison, m. o. Oct., '64, Capt. K, 185, Feb., '65, m. o. Sept., '65.  
 D. C. Bliss, K, 67, en. Oct., '61, w'd. at Ft. Wagner, m. o. as Sergt., Sept., '65.  
 Anton Boehme, K, 67, en. Nov., '61, tr. V. R. C., Aug., '63.  
 Julius Boehme, K, 67, en. Aug., '62, m. o. July, '65.  
 Frederick Boehme, K, 67, en. Nov., '61, died March 19, '62, at Cumberland, Md.  
 John Bobel, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 James Bolan, B, 21, en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Jerry Bowers, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., ret. June, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
 W. H. Bowers, A, 100, en. July, '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., died in Andersonville, March 13, '65.  
 Geo. J. Brewster, K, 67, en. Nov. '61, killed at Ft. Wagner, July 18, '63.  
 Simon R. Brown, C, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Robert Buffum, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, participated in Mitchell Raid, pro. 2 Lieut. April, '63, resigned May, '64, received medal from Congress in July, '62.  
 Charles Burkhart, B, 144, en. May, '64.  
 F. H. Burkhart, B, 21 (ser. 3 mos.), H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 George W. Burkhart, B, 21, and G, 10 Cav., en. Nov., '62, tr. to V. R. C., m. o. July, '64.  
 James Burchstead, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, killed at Chickamauga, Sept. 20, '63.  
 David Bugh, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, wounded at Chickamauga, died Oct. 26, '63.  
 Jacob Bugh, K, 67, en. '63, killed at Petersburg.  
 Alex. Burley, K, 67, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. Oct., '62.  
 George Burdett, H, 21, en. Feb., '64, died April 10, '64, at Nashville.  
 Lewis Burdett, H, 21, en. Feb., '64, died May 11, '64, at Graysville, Ga.  
 John M. Butler, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, cap. at Chickamauga.  
 Carlos Burton, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 C. C. Burton, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Sergt. Aug., '64.  
 John E. Cass, W. M. M.  
 E. Coen, B, 144, en. May, '64, killed at Monocacy, Md., July 9, '64.  
 Wm. Crom, W. M. M., B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 Henry Chroninger, B, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Abner Cummings, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Corp. Aug., '64.  
 Clark Cummings, K, 67, en. Aug., '62, apptd. Corp. Jan., '63, Sergt. Jan., '65, m. o. June, '65.  
 Hiram Cuning, D, 111, en. Aug. 9, '62, dis. April 26, '63, by order War Dept., having furnished an acceptable substitute.  
 J. M. Cuning, H, 67, en. '63, m. o. '65.  
 James L. Curry, H, 21, com. 1st Lieut. Sept., '61, pro. Capt. Dec., '62.

- T. W. Custer,\* H, 21, en. Sept., '61, tr. to U. S. Cav., pro. Capt., killed at Little Big Horn, Mont., in 1876.
- Ziba S. Davenport, G, 1, L. A., en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Jacob Dowster, K, 67, en. Aug., '62, dis. for dis. Feb. 28, '63.
- John Fay, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- William Feather, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Cor., Aug., '64.
- Fred Foote, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Cor., Aug., '64.
- Leroy Foote, K, 67, en. Oct., '61.
- Calvin Foote, A, 100, en. Aug. 5, '62, mustered in as Musician, m. o. June 17, '65.
- Martin Foote, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- George W. Foster, K, 67, en. Sept., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Francis Franklin, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.
- J. S. Fuller, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, Sergt., Jan. '63, 2 Lieut. Co. D, Nov., '63.
- Samuel Fuller.
- William Fuller, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, dis. for dis. Aug. 17, '63.
- George Funk, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Henry Funk, K, 67, sub., Nov., '64, tr. to Co. E, Sept., '65.
- Anton Geiss, W. M. M., en. Co. B, 144, May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died in Salisbury prison, Nov. 1, '64.
- Wm. Gray, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis., Oct., '62.
- Cyrus Groves, W. M. M.
- James Groves, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, Va., died in Salisbury prison, Oct. 28, '64.
- C. C. Gundy, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, pro. Serg't, Dec., '63, 1 Serg't, April, '65, m. o. July, '65.
- David Gundy, A, 100, en. July, '62, cap. at Limestone Sta., ret. to Reg't, June, '64, m. o. June, '65.
- Jacob Gundy, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Corp'l, Aug., '64.
- Matthew C. Harrington, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, and G, 1, L. A., en. Oct., '64, killed at Nashville, Dec. 16, '64.
- Hiram Henderson, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, w'd July 9, '64, m. o. July, '65.
- Wash. Henderson, H, 21, Musician, en. Sept., '61, dis. for dis., Aug., '62.
- C. W. Hollis, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.
- Ben. L. Huff, B, 21, en. April 23, '61, m. o. Aug. 20, '61, and H, 21, en. Feb. 28, '64, killed Sept. 1, '64, in battle of Jonesboro, Ga.
- Henry Huff, B, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.
- Leonard Husted, H, 68, en. Nov., '61, m. o. Nov., '64.
- Harvey Husted, H, 21, served until killed in the battle of Stone River.
- Philander Husted.
- Richard Ingraham, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as 1st Sergt. Aug., '64.
- Geo. Inman, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Franklin, died Dec. 24, '64.
- Norman Inman, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Evan James, K, 67, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Christ. Jeffers, K, 67, en. Nov., '61, tr. V. R. C. Aug., '63.
- Edward Jeffers, K, 67, en. Nov., '61, Wagoner, pro. Com-Sergt. Veteran.
- Jacob Jeffers, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. as Musician, June, '65.
- James Jeffers, K, 67, en. Feb., '64, dis. Aug., '65.
- Marvin Jeffers, K, 67, en. Nov., '61, killed at Fort Wagner, July 18, '63.
- Wm. Jeffers, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64, under name Jefferies.
- Wm. Johnson, G, 10 Cav., en. Jan., '64.
- Climent Jones, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '63, m. o. July, '65.
- Elijah Jones, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. at Monocacy, July 9, '64, par., m. o. April, '65.
- Wm. F. Jones, G, 10 Cav., en. Jan. '63, tr. V. R. C., m. o. Aug., '65.
- A. J. Ketchum, W. M. M., B, 144, en. May, '64, Musician until m. o. Aug., '64.
- E. C. Ketchum, K, 67 (en. B, 21, 3 mos.), en. 67, Oct., '61, pro. Com-Sergt. Veteran.
- A. J. Kline, K, 67, en. Oct., '61, wounded at Fort Wagner, again at Wier Bottom Creek, Va., m. o. Sept., '65. Veteran.
- W. H. Kline, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- A. D. Kuder, G, 1, L. A., en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Geo. Kuder, W. M. M.
- Geo. S. Kuder, G, 1, L. A., en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Josiah H. Kuder, W. M. M., B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Sergt., Aug., '64.
- Amerzo Krill, H, 21, en. Aug., '61, died in Andersonville prison.
- Anton Longside, K, 67, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Comfort M. Lewis, G, 1, L. A., en. Oct., '65.
- Charles A. Lewis, E, 7, O. V. I., Corp., en. June, '61, dis. at Charleston, W. Va., Oct. 21, '61, on Surg's cert. of dis.
- Geo. W. Lewis, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, pro. 2nd Lieut. Co. B, Feb., '63, dis. for dis. Nov., '63.
- Ralph Love, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Urban Love, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John L. McColley, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. as Corporal, May, '64, transferred to U. S. Navy, May, '64, dis. on account of disability, April, '65.
- R. L. McColley, B, 144, and W. M. M., en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Alex. McCombs, G, 1, L. A., en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Arch McCombs, W. M. M.
- Jacob McCombs, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, died Sept. 11, '63, at Nashville.
- John McCombs, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died in Salisbury prison, Nov. 22, '64.
- A. J. Mason, A, 100, en. July, '62, dis. for dis. Sept. 29, '63.
- W. H. Mason, W. M. M.
- David Murdock, K, 67, en. Aug., '62, wounded at Winchester, Va., m. o. at close.
- Thomas Mawer, B, 21, en. April 23, '61, m. o. Aug. 12, '61, A, 100, en. July 15, '62, com. 1st Lieut. March 13, '63, from 2nd Lieut., cap. Sept. 8, '63, in action at Limestone Station, Tenn., pro. cap. Jan. 2, '65, m. o. June 20, '65.
- Geo. Mawer, Corp., D, 111, en. Aug. 8, '62, died Jan. 5, '63, at Bowling Green, Ky.
- Martin V. Moore, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. '65.
- Selah Moore, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. '65.
- Caleb North, W. M. M. (Then in his 76th year).
- Caleb North, Jr., New York regiment, killed at Fort Wagner.
- Harrison North, B, 21, and K, 67, en. Dec. '61, w'd. at Ft. Wagner, m. o. Jan. '65.
- John Patterson, G, 10 Cav., en. Jan., '63.
- R. L. Patterson, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, tr. V. R. C., m. o. July, '65.
- Andrew Pennock, F, 86, en. June, '63, dis. for dis. Aug., '63.
- Bernard Phillips, W. M. M., B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. at Monocacy, par. m. o. April, '65.
- John Phillips, G, 10 Cav., en. Dec., '63, m. o. July, '65.
- John Phillips, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville.
- Amos A. Phillips, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- William Poyer, W. M. M., and B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- Isaac Price, B, 144, en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died Nov. 28, '64, in Salisbury prison.
- Lewis Raymond, W. M. M., and B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Corp. Aug., '64.
- George H. Reed, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died Aug. 14, '64, in Andersonville.
- John C. Reed, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64, B, 144, May, '64, to Aug., '64.
- John O. Reedy, W. M. M.
- Jabez Reynold, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- William B. Reynolds, W. M. M., and B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- William Rice, G, 10 Cav., en. Jan., '64, m. o. July, '65.
- J. V. Ridgeway, W. M. M., B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Sergt., Aug., '64.
- Hiram Rigg, B, 21 (served 3 mos.), en. H, 21, Feb., '64, died July 27, '64, in Andersonville.
- Joseph Rigg, W. M. M.

\*T. W. Custer was a brother of Gen. Custer. The Custer family resided for a time on a farm in Wood county, and it is stated by Capt. Mawer, of Washington township, that the General, then a single man, was a qualified voter of Washington township. He was home on a furlough during the family's residence here.

Truman Rigg, H, 21, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Silas J. Robinson, W. M. M.  
 H. Rudd, W. M. M.  
 Josephus Russell, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Anson D. Scott, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Cor., Aug., '64.  
 James T. Skinner, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. as Cor., Feb., '64.  
 J. S. Skinner, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 N. H. Smith, W. M. M.  
 Thomas Smith, said to have served in Cavalry.  
 James H. Soash, H, 21, en. Sept. 2, '61, m. o. Sept. 19, '64.  
 John F. Soash, B, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. Oct. 3, '64, cap.  
 July 9, '64, at battle of Monocacy, Md., and confined  
 at Danville, Va., par. Sept. 12, '64.  
 Leander Springer, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, died at Cincinnati,  
 Nov. 25, '61.  
 G. Squires, W. M. M.  
 Joab Squire, Jr., H, 21, com. 2d Lieut. Sept., '61, resigned  
 March, '62, com. Capt. Co. F, 86, July, '63, m. o.  
 Feb., '64.  
 Thomas Stone, B, 144, en. May 2, '64, cap. Aug. 13, '64, in  
 action near Berryville, Va., m. o. Dec. 1, '64.  
 Charles Thomas, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Ohio,  
 Sept. 22, '63.  
 Julius C. Thomas, G, 1, L. A. (en. in B, 21, 3 mos.), en. July,  
 '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Charles Tompkins, G, 1, L. A., en. Oct., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
 Joseph Todd, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, dis. Dec., '64.  
 John L. Tuttle, F, 86, en. July, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Franklin Tyler, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 George H. Van Blaricum, D, 111, com. 1st Lieut. Aug., '62,  
 pro. Capt. March, '64, w'd near Stone Mt., dis. for dis.  
 Feb., '65.  
 Isaac Van Valkenberg, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 Peter H. Van Valkenberg, Navy.  
 William S. Van Valkenberg, Navy.  
 Reuben Van Tassel, H, 21, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.  
 LeRoy Van Tassel, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 L. T. Van Tassel, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Silas Van Tassel, 2 Cal. Cav., en. '62, m. o. '65.  
 Elliot M. Warner, B, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. with Co. Aug.  
 31, '64.  
 Liberty Warner, H, 21, en. Sept. 2, '61, killed in battle of  
 Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 20, '63.  
 George L. Warner, B, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. Aug. 31, '64.  
 Ira Ward, H, 21, en. Sept. 2, '61, cap. Sept. 20, '63, at battle  
 of Chickamauga, Ga., died in Rebel prison at Andersonville,  
 Ga., Oct. 6, '64.  
 C. C. Whitmore, G, 10 Cav., en. Nov., '62, m. o. July, '65.  
 Wm. W. Wicoff, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, died Aug. 4, '63,  
 at Cincinnati.  
 Emmet B. Williams, B, 144, May, '64, to Aug., '64, and L.  
 Art., '64 to '65.  
 Daniel Williams, G, 1, L. A., en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Anton Williams, K, 67, en. Aug., '62, trans'd to E. Sept. 1, '65,  
 while absent in V. R. C., dis. May 31, '65, on Surg's  
 cert. of dis., Co. D, 10th Reg't, V. R. C.  
 Ernst Williams, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
 Hiram West, W. M. M. and 144, en. as John Haight.  
 John R. Wood, Washington Minute Men.  
 W. H. Wood, D, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June 27, '65.  
 Walter Wood, F, 86, from June, '63, to Feb., '64, and B, 144,  
 en. May, '64, cap. near Berryville, died in Salisbury  
 prison, Nov. 18, '64.  
 Samuel Wooley, H, '67, en. Nov., '63, died at Jones Neck  
 Hosp., Aug., '64.  
 Wm. Wooley, W. M. M., B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. as Corp'l,  
 Aug., '64.  
 Oscar M. Worden, B, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.  
 D. W. Wright, G, 1, L. A., en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
 Erastus H. Wright, B, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61.  
 Joseph Young, G, 10 Cav., en. Jan., '63.

## WEBSTER TOWNSHIP.

The roster and record of troops furnished by Webster township to the Federal army between

April 15, 1861, and the close of the war of the Rebellion, were compiled by Capt. S. S. Canfield, Robert Davidson, R. H. Householder and other veterans of Scotch Ridge. To their work a few additions were made.

George W. Altman, G, 189, en. Feb. 11, '65, m. o. Sept. '65.  
 Martin W. Altman, L, 2 H. Art., en. July, '63, died at Knoxville, Tenn., Jan. 11, '65.  
 Alvin C. Austin, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. with Co. F, Aug. 24, '64, injured in wreck Sept. 22, '63.  
 Rufus F. Austin, F, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. with Co. Aug. 24, '64, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, '63.  
 Daniel Anderson, B, 111, en. '62, cap. near Lenoir, Tenn., '63, died in Andersonville June 8, '64.  
 James Banks, —, 21, term expired Sept. 22, '64, three years.  
 Norman Brewster, C, 3 Cav., 1st Lieut. June 7, '62, served from '61 to Dec., '64.  
 Alanson Bushnell, F, 144, m. o. with Co. F in '64; injured in wreck Sept. 22, '63.  
 Samuel Burke, —, 21, mus. Aug. 24, '61, killed at Stone River Jan. 1, '63.  
 Anthony Burns, A, 100, Aug. 3, '62, died at Mt. Vernon, Ky., Jan. 6, '63.  
 Henry Biddle, 3 Cav. and C, 144, in latter May to Aug., '64, and K, 111; injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept., '63.  
 Sidney Biddle, L, 3 Cav., Sept., '61, to Oct., '64.  
 Noah Bradley, injured in wreck near Perrysburg Sept. 22, '63.  
 James M. Biddle, H, 3 Cav., Sept., '61, to Oct., '64.  
 Silas S. Canfield, K, 21 O. V. I., Capt. Sept. 19, '61, cap. at Chickamauga, dis. April 1, '65.  
 George S. Canfield, —, 21, Musician, dis. for dis. Jan. 16, '64.  
 Willard Caryl, —, 21, served as Musician from muster-in to March 17, '62, dis. for dis.  
 Freeborn H. Caryl, —, 100, served from July 26, '62, to Aug. 1, '64, when he was recorded as absent on duty.  
 Alonzo Caryl.  
 William Colvin, K, 21, en. Feb. 18, '64, absent, sick, m. o. July 25, '65.  
 Lucius Carey, —, 21, en. Aug. 24, '61, died Jan. 9, '62, in Wood county.  
 Henry Clements, —, 21, dis. for dis. Dec. 2, '62.  
 William Cornwell.  
 Robert S. Davidson, H, 67, en. Oct. 22, '61, w'd. at Fort Wagner, S. C., July 18, '63, and May 9, '64, at Chester Sta., Va., m. o. Dec. 7, '65.  
 Robert M. Davidson, I, 144, May, '64, to Aug. 31, '64, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept., '63.  
 Thomas S. Davidson, K, 21, Aug., '61, cap. in '63, at Chickamauga, died in Andersonville, Aug. 5, '64.  
 William W. Dunipace, D, 86, en. June 30, '63, m. o. with Co. Feb. 10, '64.  
 John Dunipace, I, 144, erf. May 2, '64, app. Corpl. May 11, '64; cap. Aug. 13, '64, in action, near Berryville, Va., m. o. Sept. 7, '64.  
 George Eggleston, A, 100, en. July, '62, died at Covington, Ky., Oct. 13, '62.  
 James A. Forrest, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, dis. June 21, '65, for wounds rec'd. in action.  
 James Forrest, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, killed May 31, '64, near Kenesaw Mountain.  
 Thomas Forrest, K, 21, en. Aug. 25, '62, cap. at Chickamauga, dis. June 5, '65.  
 Robert Forrest, —, 21.  
 John S. Forrest, K, 21, en. Aug. 24, '61, dis. for dis. June, '62.  
 William Forrest, K, 21, en. Aug. 24, '61, died in Andersonville, Sept. 7, '64.  
 Alexander Forrest, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, m. o. July 25, '65.  
 William R. Forrest, K, 21, en. Aug. 24, '61, cap. at Chickamauga, m. o. Jan. 24, '65.  
 Robert Forrest, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, cor. '65, m. o. July 25, '65 (son of John).  
 Henry A. Fox, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, m. o. July 25, '65.  
 John Fox, Jr., 4th Mich. Cav.,  
 Charles W. Flowers, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, w'd. at Jonesboro, Ga., tr. to V. R. C., Jan. 1, '65.



- Wm. J. Fenton, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept. 22, '63, while *en route* to camp.
- William Fenton, A, 144, served until m. o. of command.
- John W. Fenton, I, 144, May 2 to Aug. 31, '64.
- Thomas Finlay, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, w'd at Jonesboro, Ga., m. o. July 25, '65.
- John Freeman, 3 Cav., recruit of March, '64, sent to reg't. in April.
- George Greiner, L, 3 Cav., Farrier, en. Feb., '64, m. o. Aug. '65.
- John Greiner, C, 3 Cav., Wagoner, Aug., '61, to Oct. 7, '64, cap. Oct. 17, '62, paroled.
- George W. Garner, F, 144, Corp., May to Aug., '64.
- Adam Hinds, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, wounded in S. Carolina, Corp. '65, m. o. July 25, '65.
- Robert H. Householder, I, 21, en. May, '61, and in A, 100, July, '62, cap. Sept. 8, '63, at Limestone Station, escaped from Andersonville; m. o. with Reg.
- Samuel P. Hathaway, K, 21, en. Feb. 23, '64, captured at battle of Bentonville, N. C., March 19, '65, m. o. June 9, '65, re-en. in U. S. A. in '66, and for 3 yrs. was stationed at Ft. Leavenworth, Ft. Randall and Ft. Sully, dis. in '69.
- John Hathaway, E, 144, May 2 to Aug. 24, '64, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept. 22, '63.
- Lewis Householder, F, 144, Corp., May to Aug., '64.
- Adam M. Householder, L, 2nd H. A., en. July, '63, m. o. Aug., '65.
- Arthur Householder, 10th Cavalry.
- John W. Householder, G, 10 Cav., en. Oct., '62, m. o. July, '65.
- Alfred Householder, 2nd H. A., Bat. L, en. '63, served until Aug., '65.
- George W. Hathaway, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, Sergt. in '64, reduced '65, m. o. July 25, '65.
- Isaac M. Hathaway, K, 21, en. Sept. 10, '61, killed near Kenesaw Mountain, Ga., May 31, '64.
- Homer Hart, 2nd H. A. (A deaf and dumb man.)
- James T. Inman, K, 21, Sergt., en. Sept., '61, died of wounds recd. at Atlanta, Oct. 1, '64.
- Abraham Jolley, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept. 22, '63.
- Abel Jolley, I, 144, en. May, '64, cap. at Monocacy, died in Danville prison, Jan. 4, '65.
- Jesse S. Jolley, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- George W. Jolley, K, 21, Cor., en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died in Andersonville, Aug. 15, '64.
- John Layman, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. with Company, June 27, '65.
- Henry Long.
- George C. Long, said to have served in artillery regt.
- George Long, I, 144, May to Aug., '64.
- David N. Loomis, K, 21, Sergt., en. Aug. 24, '61, killed at Stone River, Dec. 31, '62.
- Thomas J. Lee, D, 111, served from Aug., '62, to June, '65.
- Alpheus C. McIntyre, K, 21, 1 Sergt., en. Sept., '61, killed near Kenesaw Mountain, Ga., May 31, '64.
- Clement McDonald.
- David Main, F, 144, served full term, as Sergeant.
- George McFall, K, 22, en. Aug. 24, '61, died at Louisville, Ky., Dec. 22, '61.
- John Muir, Sr., L, 3 Cav., ser. Sept., '61, to Oct., '64.
- John Muir, Jr. (son of Sam.), --, 100, died on board prison ship, and buried in the sea opposite Port Royal.
- William Muir, E, 144, May to Aug., '64.
- John D. Muir, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. Jan., '63, com'd. Sept., '63, 2 Lieut. G, 64 Batt'ln., injured Sept., '63, in R. R. wreck, while *en route* (in charge of Co.) to Toledo, O., trans'd to E, 144, 2 Lieut., m. o. Aug., '64.
- James H. Muir, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, tr. to V. R. C., Oct. 29, '63.
- Frederick Nemeyer, L, 3 Cav., en. Sept., '61, m. o. Aug., '65.
- William Nemeyer, Illinois regiment.
- Andrew Ordway, K, 21, en. Sept., '61, died at Athens, Ala., June 10, '62.
- Henry Pember, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept., '64.
- Homer Pember, K, 21, en. Sept., '62, dis. for dis. April 29, '63.
- James Pember, K, 21, en. Aug., '62, died at Cincinnati, Ohio, March 11, '63.
- John W. Pember, en. Sept., '61, m. o. July, '65.
- F. N. Pember, E, 144, May to August, '64.
- Freeman Pember, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept. 22, '63.
- John Priest, F, 144, May to August, '64.
- Richard Priest, D, 111, en. Aug. 12, '62, m. o. with Co. June 27, '65.
- William Philo, --, 144, killed in wreck on C. H. & D., Sept. 22, '63.
- Asahel Philo, --, 144, not mustered in, injured in wreck, Sept., '63.
- W. C. Philo, C, 13, and D, 11, injured at Cotton Hill, Va., June 21, '64.
- James Place, 10 Cav., and K, 84; served first in the 84th and then as Blacksmith in 10th Cav. until '65.
- Charles Robinson, 3 Cav., served 3 years until dis.
- Charles Ransford, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. Feb. 20, '63.
- Archibald Reid, D, 72, en. Nov., '61, Corp. Jan., '62, next Sergt., m. o. Sept., '65, formerly in I, 21 (3 mos.), died at home in '65.
- James Reid, --, 72, and I, 21 (3 mos.), en. April, '61, m. o. Aug., '61, died.
- Robert Reid.
- William Reid, F, 21, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.
- Leonard Snider, F, 144, May to Aug., '64.
- John Scott, killed in wreck near Perrysburg, Ohio, Sept. 22, '63, while *en route* to camp.
- William Scott, 3 Cav., killed in C. H. & D. wreck.
- William Scott, L, 3 Cav., died in prison at Macon, Ga., July 31, '63.
- George Scott, I, 3 Cav., full term, formerly I, 21 (3 mos.).
- Levi Scott, in the 100-days' service as sub.
- Darius Scott, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, cap. at Chickamauga, died in Danville prison, Feb. 1, '64.
- John T. Stewart, E, 144, Corp. May to Aug., '64.
- James Stewart, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, served until July, '65.
- Hugh Stewart, I, 144, en. May, '64, cap. in action near Berryville, Va., Aug. 13, '64, m. o. Sept. 7, '64.
- Robert D. Stewart, D, 86, June 30, '63, to Feb. 10, '64.
- Robert Stewart, --, 29, en. Aug., '64, sub., died on David's Island, N. Y., March 4, '65.
- John H. Stewart, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- David Shanks, I, 144, en. May 2, '64, w'd in action near Berryville, Va., Aug. 13, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- John Shanks, I, 144.
- William Shanks, K, 21, en. Aug. 24, '61, killed in battle of Chickamauga, Ga., Sept. 20, '63.
- Thomas Shanks, F, 144, en. May, '64, m. o. Aug., '64.
- George Shanks, K, 21, Cor., en. Aug. 24, '61, died Sept. 22, '63, of wounds rec. in battle of Chickamauga, Sept. 20, '63.
- John Smith, I, 144, May to Aug., '64.
- Isaac Smith, F, 144, en. May 2, '64, m. o. Aug. 24, '64.
- Julius Stocking, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. for dis. June 3, '62.
- Jacob Sipfle, L, 3 Cav., died of disease May 15, '62, at Camp Dennison.
- Augustus Sipfle, K, 3 Cav., served from March, '64, to Aug., '65.
- Thomas J. Stillwell, K, 21, en. Aug., '62, tr. to V. R. C., April 10, '64, died in '95.
- I. K. Seaman, I, 21, Capt., 3 months.
- James Taylor, L, 3 Cav., Jan., '64, to July, '65, formerly on three-months' service.
- John Taylor, D, 111, Aug., '62, to June 8, '65.
- Aaron Thompson, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, dis. Sept., '62, on Surg's cert. of dis.
- Isaac Taylor, B, 21, en. Aug., '61, m. o. Sept. 18, '64, at Atlanta, Ga.
- William Weddell, K, 21, en. Aug. 26, '61, dis. Jan. 9, '62, on Surg's cert. of dis.
- George Weddell, D, 86, en. '64, and again in Co. I, 144, pro. 1st Lieut., cap. at Monocacy, dis. Feb., '65.
- John Wilson, E, 144, May 2, '64, to Aug. 24, '64.
- William Wilson, I, 144, May to Aug., '64, injured in wreck near Perrysburg, Sept. 22, '63.
- James Walker, --, 21.
- Jesse Walker, K, 21, Sergt., Sept. 10, '61, dis. July, '65.
- George Zimmerman, K, 21, en. Aug., '61, died at Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 29, '63.

Milton Zimmerman, A, 103, July, '62, to June, '65.  
Isaac Zimmerman, L, 2 H. A., July, '63, served to Aug., '65.  
Daniel Zimmerman, K, 21, Cor., en. Sept., '61, m. o. July 25, '65. Veteran.

## WESTON TOWNSHIP.

The names of Weston township soldiers who enlisted and served in the war of the Rebellion, with their records, are given in the following roster, prepared by Dr. Hill and other veterans, and corrected by Dr. W. W. Hill, J. E. Clark, Carlo Call, J. W. Brownsberger and B. F. Kerr. The line dividing the new township of Grand Rapids has been observed in distributing the names; so that only men who enlisted from within the present township boundaries find mention here.

George Briggs, K, 111, Aug., '62, June, '65.  
Henry Burdue, K, 111, Aug., '62, June, '65, w'd. at Franklin, Tenn., Nov., 30, 1864.  
Jeremiah Bowlin, K, 111, Aug., '62, June, '65.  
Austin D. Bassett, I, 144, May, '64, died June 26, '64, at Annapolis, Md.  
Levi Bassett, G, 60, Feb., '64, Aug., '65.  
Eugene Brisbin, H, 21, Sept., '61, July, '65.  
James Brisbin, H, 21, May, '61, May, '62, dis. for dis.  
Albert Brisbin, H, 21, Feb., '64, July, '65.  
Levi Brisbin, H, 21, Sept., '61, died of w'ds. rec. at Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
Francis M. Brisbin, H, 21, Sept., '61, tr. to 18, U. S. Inf.  
Edward Baldwin, I, 144, May 2, to May 12, '64, dis. for dis.  
Charles Baldwin, B, 55, from Sept., '64, to May, '65.  
Byron C. Baldwin, A, 100, Aug., '62, Color Guard, killed at Franklin, Tenn., Nov. 30, '64.  
Joseph Burkett, I, 144, May, '64, to April, 1865, prisoner 11 months.  
John Burkett, F, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
Henry J. Barton, I, 144, May, '64, to Aug., '64.  
Allen Bortel, H, 68, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
William H. Banister, K, 111, Aug., '62, to June, '65.  
Daniel M. Brown, H, 21, Feb., '64, July, '65.  
George Cornell, H, 21, Oct., '61, killed near Vining Sta., Ga., July 9, '64.  
Alva Calkins, H, 21, Sept., '61, died Dec. 30, '61, at Weston, Ohio.  
John Cornell, A, 100, lost on the "Sultana."  
John Croshaw, D, 21, Aug., '61, killed at Chickamauga, Sept. 20, '63.  
Spencer Croshaw, D, 21, Aug., '61, July, '65.  
Fillmore Croshaw, D, 21, Feb., '64, March, '65.  
John W. Crom, A, 49, Aug., '61, dis. for wounds, July, '62.  
Jerry B. Crom, H, 86, June, '63, Feb., '64.  
Frank Corkell.  
Franklin Culbertson, en. Aug., '62, died of w'ds Aug. 30, '64.  
Uriah S. Deweese, F, 86, June, '63, Feb., '64.  
Ephraim W. Dull, D, 111, Aug., '62, killed at Mud Creek, Ga., Aug. 14, '62.  
John L. Dull, I, 144, May, '64, Aug., '64.  
James Diamond, H, 21, died at Louisville.  
Chauncey H. Dewese, I, 144, May, '64, cap. July 9, '64, at battle of Monocacy, died in Danville (Va.) prison Nov. 6, '64.  
Samuel Dewese, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
James Facer, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. near Dandridge, m. o. June, '65.  
William Facer, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, cap. on retreat from Dandridge, died in Andersonville April 20, '64.  
George Frankfather, H, 49, Dec., '63, died at Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 8, '64.

David Frankfather, H, 49, Aug., '61, Nov., '65.  
Albert Frankfather, H, 49, Aug., '61, wounded at Nashville, served to Nov., '65.  
Oliver Fairbanks, I, 144, May, '64.  
John Ford, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
Joseph Gingery, K, 111, Aug., '62, killed at Franklin, Tenn.  
Abraham Gingery, H, 21, Sept., '61, killed May 1, '62, in action at Pulaski, Tenn.  
John Gingery, D, 21, Aug., '61, died of wounds Feb. 20, '65.  
John Hoover, I, 144, May to Aug., '64.  
Jacob Gingery, I, 144, May, '64, killed July 9, '64, at Monocacy, Md.  
Aaron Gingery, D, 21, Aug., '61, July, '65.  
Richard Green, C, 55, en. Sept. 30, '64, m. o. June, '65.  
John Hoover, H, 21, Sept., '61, to Sept., '64.  
Arch B. Hoover, I, 68, Oct., '61, July, '65.  
John P. Hamilton, H, 21, Sept., '61, dis. for wounds Nov., '64.  
James Harris.  
Alva J. Inscho, A, 100, en. July, '62, m. o. June, '65.  
George Irwin, I, 144, May 2, to May 12, '64, dis. on cert. of dis.  
Thomas Junkins, F, 86, June, '63, to Feb., '64.  
Samuel R. Junkins, I, 144, May to Aug., '64.  
W. O. Keeler, 1st Colo. Cav., buried at Weston.  
Edward Kelsey, D, 21, Aug., '61, w'd at Jonesboro, m. o. July, '65.  
Harry Kromer, known to have died in service.  
David T. Lashley, H, 68, June, '64, July, '65.  
Alvin C. McCall, I, 111, en. Aug., '62, m. o. June, '65.  
John McLogan, K, 111, Aug., '62, June, '65.  
John McCrory, H, 21, en. '61, m. o. '65.  
L. O. Montross, K, 111, Aug., '62, March, '63.  
Miles Montross, died in the service.  
A. G. Miller, D, 21, Feb., '64, May, '65.  
Edward Miller, —, 21, recruit, killed at Jonesboro, Ga., Sept. '64.  
Richard Mitchell, G, 10, May, '64, died Sept. 27, '64, in Andersonville.  
George Mitchell, K, 21, en. Feb., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
Edward Mitchell, K, 185, served to Sept. 26, '65.  
Thomas Miller, K, 111, Aug., '62, June, '65.  
James Marshall, D, 86, en. June, '63, m. o. Feb., '64.  
Hiram Parker, A, 182, en. Aug., '64, m. o. July, '65.  
Thomas H. Poling, K, 111, Aug., '62, June, '65.  
John L. Poling, B, 111, Aug., '62, June, '65.  
Samuel J. Pennyfather, H, 21, Sept., '61, July, '65.  
A. Henry Phenix, H, 21, Sept. 2, '61, cap. Sept. 20, '63, died in Andersonville, June 20, '64.  
George W. Russ, K, 111, Aug., '62, w'd at Kenesaw Mt., m. o. '65.  
Calvin J. Russ, H, 60, Feb., '64, killed at Spottsylvania, May 9, '64.  
Anson Rosencrantz, D, 21, Feb., '64, July, '65.  
Albert Rosencrantz, A, 100, Aug., '62, w'd, m. o. April, '65.  
George W. Rosencrantz, A, 100, Aug., '62, June, '65.  
W. E. Smith, E, 111, en. July, '62, Serg't, m. o. July, '65.  
John L. Swarm, K, 111, Aug., '62, killed on "Sultana."  
Franklin Swarm, H, 60, March, '64, July, '65.  
Addison Searles, H, 21, en. '61, m. o. '65.  
Alfred Searles, said to have enlisted from Weston.  
George Smith, H, 21, en. '61, killed in Morgan Raid.  
Warren M. Smith, F, 86, en. June 24, '63, died near Cumberland Gap, Ky.  
Edward Shepherd, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, died in Libby Prison, April, '64.  
Lemuel Thayer, K, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., April 23, '63.  
Martin Tracy.  
Wilber Vining, B, 111, en. Aug., '62, died at Bowling Green, Ky., April 22, '63.  
A. V. Wade, F, 86, June, '63, to Feb., '64.  
Joseph Walters, 20 Ind., killed in battle of the Wilderness.  
Jonathan Walters, I, 144, en. May, '64, killed at Monocacy, Md., July 19, '64.  
Jacob Walters, I, 144, May to Aug., '64.  
E. P. Williams, D, 21, Jan., '64, to July, '65.  
Edgar T. Williams, A, 100, en. Aug., '62, wounded Aug., '64, at Eutowah Creek.  
Ogida Wade, I, 144, May to Aug., '64.

Henry Wade.

Israel West, B, 111, en. July, '62, tr. to V. R. C.

William Winnup, I, 144, May to Aug., '64.

Joseph Ward, F, 86, June, '63, to Feb., '64.

James Ward, H, 68, en. Oct., '61, dis. for dis. July, '62, I, 144, for full term.

Ed. Ward, F, 86, June, '63, to Feb., '64.

David Wilner, H, 60, en. Feb., '64, died at Petersburg, Va., Aug. 23, '64.

#### LOCAL MILITARY AFFAIRS.

*District Committees.*—The Congressional Military Committee appointed, in October, 1861, the following named citizens a Military Committee for Wood county: Henry H. Dodge and George Knoll, of Perrysburg; Thomas Gorrill, of Stony Ridge; James Pember, of Woodville; James M. Bronson, of Eagleville, and John C. Wooster, of Bowling Green. George Laskey signed the notice as chairman of the Military Committee of this county.

*The Washington Minute Men*, or "Squirrel Hunters," left Tontogany in September, 1862, for the defense of Cincinnati. Among them were Caleb North, in his seventy-sixth year, and Archibald McComb, in his sixty-fifth year, while the others are named in the roster of Washington soldiers.

*An Unlucky Day.*—The accident of September 22, 1863, on the Dayton & Michigan railroad, resulted in the instant death of John Scott and William Philo, of Webster township, and serious injury to twenty-four others, named in the rosters of Webster and Freedom. Nearly all were residents of Webster township, *en route* to the militia encampment at Toledo. The accident was caused by a collision, in which the two locomotives were reduced to debris, and the first car of the military train to splinters.

*Acts of the Commissioners.*—The Commissioners, on June 7, 1862, having ascertained the number of soldiers' families in each township, appointed an agent for each township, and apportioned the relief fund according to the number requiring aid, as shown in the following statement: Perrysburg township, 23 families, \$299 apportioned, E. Graham, agent; Freedom, 13—\$169, Ira Banks; Webster, 13—\$169, George Loomis; Weston, 20—\$261, George Laskey; Washington, 11—\$143, A. B. C. Drury; Plain, 11—\$143, D. Newton; Center, 10—\$130, Henry Shively; Bloom, 9—\$119, John Russell; Montgomery, 8—\$104, J. B. Lockhart; Lake, 7—\$91, Thomas Crago; Portage, 7—\$91, Collister Haskins; Perry, 7—\$91, Isaac Brandeberry; Milton, 6—\$78, Alvin Clark; Middleton, 4—\$52, Amelius Robertson; Jackson, 2—\$26, J. R. Apper; Liberty, 2—\$26, S. L.

Sargent; Troy, 5—\$65, Thomas Gorrill; and Henry, not credited. This was the first notice taken of the war by the commissioners, so far as records show. On June 1, 1863, there were \$2,716 paid to 388 soldiers' families. On January 7, 1864, the auditor was ordered to pay out of the military bounty fund, created that day, the sum of \$100, with interest, to each volunteer, who enlisted in the military service of the United States, under the last call of the President. The payment was made under the belief that the Legislature would give the commissioners authority to levy a special tax to meet the outlay. In March, 1864, orders for \$2,737 were issued against the Relief Fund; in June, 1864, \$1,823; in June, 1865, \$4,134; in September, \$8,206; in March, 1866, \$7,000; and in June, 1866, \$7,100. The total is only a fraction of the moneys expended for war purposes, but is enough to show what the corporation or county did.

#### CONCLUSION.

Ohio furnished twenty-three regiments of three-months' troops; 117 infantry regiments of three-years' troops; twenty-seven infantry regiments of one-year troops; two infantry regiments of six-months' troops; three infantry regiments of three-months' troops; forty-three infantry regiments of 100-days' troops; thirteen cavalry regiments of three-years' troops; three artillery regiments of three-years' troops; and twenty-six independent batteries of three-years' troops, or about one-eighth of the 2,688,523 men who enlisted in the Federal service from April, 1861, to August 20, 1866. Of the Ohio troops, 24,591 never returned; 6,536 were killed in battle; 4,674 died of wounds, 13,354 died of disease in hospitals; while 872 officers were killed, or died of wounds or disease. Wood county's losses were heavy, as shown in the foregoing records, but by immigration since the war, the number of soldiers residing here has been kept near 50 *per centum* of the number who enlisted from her townships and villages.

From the auditor's documents, based on the assessors' returns for 1895, the number (1,297) of veterans now residing within the county's boundaries, is taken: Liberty township, 56; Freedom, 37; Troy, 22; Perrysburg—south precinct, 61; Perrysburg—north precinct, 48; Webster, 27; Jackson, 44; North Baltimore—north, 48; North Baltimore—south, 47; Hammansburg, 9; Bloom—Cygnet precinct, 10; Bloom—Jerry City precinct, 19; Bloomdale, 28; Bairdstown, 17; Montgomery—Bradner precinct, 39; Freeport, 69;

Risingsun, 26; Milton, 69; Grand Rapids, 59; Plain—3d ward B. G., 34; Plain—4th ward B. G., 37; Plain—east precinct, 18; Plain—west precinct, 12; Center—1st ward B. G., 28; Center—2nd ward B. G., 37; Center—Center precinct, 40; Lake—Millbury precinct, 18; Lake—Walbridge precinct, 32; Middleton—Haskins precinct, 37; Middleton—Dunbridge precinct, 25; Perry—

north precinct, 36; Perry—south precinct, 17; Portage—east precinct, 11; Portage—Portage precinct, 19; Ross, 14; Washington, 44; and Weston, 78.

The soldiers who settled here since the close of the war equal, if they do not exceed, the number who enlisted here, and who now reside where they heard the first call to arms.

## CHAPTER XIX.

### EARLY MISSIONARIES ON THE MAUMEE—VARIOUS MISSIONS—NAMES AND DATES OF MINISTERS OF THE GOSPEL WHO PERFORMED THE MARRIAGE CEREMONY FROM 1880 TO 1852—CONCLUSION.

THE establishment of a colony and fort at Detroit, July 21, 1701, when Père Nicholas Bernardine Constantine Delhalle was commissioned chaplain, and Père Francis Valiant du Gueslis, missionary to the Miamis and other Indians of Michigan, may be reasonably considered the introduction of Christianity along the western shore of Lake Erie. These priests as well as their successors, and, before them, the missionaries of the first Detroit colony, knew the inhabitants of the Miami and Huron countries down to 1744, when it was written of the Ohio shore of Lake Erie—"All this side of Lake Erie is but little known." The coming of English-speaking traders may be said to have ended the influence of the missionaries over the savages, and to have changed their character *in toto*. About the year 1791, Rev. Edmund Burke (a cousin of the British statesman of the same name), an Irish priest, who was acting as professor in the Seminary of Quebec, saw with regret that no steps had been taken to revive the missions in the western country, which the hostility of the House of Bourbon to the Society of Jesus had annihilated. By the aid of Archbishop Troy, of Dublin, Ireland, he called the attention of the Sacred Congregation to the wretched condition of the country on the Great Lakes. The British authorities had at first made it a positive point that the Jesuit Fathers were not to continue the Indian missions. Father Burke was favorably known, and, with the concurrence of the English Governor, he was selected by Bishop Hubert to proceed to the West, and carry out the views of the Propa-

ganda. Before the close of the year, he was officiating at Raisin River, which he had been specially commissioned to attend. There, he dedicated the church of St. Anthony of Padua. Meanwhile, Wayne's victories over the Miamis had caused the Indians to waver in their adherence to England. Father Burke then proceeded to Fort Miami, a post erected by the British on the northwestern bank of the Maumee river, opposite the site of Perrysburg. His house was on the bank of the river, within a few miles of the fort. There he began to fit himself to direct the Ottawas, Chippewas and Pottawatomies, by a study of their language—the English Government, which maintained the missionary, giving him the distribution of provisions to these tribes. In 1795 he removed to Detroit, leaving to others the care of the few Christian natives on the Maumee.

Father Gabriel Richard may be called the successor of Father Burke, as pastor of the parish of Detroit. From the close of the Eighteenth century to 1832 he visited throughout the great parish, which was co-extensive with original Wayne county.

The work of the Protestant missionaries on the Maumee may be said to have begun in 1801 or 1802, when Rev. D. Bacon, agent for the Connecticut Missionary Society, arrived, and hired William Dragoo as his interpreter. On coming to Maumee he saw, near the mouth of the river, a number of drunken Indians, among whom was Little Otter, the principal chief. Next day, May 5, accompanied by Dragoo, he proceeded from Fort Miami to Fort Industry, met the semi-

drunken head chief, and, obtaining a promise from him to assemble the tribe, returned to the Indian dancing ground; but the tribe was not convened until May 14, when Mr. Bacon addressed them. His logic, however, made little impression, the Indians objecting that his religion was not good for them; that it would bring on them the same tribulations suffered by the Indians who had embraced the Moravianism of Heckewelder, and that it was useless to their nomadic life. The missionary furnished them as much tobacco as they could smoke, with the object of winning their attention, and did succeed in this object, but did not succeed in having them think exactly like he did. On May 15 Little Otter replied to Mr. Bacon in the following style:

"Our white brothers, when they make speeches, are very lengthy, but it is not so with your red brothers. When you were talking you kept looking up, and said a great deal to us about the Great Spirit. We understand that you want us to raise plenty of corn and wheat, horses and cattle, and all other things and creatures that you raise, and that you want us to live like the people that wear hats. Now, brother, if you and your friends wish to make us happy, why don't you stop your people from settling so near us. If you do this we might have game enough, and do very well. We know what you say about the whisky white people make is very true. Indians don't know how to make it, and have nothing to make it of. If your people did not make it and bring it to us we would not have it. Brother, since it is so, why do you not stop your people from bringing it among us? We understand that you were sent out to visit the Indians in order to find out their minds about the Great Spirit. You have seen but few Indians yet. If you were to go and see them all, it would take you two or three years. We think you had better go and talk with them all and see what they think of it, and if they will agree to have such as you among them, we will also agree. This is all the red brothers have to say to you."

Mr. Bacon left the doomed tribe on June 2, 1802, *en route* to Mackinaw, where he arrived June 29. His nephew, who came here with him, hired a canoe, and, accompanied by an Indian, set out for Massachusetts *via* the lakes and the St. Lawrence river, his taste for adventure in the West being fully satisfied.

Rev. Joseph Badger, a missionary, sent to Ohio by the Connecticut Missionary Society, arrived below the Rapids of the Maumee September 11, 1801, and under that date made the following entry in his journal: "Rode through the

Black Swamp to the Shawanee village on the Maumee. George, our Indian boy, took us to the island, just below the rapids, to see his aunt. Soon after we were seated we were presented with a bowl of boiled corn, buttered with bear's grease. As the corn was presented, the old woman said: 'Friends, eat—it is good; it is such as God gives Indians.'"

This was a pleasing reception to the traveler, more in keeping with the traditions of the Indian before tobacco took the place of kinnikinnick, and whisky that of water. It was an experience which won for the place the admiration of the missionary at the time, and his citizenship in the neighborhood subsequently. Very different was that accorded Rev. Mr. Bacon, who came on a similar errand in May, 1802, and left the Indian town forever in June of the same year.

The Presbyterian Mission on the Maumee may be said to date back to October 27, 1822, when Rev. Isaac Van Tassel arrived. On November 6, that year, there were present Rev. Samuel Tate, his wife and son; Rev. Alvin Coe and wife; Isaac Van Tassel and wife; Leander Sackett (the mission farmer) and wife; John McPherrin, the carpenter; Straight, the blacksmith; Sabina Stevens and Hannah Riggs. The farm was situated nine miles above Fort Meigs, being the east  $\frac{1}{2}$  of south-west  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the section, at the mouth of the Tontogany. The island opposite the farm, one and one-half miles long, and about a half mile wide, was also the property of the Missionary Society. When the missionaries arrived at their destination the body of a hewn-log house, 16 x 60 feet, was found there, and to the completion of that structure Mr. Van Tassel gave attention first. The few necessities which the Mission folks brought with them were almost invaluable to the settlement. For years the only saddle in the settlement was one owned by Mr. Van Tassel. He had also been provided by the Presbytery with a store of medicines, a thumb lance for bleeding, and a turn-key for tooth pulling, and if any were sick they got either bleeding or a dose of Moffett's pills, and, if the case were bad, senna and salts. It is not surprising that the Indians did not like all the regulations of civilized life, for they too, when sick, had to be treated at times by white medicine men. The regular work for which the persons named were designed, commenced November 26, 1822; but it was not until later in the winter that Mrs. Sackett opened the school for Indian children, and taught the red urchins for a few weeks, when she retired from that department of the work. Mrs. Lucia B. Van-Tassel taught there for a year, and was followed

by other teachers who saw a class of half a dozen increased to thirty out of fifty enrolled pupils. D. W. H. Howard, himself a pupil, speaking of the enterprise, in 1879, says: "Rev. Isaac Van-Tassel was the principal of the Mission. Mr. Sackett and Rev. Mr. Coe were assistants, with their wives and several maiden ladies as teachers. These, together with a few mechanics and laborers, formed the community of white people who established and carried forward the enterprise successfully for many years; in fact sustained it in its work of christianizing and civilizing the Indians until the tribes were moved to Missouri and Kansas." Mrs. Van Tassel, writing in 1872, tells us that these children were fed and clothed, and that, as a result of the kindnesses and teachings they received, no less than thirty young savages were led into Christianity and died in the faith. In 1826 the Mission was taken in charge by the American Board of Foreign Missions, and Mr. Van Tassel was appointed superintendent. In 1834 the Mission was abandoned, and Mr. Van-Tassel, his wife and wards (Alvin Coe, an Indian boy; Sophia Tibault, called Teboo, a three-quarter blood, and Clarissa Moulton, a half blood) moved to a point on the prairie, two miles west of Bowling Green. While *en route* from Grand Rapids to his home, March 2, 1849, he was thrown from his horse and killed. Mr. Badger, of whom mention is made in other pages, returned to Wood county in 1835, and died here in 1846, aged eighty-nine years.

From the records of Wood county the following names and dates are taken, showing the names of ministers of the Gospel, who performed the marriage ceremony here from 1830 to 1852: Rev. Isaac Hill, a preacher, was authorized to perform the marriage ceremony here May 4, 1830; Rev. Jacob Crum, May 26, 1831; Rev. Isaac Van Tassel, 1833; Rev. Elijah H. Pitcher, 1833; Rev. Elnathan C. Gavitt, 1833; Rev. William Sprague, 1833; Elam Day, 1834; Rev. John Crom, 1834; Rev. William T. Tracy, 1834; Jacob Martin, 1834; Rev. Stephen I. Bradstreet, Presbyterian, 1835; Rev. Leonard B. Gurley, Methodist, 1835; Rev. Daniel B. Biddlecone, Universalist, 1835; Rev. Daniel P. Ketchum, Methodist, 1835; Samuel Bomgardner, of the Evangelical Society, 1835; Rev. L. L. Sadler, Universalist, 1837; Rev. Henry Whiteman, 1836; Rev. Peter Sharp, 1836; Rev. Peter Carobaine, of the Catholic Church (of Hamilton county, Ohio), 1837; Rev. Wesley Brock, Methodist, 1837; Rev. Stephen Lillybridge, of the United Brethren in Christ, 1837; Rev. John Janes, Methodist, 1838; Rev. Benjamin Woodbury (came

in 1835), 1838; Rev. James H. Francis, 1838; Rev. Leonard Parker, Methodist, 1838; Rev. Adam Minear, Methodist, 1839; Rev. William Barkhimer, of the Evangelical Association of North America, 1839; Rev. Jeremiah Brown, United Brethren preacher, 1839; Rev. John R. Miller, Evangelical Association, 1840; Rev. Michael Long, United Brethren, 1840; Rev. David Campbell, Regular Baptist, 1840; Rolla H. Chubb, Methodist, 1840; Rev. Leonard Hill, Methodist, 1841; Rev. Jonathan Edwards Chaplin, Methodist, 1841; Rev. Henry Warner, Methodist, 1841; Rev. Barrett I. Needles, United Brethren, 1840; Rev. George Cronewett, Evangelical Lutheran, 1842; Rev. Andrew Hollopeter, 1842; Rev. Ezra Howland, 1843; Rev. Ezra C. Norton, Methodist, 1843; Rev. Amadeus Rappe, Catholic, 1843; Rev. James Miller, 1843; Rev. Epaphroditus Thompson, 1843; Rev. Clark Johnson, 1843; Rev. Philip Start, 1843; Rev. I. J. Killum, Methodist, 1844; Rev. W. H. Baldwin, Presbyterian, 1844; at Weston, Rev. Cyrus L. Watson, 1844; Rev. Joseph Jones, 1844; Rev. Hiram J. Marble, 1844; Elder Thomas Barkdull, Methodist, 1844; Rev. Silas D. Seymour, 1845; Rev. Wesley J. Wells, 1845; Rev. W. Winters, Methodist, 1846; Rev. Robert S. Kimber, 1846; Rev. L. M. Bonham, 1846; Rev. Thomas J. Pope, Methodist, 1846; Rev. John Davis, 1847; Rev. Thomas Cooper, 1847; Rev. Wesley Harrington, 1847; Rev. George Hammer, 1847; Rev. George Vanaman, Presbyterian, 1847; Rev. C. H. Owen, Methodist, 1847; Rev. Edward Williams, 1848; Rev. H. C. Skinner, 1848; Father Philip Foley, of Hamilton county, Ohio, Catholic, 1848; Rev. W. H. Seeley, Methodist, 1848; Rev. Andrew H. Buchtel, 1848; Rev. O. Taylor, 1848; Rev. Lafayette Ward, Methodist, 1849; Rev. David West, German Reformed, 1849; Rev. Robert K. Davis, Methodist Protestant, 1849; Rev. Asa Ellis, of the Predestinarian Baptist Church of Christ, 1849; Rev. John Graham, Methodist, 1849; Rev. Thomas Holmes, Christian, 1850; Father Sebastian Sanner, Catholic, 1850; Rev. George Haily, Evangelical Association of North America, 1850; Rev. James Swaney, Methodist, 1850; Rev. William Matthews, United Brethren preacher, 1850; Rev. Henry P. Stillwell, Baptist, 1851; Rev. Charles Marksheffel, Lutheran, 1850; Rev. James Milligan, Methodist, 1850; Rev. Joseph F. Wade, Christian, 1849; Rev. G. W. Brackenridge, Methodist, 1849; Rev. I. H. Newton, Congregationalist, 1849; Rev. A. W. Jewett, Universalist, 1849; Rev. Samuel Long, United Brethren preacher, 1851; Rev. Samuel Wilson, of the Ohio Central Christian Conference, 1851;

Rev. James Glancy, a United Brethren preacher, January, 1852; and Rev. James Evans, Methodist, 1852.

During the last forty-three years an army of teachers entered Wood county. Some came on trial and remained a day or so, others staid a

year, while a few made their homes here for many years. To-day the townships (except Ross) and many of the villages have their churches, and every form of religious belief has its adherents here, as may be learned from the sketches of churches given in the local chapters.

## CHAPTER XX.

EARLY SCHOOLS AND TEACHERS IN WOOD COUNTY—SCHOOL TAXES AND LAWS—SCHOOL EXAMINERS—IMPORTANT MEETING AT PERRYSBURG, 1837—SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION—STATISTICS—TEACHERS' INSTITUTE—ITS OFFICERS, MEMBERS, ETC.

**I**N the reminiscences of Mrs. Amelia W. Perrin, given in the history of Perrysburg township, reference is made to first schools and teachers in Wood county. The chapters devoted to township history contain many sketches of early schools and school teachers. The first recognition of schools by the commissioners dates back to June, 1826, when half a mill on the dollar was ordered to be levied for school purposes, under the Act of 1825. In 1827, this levy was continued; but, in 1828, 1829, 1830 and 1831, the commissioners ignored the tax. To compensate for this, a one-mill tax was levied in 1832, being one-fourth of a mill more than the new Common-School Law demanded, but, during the following few years, nothing whatever was done toward levying a school tax. On June 13, 1835, School Section 16, Tp. 3, Twelve-Mile Reservation, was ordered to be appraised, and a one-fourth-mill tax, in addition to the Statute three-fourth-mill tax, ordered to be levied for schools. In March, 1836, Montgomery township was ordered to elect school trustees. In 1837, the school levy was placed at one and one-fourth mills, and, in 1839, it was increased to two mills, under the revise of School Law of 1838. The product of these levies was small indeed, but sufficient to meet the demands made by the school interests. The value of the school sections was not then thoroughly understood, and in the sale of many of them the people and commissioners made a mistake, which they realized before many years. The Akron School Law was adopted in 1850, and in 1873 all the laws bearing on the public schools were consolidated.

In October, 1831, the judges of Common Pleas, acting under authority of the school law,

appointed the following named school examiners: Elijah Huntington, Horatio Conant, Isaac Van-Tassel, Galon B. Abel, Moses P. Morgan and David Smith. In October, 1834, Jessup W. Scott, Elijah Huntington, Horatio Conant, Oscar White and Galon B. Abel were appointed; and, in October, 1835, Benjamin Olney and Henry Bennett took the places of Oscar White and Horatio Conant. In 1847 James W. Ross, Elijah Huntington and Hiram Davis were appointed school examiners. In 1851 James W. Ross, whose term expired, was re-appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Rev. Mr. Jewett. This system of appointment continues in force under the school laws, as amended, which vests the appointing power in the Probate Court.

To November 17, 1837, we must first look for any marked interest in the system of public education. On that day a meeting was held at Perrysburg, over which S. R. Austin presided, with P. H. Crowell, secretary. The object was to consider means for improving the system and elevating the standard of the teachers. John C. Spink, Elijah Huntington and Henry Darling were appointed a committee to nominate officers for this School Improvement Association, and their nominations being accepted, Dr. Horatio Conant (president), John Evans (vice-president), Hazael Strong (of Napoleon), Jessup W. Scott (of Miami), Andrew Coffinberry (of Perrysburg), and Pierre M. Irving (of Toledo) (district vice-presidents), S. R. Austin (secretary) and John Webb (treasurer) were declared to be the officers. The graded or union school of Maumee, taught by Francis Hollenbeck, was established five years later; then one at Perrysburg; next one at Waterville, and a fourth school at Toledo.

The efforts of this association were directed to the organization of districts, and not without effect; for, by reference to the chapter on the Transactions of the Commissioners, it will be seen that the school question was taken up enthusiastically by the people of the several townships. In the "forties" the teachers' institutes and teachers' associations began to take the place of the old School Improvement Association, and through the influence of their meetings the character of the teachers was changed within a few years, and some measure of progress was observed. Female instructors took the place of male pedagogues; mathematics made way for simple addition, subtraction and division; and "readin', ritin' and 'rithmetick" were cultivated. Much remained to be done, but the people accomplished the work, and brought the school house within reasonable distance of every home. Early in the "fifties" the State extended a system of aid by the establishment of school libraries throughout the county, and the supply of school apparatus. The Wood County School Library received, from the State, books and school apparatus valued at \$447.28 during the year ending December 1, 1855. There were thirteen volumes of valuable and interesting books sent January 12, 1855; with which consignment were sixty-four copies of Barnard's school architecture, and one copy each of several well-known authors; also in May, 1855, came another consignment. The great majority of the books were useful and authentic, the minority otherwise. The statistics for the year ending November 15, 1877, show that the number of children between the ages of six and twenty-one years, was 11,217. The State received from this county \$9,265.43, and paid it \$16,080. In 1878 and 1879, marked advances were made in school government, buildings, furniture, and even in the character and manner of teachers.

The number of school houses in this county at the close of the school year, 1879-80, was 180, or 164 townships, and sixteen separate district houses, while the value of property was \$173,550. The number of school rooms was 208, and of teachers, 212—the number of different teachers employed being no less than 357—146 male and 211 females. The average pay was \$33 for the former and \$23 for the latter in the primary schools throughout the townships, \$28 and \$27 respectively in the separate districts for primary teachers, and \$57 and \$33 respectively for high-school teachers. The average duration of school in the townships was twenty-seven weeks, and, in the separate districts, thirty-two weeks per annum. Wood county received from the State common-school

fund \$17,230.50 and contributed \$9,912.71 to that fund, while the county's expenditure for school purposes amounted to \$83,139.04, of which the sum of \$47,792.83 was paid to teachers. The receipts of school moneys from all sources amounted to \$127,393.41. In 1880, there were 5,960 male and 5,453 female children between the ages of six and twenty-one years, or a total of 11,413, in Wood county, exclusive of twenty-one colored boys and twenty-five colored girls, which, added, bring the total up to 11,459. Of all, there were 2,638 between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one years, while the total was 46 *per centum* of the population in 1880.

The village and special school districts, in 1890, comprised Bloomdale, \$770.62; Bowling Green, \$28,860.06; Bradner, \$799.34; Grand Rapids, \$3,349.56; Haskins, \$2,123.91; Millbury, \$927.13; Milton Center, \$847.24; North Baltimore, \$4,705.25; Pemberville, \$3,801.49; Perrysburg, \$5,367.19; Portage, \$758.42; Prairie Depot, \$1,525.46; Tontogany, \$1,048.70; West Millgrove, \$863.34; and Weston, \$2,362.18. In 1890, there were 180 elementary schools in the township districts, with twenty-one elementary schools and one high school in the separate districts, or 202 school buildings in the whole county, valued at \$319,450. In the 202 buildings were 257 rooms, or 188 rooms in the township, and sixty-nine in the separate districts, employing 308 teachers in the township, and eighty one in the separate district schools—or 133 male and 256 female teachers.

The average pay of teachers in the township in 1890, was \$38 for males and \$26 for females, and in the separate districts, \$44 and \$30 respectively; while in the high schools the salaries averaged \$52 for male, and \$46 for female teachers. In the townships the average duration of school was twenty-nine weeks, and in the separate districts, thirty-six weeks. The expenditures for the year amounted to \$119,103.18, and the revenue (including a balance from 1889, of \$79,068.64), \$20,354.60, from State tax; \$5,049.24 from the irreducible school fund; \$82,439.90 from local school and school-house tax, and \$987.69 from fines, licenses, etc.—\$187,900.07. The sum paid teachers was \$67,025.02, of which \$6,701 was paid high-school teachers. The number of pupils enrolled was 7,242 boys and 6,273 girls, of whom 3,417 were between the ages of 16 and 21 years. The average daily attendance was 7,499.

The statistics for the year ending August 31, 1894, show that Wood county possessed 183 elementary schools in the townships, with 26 elementary schools and one high school in the



separate districts, or 210 schools valued at \$410,470. There were 192 rooms in the township buildings, and 93 in the separate district buildings, or a total of 285 rooms in which 287 teachers were employed. The number of different teachers was 335, or 139 males and 196 females. Of the whole number, 229 were employed for the whole year. The average salary in the township was \$36 for males and \$30 for females; while in the separate districts the respective averages were \$50 and \$33, and, in the high school, \$60. The average duration of school in the township was 31 weeks and, in the separate districts, 33 weeks. In 1893-4, the average school tax levy in the township was 4.5 mills, and in 1894-95, 4.6 mills; while in the separate districts, it was 11.7 mills in the first, and 12.1 mills in 1894-5. The school moneys received during the year amounted to \$256,870.68, of which the sum of \$180,661.90 was expended, including \$89,719.71 paid to the teachers.

The number of children enrolled in the township was 7,192, or 3,756 boys and 3,436 girls, while in the separate districts there were 4,479 enrolled, or 1,729 boys and 1,864 girls in the elementary schools, and 415 boys and 471 girls in the high school—the total of all children enrolled being 11,671, including 826 re-enrollments. The daily attendance was estimated at 8,236, while the youth entitled to attend school numbered 14,073, or 7,400 boys and 6,673 girls, of whom 3,406 were between the ages of 16 and 21.

The Teachers' Institute of this county appears to have been a well-organized body as early as May 5, 1851, when the following named "practical teachers" petitioned the commissioners to appropriate moneys for defraying the expenses of a meeting to be held at Perrysburg in September of that year: A. D. Wright, George Kimberlin, Edward Olney, Adeliza Olney, Mary E. Olney, A. P. Donaldson, John W. Woodbury, Nathan W. Minton, A. B. Poe, Thomas E. Jackman, John Foster, Henry Chollette, Elijah Elliott, Laurenza Brown, Mary Blinn, Helen Norton, Nancy A. Carothers, Mary A. Drake, D. K. Hollenbeck, Helen Earll, Elsie Birdsall, Romain Bruce, Ann Vass, Ann E. Bruce, Martha J. Drake, Maria Carr, Maria Bamber, Hellen S. Perrin, Julia Irwin, Celia L. Minton, Sarah S. Minton, Eliza Kuder, Louisa Lowell, Emeline Blinn, Celia Keyes, Emily Norton, Mary M. Shutts, Sophia A. Barlow, Caroline Wright and Hamilton Pratt. The petition was endorsed June 1, 1851, by the school examiners, E. Huntington. I. N. Newton and A. W. Jewett, who recommended an appropriation of \$40. It may

be said that the commissioners, in granting a small sum, considered such a meeting necessary, as the petitioners with, perhaps, one or two exceptions scarcely understood the first principles of the profession. The meeting was held in September, but a convention of the teachers of northwestern Ohio, held at Toledo the same month, overshadowed that at Perrysburg, so thoroughly that, even the local papers said but little on the subject of the Wood county meeting. The Institute of 1853, held at Maumee and Perrysburg, was attended by thirty-seven Wood county teachers. The periodical assemblages of teachers, from 1852 to 1857, partook of the social rather than of the educational character, but there can be little doubt of their influence in making many of the crude instructors better teachers.

The records of the Teachers' Institute placed at the disposal of the writer by Prof. Van Tassel, date back to August 2, 1867, when the annual meeting was held at the Presbyterian church, Bowling Green. The officers for that year were Capt. S. S. Canfield, president; William W. Callihan, Nellie Brown and Jane Gorrill, vice-presidents; C. C. Layman, secretary; Helen G. Robins, treasurer; D. A. Avery, John H. Whitehead and Guy C. Nearing, executive committee. Joseph Clarke, Eliza Love, Ruth Haynes, and John Clarke, the secretary, were among the officers chosen in 1868, but C. T. Pope was chosen temporary secretary in April of that year. In 1869 and 1870, Messrs. S. S. Canfield and John Clarke were elected president and secretary, respectively. In November, 1870, D. A. Avery was elected president, and C. W. Munson, secretary. In November, 1871, F. V. Meagley was elected secretary, and Joseph W. Kerr, treasurer. At this time the constitution of the Institute was brought to light and copied by Secretary Meagley. Its preamble and nine articles were signed by the following named members: William R. Barton, Francis Dailey, H. L. Gorrill, Robert Place, John Muir, R. M. Donnelly, John Cable, Charles S. St. John, A. L. Muir, J. B. Newton, F. V. Meagley, Helen M. Van Tassel, Ipsie Ralston, Florence Carrick, Nellie Burns, Ella Hull, Apalinda Mercer, Hattie Dubbs, Jennie Eldridge, Edmund P. Thomas, James E. Kerr, Joseph W. Kerr, H. C. Norton, Hattie Foote, Ella F. Evers, Belle Clarke, Nettie L. Bronson, Seth H. Fairchild, Ada M. J. Fairchild, Martha Robinson, Joseph Welton, James Condit, Ella Ralston, Dora Thurstin, B. F. Smith, W. Wade, Jr., Robert Dunn, May Steedman, Ettie Wiley, George H. McCartney, H. L. Crane, John W.

Ebersole, S. G. Ebersole, C. W. St. John, Maggie Dunapace, Elam Norris, David J. Cargo, Thomas N. Barkdull, Mary O. Pope, Isaac N. Van Tassel, S. S. Long, Emma Whitaker, Emma Loomis, Sarah Brown, Thomas Burns, J. D. Anderson, George W. Callin, Ann E. Poe, George F. Canfield, G. A. Gwinner, Mertie Clark, Lewis Edgar, J. F. Huffman, F. E. Palmer, Henry Wise, Ella Fowler, John Vetter, Helen G. Robins, W. Wright, E. T. Hays, F. J. Oblinger, J. S. Beschoter, E. D. Moffett, Mattie Caldwell, Lucinda Caldwell, Mary Lockhart, Clara Lockhart, Ida Gould, Mattie Jackson, Joseph Clark, Rezin Jewell, S. P. Brightley, Rose Call, Maggie M. Vass, Carrie K. Thompson, Carrie S. Fowler, A. R. Knapp, James A. Yates, Emma Frederic, Maggie Muir, Fanny Muir, Anna Forrest, Helen Hitchcock, Libbie D. Hecox, A. D. Newell, George F. Cowden, Lucy E. Powers, Marian Muir, Arcena Cowden, Myron LeGalley, Frank W. Dunn, George F. Wright, Amelia Canfield, Mary Davidson, Alvina E. McQuinn, P. W. Minton, Lucy A. Cass, Albert Brisbin, John A. Shannon, Charles W. Evers, Sophie G. Knoll, Maria Cronker, R. M. Adams, H. M. Canfield, J. H. Callin, W. A. Beschoter, Mattie Patterson, Flora J. Donaldson, Albert D. Loe, W. W. Brim, F. P. Minton, Z. L. Tribble, M. F. Cowdery, C. P. Taylor, Dudley A. Avery, D. C. Albaugh, John W. Brownsberger, William Zimmerman, Carrie E. Cellars, Jennie E. Enos, Hattie M. Noyes, Delia M. Younker, and Nancy J. Parker. All the teachers of the county did not sign the constitution at that time, but at subsequent meetings, prior to the close of 1871, many became members.

In November, 1871, Apalinda Mercer was

elected secretary, and James E. Kerr, president. In 1872, Helen M. Van Tassel and C. P. Taylor held the respective offices; in 1873, Mrs. E. E. Barton and James E. Kerr; in 1874, Mrs. Barton and Guy C. Nearing; in 1875, Helen M. Van Tassel and S. S. Canfield; in 1876, Kittie M. Smith and S. S. Canfield; in 1877, A. R. Knapp and James E. Kerr; in 1878, A. Brisbin and J. E. Kerr; in 1879, C. S. St. John and R. M. Donnelly; in 1880, 1881 and 1882, Kate Brown and R. M. Donnelly, and in 1883, Samuel Given and R. M. Donnelly. The second record book of the Institute closed November 19, 1883, with a list of 133 members (of whom only 54 were male teachers) enrolled by the secretary, A. L. Muir. Among the names are but few of those which appear in a former page, as signers of the constitution. Many old Wood county names, however, are given, showing that the interest in the objects of the Institute grew with its age. George H. Withey was elected president in August, 1884, with A. L. Muir, secretary. J. P. Baker won the first prize for spelling, and A. L. Muir and Lola Shropfer, the second prizes. The same officers were re-elected in 1885, while in 1886 the secretary was re-elected, with E. A. Ballmer, president. The presidents since that year are named as follows: I. N. Van Tassel, 1887 and 1888; W. H. Richardson, 1889; J. C. Solether, 1890; W. F. Ries, 1891 and 1892; W. M. Waltermire, 1893; E. A. Ballmer, 1894-5, and J. N. Baker, 1895-96. The secretaries, since the close of Mr. Muir's last term, have been Hattie Gould, 1887; Alice Matthews, 1888 and 1889; Alta Deriar, 1890 and 1891; Katie Wetzell, 1893 and 1894; Anna Laney, 1894-95, and Eva Peugh, 1895-96.

## CHAPTER XXI.

PIONEERS OF WOOD COUNTY—MAUMEE VALLEY PIONEERS ASSOCIATION—MAUMEE VALLEY MONUMENTAL ASSOCIATION—LICENSED TRADERS—SUGAR MAKERS—WOLF SCALPS.

ON May 7, 1864, was organized, at Toledo, the *Maumee Valley Pioneers Association*, with Peter Navarre, president; Dr. Horatio Conant, Nathaniel B. Blinn and Dr. Oscar White, vice-presidents; Henry Bennett, recording secretary; J. Austin Scott, corresponding secretary; James M. Comstock, treasurer; Emery D. Potter, Sr., Samuel B. Scott and

Noah A. Whitney, trustees. In 1865 Mavor Brigham took the place of Trustee Potter, and Brice Hilton that of Dr. White, these being the only official changes. At that time county historians were appointed, Willard V. Way being named for Wood county. In 1866, John E. Hunt, John U. Pease and Horace Sessions were chosen vice-presidents; Messrs. Whitney and

Brigham, with Francis L. Nichols, trustees; Henry Bennett, recorder; Willard V. Way, correspondent, and James M. Comstock, treasurer. In 1867, John E. Hunt, Willard V. Way and W. C. Holgate were elected vice-presidents; Charles T. Wales, recorder, and John J. Minor, correspondent, who, with Trustees Whitney, Brigham and Bennett, were the officers of the society until 1874, when John E. Hunt was elected president, *vice* Peter Navarre (deceased); Dr. E. D. Peck, Willard Trowbridge and Henry Bennett, vice-presidents; Mavor Brigham, Chauncy D. Woodruff and Willard V. Way, trustees, and Charles T. Wales, secretary and treasurer. In 1877, Asher Cook was chosen a vice-president, and Thomas Dunlap, secretary, and in 1878 Thomas H. Leaming succeeded John E. Hunt (deceased) as president. In 1887 William B. Gunn was president and Ruel Alden, secretary of the association.

Among its members were the following named residents of Wood county, the date being that of settlement: Mrs. H. B. Andrews, 1823; Henry Bennett, 1833; Nathaniel D. Blinn, 1825; Calvin K. Bennett, 1835; John Bates, 1832; Andrew Bloomfield, 1833; Gilbert Beach, 1835; William H. Bennett, 1833; Richard Bumford, 1838; R. Bloomfield, 1842; Mrs. Henry Bennett, 1833; Bradford Barlow, 1824; Asher Cook, 1835; Jeremiah C. Crane, 1827; Joshua Chappell, 1823; David Creps, 1833; Mistress Roxanna Crane, 1818; William L. Cook, 1835; G. W. Creps, 1833; Dr. Horatio Conant, 1816; James Dennison, 1834; Joseph W. McNeal, 1834; Robert A. Forsythe, 1816; John Fay, 1833; Robert Fenton, 1834; Isaac Hull, 1814; John E. Hunt, born at Fort Wayne, 1798; Robert A. Howard, Mt. Gilead, 1823; Francis Hollenbeck, 1842; Hezekiah L. Hosmer, 1837; Charles V. Jennison, 1818; William O. Keeler, born 1833; L. C. Locke, 1835; George S. McKnight, 1820; Albert Moore, 1832; Guido Marx, 1849; D. Newton, 1840; Eveline Newton, 1850; George Powers, 1835; Dr. E. D. Peck, 1834; Mrs. E. D. Peck, 1844; S. Perrin, 1838; George N. Parsons, 1837; James W. Ross, 1834; J. Austin Scott, 1835; Jessup W. Scott, 1832; Shibnah Spink, 1833; H. T. Smith, 1838; Mrs. Aurora Spafford, first white woman married in the Valley; E. Tuller, 1839; Thomas Tiernan, 1839; Perry Thomas, 1835; Wesley S. Thurstin, 1836; I. Van Tassel, 1829; H. Warner, 1835; George Weddell, 1837; John Webb, 1822; Chauncey D. Woodruff, 1835; Willard V. Way, 1834; Eber Wilson, 1823; Martin Warner, 1836; David Wilkison, 1818; Thomas J. Webb, 1828. The Wood County

Pioneer Society claims as its members many of the old settlers named above.

*The Pioneer and Historical Association* was in the zenith of its usefulness in August, 1884, when Capt. L. Black was secretary, with Robert Fenton, C. W. Evers, Daniel Barton, Joel Foote and Asher Cook, members of the executive committee, and Dr. A. J. Manville, treasurer. The oldest citizen of this county, W. H. Ewing, of Plain township, was president.

*The Maumee Valley Monumental Association* was incorporated July 28, 1885, and organized August 7, that year, with D. W. H. Howard, president; Asher Cook, vice-president; Gen. John C. Lee, secretary, and Foster R. Warren, treasurer. Changes were made in the constitution, and August 25, 1885, M. R. Waite, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, was elected president; D. W. H. Howard, Richard Mott, and Asher Cook, vice-presidents; while the secretary and treasurer of the first organization were re-elected. In 1887 the president and secretary were re-elected; R. B. Mitchell was chosen treasurer, and R. C. Lemmon, D. W. H. Howard and S. H. Cately, vice-presidents. Among the residents of Wood county who were members of this association, may be named: Asher Cook, Joel Foote (1829), D. W. H. Day (1851), L. Black, George C. Phelps, R. W. McMahon, J. B. Newton, E. W. Poe, A. W. Adams, J. H. Whitehead, R. M. Donnelly, W. A. Benschoter, T. C. Beard, M. F. Miles, R. W. Huffman, S. Henderson, G. W. Hill, J. F. Stubbs, F. J. Oblinger, John Ebberly (1848), T. J. Sterling (1830), James O. Troup, M. P. Brewer, George Knaus, George M. Brown, B. L. Abbott, J. V. Culver, J. H. Mitchell, Paul J. Brown, F. H. Thompson, Frank M. Young, H. C. Uhlman, H. G. Strausser, Edwin Tuller and J. Austin Scott. The object of this association was to urge the United States Congress to authorize the building of monuments on the battlefields of the Maumee, and to set off the site of Fort Meigs as a National Park.

*Licensed Traders.*—Lists of the early traders or merchants, peddlers and tavern-keepers, of Wood county, to whom licenses were granted by the court of common pleas, is here given. Many illicit dealers in liquor and merchandise were their contemporaries, but of them the record does not speak, except when they were presented to the grand jury as criminals, or to the warden of the penitentiary as convicts.

The old tavern-keepers, licensed by the county, were: Daniel Hubbel, at Port Miami, from May 4, 1820, to May, 1834; Peter G. Oli-

ver, at Maumee, from May 4, 1820, to May, 1822; Samuel Spafford, in Waynesfield township, in 1820 and 1821, and from 1821 to 1832; Francis Charter, at Orleans of the North, from October, 1820, to May, 1825; Almon Gibbs, at Maumee, from November, 1820, to May, 1822; Moses Rice, in Auglaize township, from 1820 to 1824; Charles Gunn, in same township, from October 1821, to 1827; William Vance, at Fort Findlay, from 1822 to 1826; Horatio Conant, at Maumee, from June, 1822, to 1826; Isaac Richardson, in Waynesfield township, from December, 1822, to 1827; Samuel T. Loyd, at Maumee, from May, 1828, to the summer of 1829; Thomas Leaming, at Perrysburg, in 1828-1829; William Houser, at Maumee, 1829-30; Antoine LePoint, at Waterville, from April, 1829, to 1832; James Wilkison, at Maumee, from November, 1830, to 1836; John Pray, at Waterville, 1831-33; Guy Nearing, near Miltonville, 1832-33, and in 1839-40; Alexander McCollough, 1832-33; Edward Howard, at Grand Rapids, 1832-33; Jarvis Spafford, Perrysburg, from April, 1832, to 1854; Ephraim Morse, from April, 1834, to 1838; Frederick Stoneburn, 1834-35; Orrin Cook, 1834-35; Joseph Creps, from October, 1834, to 1845; Henry Marker, 1834-35; William H. Sloan, 1835-36; Peter Minor, 1835-36; Robert W. Mackey, 1835-36, and 1841-44; Epaphroditus Foote, 1835-1845; Lyman Dudley, 1835-36; Isaac Russell, 1835-40; Caleb Adams, 1835-36; Sylvester Hill, 1835-36; Adam Hemperly, 1836-38; John Sheplar, 1836-47; Leonard Blinn, 1836-38; Jacob Kline, 1836-39; Moses P. Morgan, 1836-38; H. H. Hall, 1836-43; Robert Cowen, 1836-37; David Ross, 1836-46; Joseph Logan, 1837-38; Eli Manville, 1837-38; Samuel D. Towner, 1837-38; Daniel Cole, 1837-38; Henry Elder, 1837-41; William H. Morse, 1838-46; Jephtha Nearing, 1838-39; David Stahler, 1839-40; John M. Hannon, 1839-41; Orange Howard, 1839-42; Adam Ross, 1839-43; Charles Russell, 1839-40; George W. Baird, 1839-41; Chester Blinn, 1839-42; Christian Musser, 1840-41; Joseph Ralston, 1840-42; M. Hanline, 1840-42; Ephraim Simmons, 1840-45; David A. Craft, 1840-41; Charles McCune, 1840, 1842; Loomis Brigham, 1840-41; Samuel McCrory, 1841-45; William Kelly, 1841-46; Bela M. Burnett, 1841-42; Richmond Shaw, 1841-44; Robert Avery, 1843-44; S. G. Baker, 1843-44; S. H. Stedman, 1843-44; Simeon Eaton, 1844-47; V. Wood, 1845-46; M. Myers, 1846-47, and E. Kellogg, 1846-47. This list embraces seventy-four names of people, among whom are a few men who watched the destinies of the young

county. Almon Gibbs, who died in 1822, was an Abolitionist in his quiet way, and his death may be credited to the troubles bred by his defence of the negro, Patrick, whom he rescued from neighbors, who wished to carry him South.

The old merchants who were granted licenses were Hunt & Forsyth, at Fort Defiance, licensed in December, 1820 and 1821; William Hollister, Jr., & Co., at Maumee, licensed December 27, 1820, and 1821; Antoine LePoint, in Waynesfield township, 1821 to 1827; John and George Knaggs, in Waynesfield township, from March 26, 1821, to May, 1823; Daniel Hubbell, at Port Miami, from May 4, 1823, to 1826; James Wyman, at Fort Defiance, 1822-23; Timothy S. Smith, at Ft. Defiance, 1822-25; Titus B. Palmer, at Orleans, 1821-23; John E. Hunt, at Maumee, 1822-26; John Hollister & Co., at Fort Defiance, October, 1823; at Maumee May, 1822, to 1825, when they established a house at Orleans; Robert A. Forsyth, at residence, 1822 to 1827; Almon Reed, at Perrysburg, 1824 to 1826; Daniel Lakin, at Waterville, May, 1827, to 1829; Benjamin H. Kirk, merchant and peddler, 1829-30; Philander Brown, the first grocer, May, 1830; and William H. Sloan, April, 1834, to 1835, when he established a tavern. Sixteen merchants, big and little, held the field of Wood county down to 1835. A few peddlers appeared here from time to time, in the face of the prohibitive license of \$50 annually, to share with the merchants in the profits of trade. The first peddlers were William C. Waite, who was here in 1824; Norman Sackett, 1825; John N. Sloan, 1825; Griffith Jones, 1832; Washington Tracey, 1835; John L. Smith, 1835; Smith & Co., 1836, and Almon Case, 1836. When the license was increased from \$20 to \$50 annually, the peddlers ceased to come here, with rare exceptions, yet the mercantile interests made little or no progress; while the liquor interests made rapid advances.

*Sugar Makers.*—The Indians were the purveyors of sugar and honey in the early days, and important customers of the early traders. In the summer of 1862, James L. Gage, writing on Defiance in olden times, made some general references to Wood county of 1824-26. He says: "There were on the Lower Maumee quite a number of mongrel French and Indians, and in the fourteen counties there were more Indians than whites. These savages were mostly a degenerate, drunken remnant of Ottawas and Pottawatamies. There were, however, a few Wyandots and Miamis, who were splendid specimens of physical man. The sugar consumed in Williams and Wood counties at that time was mostly

made by these savages, but it was a most filthy article, in as much as they would boil their game with it, and that, too, I was told, in an undressed condition. They brought this sugar in bark vessels, called "mococks," holding from thirty to fifty pounds each. They were shaped so as to be carried like a knapsack. They used small brass kettles for evaporation. These Indians also brought in most of the honey that was used. It was always strained, but it was strained through their blankets, which were never washed after straining the honey."

*Wolf Scalps.*—At the close of 1835 the wolf-scalp business was considered deserving of a separate journal, and from November 2, that year, to December 13, 1858, a number of scalps were returned for bounty. Ke Corngosh, Missaukee, Aausk, Waseon, Pakee, Johnson Quson, Osauge, hunted here in 1835-37, earning \$29.75, the bounty being \$4.25 a scalp. That they were the ordinary, lazy, semi-civilized species of red men may be conceived, for they permitted many of the old settlers to excell them in the chase. Such pioneers as Daniel Phenicia, James Jones, John McMahon, Jonathan Hay, James Pember and

George W. Robinson, discounted the savages as hunters, as seen in the disbursement of \$161.25 for scalps from November 2, 1832, to the close of October, 1837. In 1838 only \$29.75 was paid as bounty; but in 1839, the sum of \$68.25 was paid; in 1840, \$36.50; in 1841, \$70.25; in 1842, \$49.25; in 1843, \$73.50; in 1844, \$95.75; in 1845, \$98.50; in 1846, \$80.75; in 1847, \$27.75; in 1848, \$50.00; in 1849, \$59.00, and in 1850, \$33.75. From 1851 to 1858, wolves were scarce—only forty-seven scalps being presented to the commissioners, on which a sum of \$4.25 was paid for each. The only Indians named in the latter record are James Thomas and Packenon, each of whom presented only one scalp. Michael Myers, who should have been named in 1835, proved a successful wolf hunter in after years. William King received \$15.00 for six young wolves; Tobias Wood, \$20.00 for eight scalps; while Casper Wyckoff, Dave Burget, John Carter, Orange Howard, Alexander Brown, David Whitney, John Ellsworth, William Sweeney, Samuel Shriner, William Noel, Pierce Mercer and Peter F. Ferriot brought in many scalps as testimonials to their battles with the wolves.

## CHAPTER XXII.

WOOD COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES—COUNTY FAIRS AND FAIR GROUNDS—WOOD COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY—WOOL GROWERS' ASSOCIATION—WOOD COUNTY SHEEP-BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION—WESTERN HORSE THIEF ASSOCIATION—PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY—COUNTY COUNCIL PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY—WOOD COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION—SOME ANNUAL FAIR STATISTICS—WOOD COUNTY FAIR COMPANY—FARMERS' INSTITUTE.

**A**T Bowling Green, June 9, 1851, was organized the *Wood County Agricultural Society* (under a call issued by the farmers and mechanics of Middleton township on April 26, 1851), when a constitution of twelve articles and by-laws of five articles were adopted. The committees appointed to collect information were as follows: Perrysburg—S. Jefferson\* and James Hood;\* Middleton—Henry Hood\* and Henry Sarvis;\* Washington—Edwin Tuller and John Bamber;\* Weston—A. P. Donaldson and G. E. Guyer; Milton—Daniel Barton and Alvin Clark; Jackson—J. B. Dunn and John Dubbs; Henry—W. W. Wiley and Jackson Wallace; Bloom—Edwin Gorton\* and John Russell; Liberty—Lewis H. Cass and John C. Wooster;\*

Center—A. B. Bradley and Peter Klopfenstein;\* Portage—Joseph Clark and Samuel Johnson; Webster—John Fenton, Jr., and George Kellogg; Troy—H. L. Wood and Thomas Gorrill; Lake—John La Farree and Isaac Allen; Montgomery—Wilson Holcomb and William Chapman; Perry—Samuel Chilcote and J. G. Willard; Plain—J. W. Norton and Elijah Elliott,\* Freedom—James Pember and H. A. Harris. John McMahan\* was elected president; W. R. Peck,\* vice-president; E. Elliott,\* recorder; George Powers\*, correspondent, and John Bates,\* treasurer. Elijah Elliott presided in 1851, Benjamin Olney,\* David Ladd,\* Edwin Gorton,\* Henry Hood\* and John Groves being managers. The signers of the constitution, other than those

whose names are marked \* as above, were Lee Moore, Simeon Eaton, David Whitney, Martin Warner, Jr.; James Vangorder, Emilus Wood, John M. Hannon, Addison Fay, George Mercer, H. A. Payne, Galusha Lyon, Daniel Newton, Byron Bassett, John Hood, Patrick McIsaac, Mahlon Meeker, N. D. Blinn, Henry Hanford, J. R. Tracy, Theron Pike, Justus Simons, Nathan Moore, Henry Groves, H. P. Barnthistle, William Gorrill, Henry Huff, James Bloom, Henry Shively, Collister Haskins, Sidney L. Brewster, Caleb Lord, S. W. St. John, Asher Cook, George L. Warner, M. B. Tracy, G. J. Poe, Joseph Stokeley, Thomas Jolly, William Minton and N. W. Minton.

A meeting was held July 26, 1851, when it was resolved to hold a fair at Bowling Green. The fair was held October 15 and 16 in a grove north of Wooster, on Church street; prizes were awarded, and the following named officers were elected: Elijah Elliott, president; W. R. Peck, vice-president; George Powers and William Hood, secretaries; and John Bates, treasurer. In 1852 a show of farm products was made at Perrysburg, and in 1853 at Bowling Green. The fourth annual fair was held at Portageville, in October, 1854; but owing to the season of cholera preceding, and other causes, the meeting was far from being successful. The fifth annual fair was held at Portageville, in October, 1855; but the attendance was small, as the prevalence of chills, fever and ague militated against success, as they did in 1854. S. W. St. John was chosen president; C. Haskins, vice-president; Lee Moore, treasurer; Elijah Elliott, recorder; S. Johnson, correspondent; John Fay, John Groves, Daniel Newton, George E. Olney and Jeremiah Knowles, managers.

In 1856 and 1857 Bowling Green was the site of the fair, and in the latter year a committee was instructed to locate suitable grounds. Their selection was discussed in July, 1858, when there were five directors for Bowling Green and two for Portageville. On this vote the fair of that year was held at Bowling Green, but the location was so unsatisfactory to many that the friends of Portage organized a separate agricultural society, and made an exhibit there in "Sargeant's Grove" in 1859. In 1860 Perrysburg was selected, and the year after the war land was purchased at Tontogany, and permanent fair grounds established there.

The presidents of the society from 1851 to the present time, so far as Secretary Avery can give the names, are written as follows: John McMahan, 1851; Elijah Elliott, 1852; David Ladd,

1853; Martin Warner, 1854; S. W. St. John, 1855; George Williams, 1857; Lee Moore, 1858; Tobias Rudesill, 1859; John Bates, 1860; Daniel Newton, 1863; George Powers, 1865; J. W. Ross, 1872; Edwin Tuller, 1874; Ed. B. Beverstock, 1877; H. C. Strow, 1879; Edwin Tuller, 1881; C. W. McDonald, 1882; C. A. Powers, 1884; Edwin Tuller, 1886; Frank Powell, 1887; Joel Foote, 1888; and Frank Powell, 1889-94.

The office of secretary has been filled by the following citizens: Elijah Elliott, recording, and George Powers, corresponding, 1851; George Powers and William Hood, 1852; Elijah Elliott and S. Johnson, 1855; Elijah Elliott, A. P. Donaldson, and George Powers, 1857; Samuel Johnson and George Powers, 1858; S. Johnson and Martin Warner, 1859; J. W. Ross, 1863; Martin Warner, 1865; J. O. Avery, 1873; George Powers, 1874 (died during term of office); J. O. Avery, 1874; W. H. Wood, 1875; J. O. Avery, 1878; George S. Kuder, 1887, and J. S. Matthews, 1889.

In February, 1885, steps were taken to consolidate the Wood County Fair Company (which had started a fair at Bowling Green in 1881) and the Agricultural Society. By the terms of the agreement, the consolidated societies hold their fair jointly on the Bowling Green Co.'s grounds, though each, by the terms, retains its charter.

*Wood County Fair Association.*—The incorporators of this association, who signed the articles May 2, 1881, were Earl W. Merry, John R. Hankey, C. H. Lehman, A. E. Royce, A. J. Manville, J. B. Newton, R. W. McMahan, James V. Owens, A. W. Rudolph, F. H. Boughton, D. W. H. Day and R. S. Lease. The objects of the association, as set forth, are the promotion and advancement of agriculture, horticulture, stock-growing and the mechanical and fine arts. On May 6, 1881, the Secretary of State signed the act of incorporation and one of the most successful organizations, known in this county, was launched. On July 11, 1881, the following named officers were elected: A. J. Manville, president; M. P. Brewer, secretary; and Earl W. Merry, treasurer, with T. H. Lawhead, R. W. McMahan, R. S. Lease and J. W. Canary, directors. In November, the deed from Charles and R. W. Gorrill, for the W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 24, T. 5, R. 10, except the north 20 acres, was accepted, and an order to pay them \$1,500 cash, and a note, at two years, for \$2,500, made on the treasurer of the association. In January, 1882, J. R. Hankey took the place of R. S. Lease on the directory. At this time rules for the government of the society were adopted, and, in March

following, a series of by-laws. The president, secretary and treasurer were re-elected in 1883; but, in 1884, R. W. McMahan was elected president, F. A. Baldwin, secretary, and J. D. Bolles, treasurer, and they, with A. E. Royce, Harvey Lawhead, W. M. Tuller and John R. Hankey, formed the board of directors. In 1885, John W. Canary was elected president, the secretary and treasurer re-elected, and they, with J. B. Newton, G. C. Phelps, Chris Lehman, G. W. Hedges and G. W. Gaghan, formed the directory. The presidents of the association for the last decade are named as follows: J. B. Newton, 1886-1889; J. D. Bolles, 1887-1888; A. E. Royce, 1890; Frank A. Baldwin, 1891; A. E. Royce, 1892-1896. The directors chosen in January, 1896, were A. E. Royce, W. R. Noyes, J. G. Hickox, Hugh Stewart, John Troxell, James Ordway and J. O. Troup. The secretaries: F. A. Baldwin, 1886; Robert Dunn; 1887; F. A. Baldwin, appointed July 25, 1887; R. C. Wilson, 1888; Guy C. Nearing, 1889-1890; J. B. Newton, 1891-1892, and William R. Noyes, 1893-1896. The treasurers: J. D. Bolles, 1886; James O. Troup, 1887-1888; R. W. McMahan, 1889-1890-1891; and James G. Hickox, 1892-1896.

The receipts from the annual fair, from 1884 to 1894, are given as follows: \$3,889.30 received in 1884; \$4,052.45 in 1885; \$4,298.05 in 1886; \$4,656.24 in 1887; \$3,908.80 in 1888; \$5,909.70 in 1889; \$6,576.93 in 1890; \$6,786.15 in 1891; \$7,356.53 in 1892; \$7,061.30 in 1893; and 7,389.26 in 1894, while the receipts from all sources were \$7,945.99.

*The Wood County Horticultural Society* was organized February 14, 1856, with H. P. Averill, president; Gilbert Beach and Eber Wilson, vice-presidents; J. S. Norton, treasurer; A. M. Thompson, corresponding, and George Powers, recording, secretary. The directors chosen were David Wilkison, P. McIsaac, John Bates, Wm. Houston, John Robertson, Thomas S. Carman, W. V. Way and Martin Warner. At that time there were no such fruit-growers in northwestern Ohio as G. W. Klopfenstein, and, for the want of such men, the society fell to pieces.

*The Wool Growers' Association* of Lucas and Wood counties was organized in February, 1866, but few of Wood county's citizens interested themselves in its objects. R. C. Thompson was elected president; A. P. Read, vice-president; H. Kellogg, treasurer; James W. Ross, secretary; Eber Bradley, James J. Smith and F. R. Warren, directors.

*The Wood County Sheep Breeders Associa-*

*tion* was in existence some years prior to 1885. Thomas Knight, A. E. Royce, J. D. Anderson, Amos Stover, George Knauss, George C. Phelps, William Tuller, Robert Miller, and the secretary, J. B. Newton, were among its active members. The third annual meeting was held in June, 1885, when Levi Kramer was elected president; J. Bender, treasurer; and J. B. Newton, secretary.

*The Western Horse Thief Association* was organized in June, 1853, when the following named members signed the constitution: Smith Bassett, Alexander Pugh, Emanuel Arnold, David Pettys, H. R. Pratt, A. Smith, J. N. Mead, Alva Gillett, S. C. McDonald, Simon G. Long, John Walters, Joel Foote, Abram Bassett, Alexander Brown, Asa Wright, George Laskey, Peter Dull, J. McKee, A. P. Donaldson, William Pratt, Benjamin Olney, Samuel Older, Ebenezer Donaldson, George Kimberlin, Samuel Clymer, Jacob Walters, James T. Martin, Thomas Junkins, William Bassett, and George Hospelhorn. Smith Bassett was president, and H. R. Pratt, secretary, in 1854. Almost twenty years before this Society was organized one existed in Liberty township, the members of which are named in the chapter on that township.

*The Patrons of Husbandry* organized in 1874, and their second annual reunion was held in August, 1875, when Thomas Mawer, of Washington township, delivered the address, and the Harvest Home Festival was celebrated by 4,000 persons. In August, 1874, the first annual meeting of the Patrons was held at the Bowling Green fair grounds, when less than half that number of people attended. There were then only thirteen Granges in the county, with a membership of 600; while at the second meeting nineteen granges, claiming 1,100 members were represented. The names of several associations are given as follows, beginning with the "Pioneer" of Weston township, which was organized September 18, 1873; Pioneer, of Weston; Custar, of Milton; Enterprise, of Washington; Pleasant Ridge, of Plain and Liberty; North Plain, of Washington and Plain; Sugar Ridge, of Center; Hull's Prairie, of Middleton; Live Oak, of Liberty and Milton; Glenn, of Center and Webster; Bloom, of Bloom; Hammansburg, of Bloom and Henry; Hoytville, of Jackson and Henry; West Creek, of Jackson; Prairie, of Weston; Liberty, of Liberty; Prospect, of Montgomery; Bellville Ridge, of Perrysburg; and Webster, of Webster; all formed the County Grange, of which S. R. Junkins was then master. The records of a few of the granges have been brought to light,

and the result of an examination of them given in the township chapters.

*The County Council Patrons of Husbandry* was organized at Pleasant Ridge, March 14, 1874, with seven granges. E. Brisbin, of Prairie Grange, was elected president, with A. Brisbin, secretary. Guy C. Nearing, C. P. Fox, A. Hampshire, A. B. Abbott, S. R. Junkins, A. Ferguson, A. Rowland, M. Lane and J. Champion were also council officers. This society of agriculturalists is in existence; but the few subordinate councils or granges may be said to be supreme in their lodges.

*The Wood County Fair Company* made the first exhibit in October, 1882. Fruit, vegetables, grain, stock, agricultural implements, carriages,

and even a printing office, were all gathered on the Fair grounds. The first daily paper of Wood county was printed and sold on the grounds. Its four pages, each  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{1}{4}$  inches, were filled with interesting fair and local news, nearly a column being devoted to the preparations making by Sheriff Reid for the execution of Carl Bach.

*The Farmers' Institute*, organized in 1889, holds an annual meeting for the discussion of subjects relating to the garden and farm. The Fifth Institute was held in December, 1894. In January, 1896, Joseph Gray was elected president; William Hannah, vice-president; Mrs. J. L. Kramer, secretary; J. D. Halsey, treasurer; W. H. Tracy, G. W. Callin, H. C. Strow, J. J. Hopper and Robert Place, executive committee.

## CHAPTER XXIII.

INDIAN AND PIONEER TRAILS—EARLY ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC.—THE "MUD PIKE"—TURN-PIKES—PERRYSBURG AND FINDLAY PLANK ROAD COMPANY—FERRYMEN—PERRYSBURG MARINE—INCIDENTS—WRECKS—COMPARISONS—RAILROADS.

THERE are no evidences, such as mounds, extensive burying grounds, or old worn trails, in Wood county, to indicate that there was ever anything more than a temporary occupation for war, hunting, and, at a later date, for sugar making in some of the maple ridges on or near streams. There was a trail from Tontogany creek through the chain of sand ridges to the Portage river, above the Infirmary building, and another from the waters of Beaver creek to the Portage. These trails were used mostly by the Ottawas, and their adherent bands of other tribes with them at their village on the north side of the Maumee, below Providence, in their journeys to and from the Sandusky river country and the lake about the mouth of Portage creek. A creek or river afforded the Indian an easy way of transporting by canoe his furs and such baggage as he and his squaws possessed, while he could at the same time fish, hunt and trap as he traveled. It may be that it was in this way that the Portage came by its name. On the early maps it is called Portage, or "Carrying" river. Portage, or Portazh, as the French voyagers have it, meaning a carry between two streams or lakes or around an obstruction to navigation in a stream—that is, a place where the boat must be unloaded and the

cargo carried across, and often the boat, if not too heavy, is dragged across. The birch canoe of the northern Indians, because of its lightness, was especially adapted to water where carrying places were frequent. There was another trail used on the journey between Detroit and the Ohio river, which crossed at the lower end of the Maumee Rapids and passed through northeastern Wood county, as close to the lake as the marshy land would permit, in the direction of Sandusky Bay, beyond which it branched—one trail leading to the upper Ohio, the other to Chillicothe and points lower down. These latter trails were, during subsequent years, much used in war expeditions by both French and English, and by traders and explorers making land journeys south, but this end of the trail was never popular with the Indians, at least that part of it across the wet lands of Wood.

Hull's Trace and Harrison's Trace are fully described in the chapter on the War of 1812, and references made to the army trails and first roads in the chapters on the Townships.

The early roads, considered by the commissioners of Wood county, included one from the foot of the Maumee Rapids to Bellefontaine—a section of which forms to-day the main street of



Bowling Green. On June 30, 1820, James Carlin, Ephraim L. Leaming and Norman L. Freeman were appointed viewers. The cost of laying out and surveying that road is given as follows: Wilson Vance, for two days surveying—\$3.50; Norman L. Freeman, two days viewing and one surveying—\$3.75; Ephraim H. Leaming, three days viewing—\$3.00; Samuel H. Ewing, two days carrying chain—\$1.50; James Carlin, three days viewing—\$3.00; Ezra Kelly, one day marking on the road—75 cents; Thomas Leaming, one day carrying chain—75 cents; Thomas McIlrath, one day carrying chain—75 cents; James H. Slawson, one day carrying chain—75 cents; Jacob Wilkinson, a day and one-half chaining—\$1.12½; or a total of \$18.87½.

Bonds given by Peter G. Oliver for \$2,000 to open the State road from the foot of the Rapids to Fort Findlay, and by Jacob Wilkinson for \$50, for viewing a road from Perrysburg to a point opposite Francis Charter's house, were accepted by the commissioners in 1820. Norman L. Freeman surveyed that road, and reported fully on his work July 11, when the commissioners declared it to be a public highway. The contractors—Thomas McIlrath, Francis Charter and Isaac Richardson—did not open lots 1, 2 and 3, of this road according to contract, and, in December, were decidedly at loggerheads with the exacting commissioners; nor did Peter G. Oliver and A. Spafford escape their vigilance. In February, 1821, the commissioners, themselves, viewed the State and other roads, considered the contracts completed, and settled amicably with the persons named.

The Act of February 2, 1821, providing for a State road from Fort Meigs to "Wapakoneta," was observed prior to November 21, that year, when John Johnson, of Miami county, and Samuel Marshall, of Shelby, submitted the plat and field notes. Such documents are copied in the back of the pioneer record book of Wood county. The plat and field notes, reported by Almon Gibbs and John Perkins, of the road from the town of Maumee to Fort Defiance, must also be interesting to surveyors and topographers, while the old record book presents several reports on other State and county roads. That old volume is deserving of the best care which lovers of old books, in this old county, can bestow.

A road from the Foot of the Rapids to Leaming & Stewart's sawmill, on Swan creek, was authorized in June, 1823, and Francis Charter, David Hull and Horatio Conant were appointed to view and survey it; but their report was not

considered until June, 1824, when a road, sixty feet wide, was ordered. At this time a road from Perrysburg to Grand Rapids was considered, and Ambrose Rice, Victory Jennison and Thomas R. McKnight were appointed viewers, while a year after the road from the Foot of the Rapids, in the direction of Tecumseh, Mich., was ordered. Of the \$309.12 received from the three per cent. fund in 1826, the sum of \$200 was set aside to be expended on the road from David Hull's cabin to Fort Findlay, and the residue to be expended in constructing bridges on that and on the road between Roche de Boeuf and Minard's, on the county line—all to be expended under the direction of Guy Nearing. In March, 1829, a road from Perrysburg to the Michigan line was ordered to be viewed, and in June a road from Carlin's "stone shop," crossing the Maumee at the ford, to the Perrysburg road, was authorized. Activity in road opening may be said to be first manifested in June, 1830, when petitions for new roads and changing the lines of old roads began to pour in. The Legislature in February, 1830, appointed James M. Workman and Thomas F. Jotin to locate a State road from Bellefontaine to Perrysburg, the line from Findlay to be between Ranges 10 and 11 to the Foot of the Rapids. This item, with several petitions for public roads, was considered in June, 1831, while in 1832 the Act for opening a road from Perrysburg to Bucyrus, described in the history of Freedom township as the McCutchenville road, was discussed and the road declared a public highway.

The beginnings of the Maumee and Western Reserve road are told in the chapter on Public Lands. The construction of the "mud pike" was begun in 1825, and the road from Lower Sandusky to Perrysburg was lifted, so to speak, out of the swamp. That mud-road, the subject of all this legislation, was a veritable quagmire at certain seasons. Along the course were thirty-two taverns, where belated passengers might obtain refreshment and shelter, while the teamsters were engaged in lifting coach or wagon out of the mud holes. During the winter of 1837-38 its condition was so intolerable that the State granted a sum of \$40,000 to be expended in filling the holes and macadamizing the road. In the report of the committee it was shown that a single stage coach in December, 1837, carried seventeen sacks of mail from Sandusky, and another, forty sacks, which had accumulated at Sandusky, owing to the fear of the drivers to undertake the trip to Perrysburg. At the same time, it was proved that during the winter months of 1837-38, no less than 5,500 travelers passed over the road;

2,300 sleighs and sleds and 300 wagons, averaging for each day 180 footmen and 86 sleighs and wagons. In the summer of 1838 the work of macadamizing, from Perrysburg to the Portage river, commenced, under the superintendence of Gen. John Patterson, and the whole line to the Western Reserve was completed in 1842.

One of the first turnpikes suggested by the people of Perrysburg, was that built in 1845. On March 7, that year, the commissioners talked with the directors of the Perrysburg, Findlay and Kenton Turnpike Road Co., on the subject of the purchase of that road, within the county. On March 10, a sale was negotiated by Willard V. Way, president, John McMahan and Schuyler N. Beach, directors of the road company of the first part, and the commissioners of the second part, on condition that all contracts on the road would be completed or declared abandoned on or before May 10, 1845. The county agreed to pay the amount of all contracts as well as \$252 for engineering expenses and the claim of W. P. Reznor. This was a mud road of a very poor description. In the course of a few years, enterprising men secured it as a right of way for a plank road, and in a few more years that part of it north of Bowling Green was planked.

The Perrysburg and Findlay Plank Road Co., was chartered by the Legislature February 3, 1849—Schuyler N. Beach, George Powers, E. D. Peck, W. H. Hopkins, Willard V. Way, Joseph Sargent and Collister Haskins *et al.* being the corporators. Under the section of the law, Plain township voted \$2,000 subscription, by a majority of nine at the second election, and Perrysburg township subscribed \$5,000. These sums, with the capital of the projectors, were expended in the construction of a plank road (from Perrysburg to a point near the north line of the present town of Bowling Green), under the superintendency of John McMahan. A steam sawmill four miles south of Perrysburg, and one four miles north of Bowling Green, were used in sawing the native woods into plank, and, in 1853, or thereabouts, the road was completed and the inevitable toll-gate established. Perrysburg interests suggested the old turnpike as well as the plank road, intending to make the town accessible to the farmers in the interior; but the road was turned to the advantage of the precocious village near the county's center, and exercised no small influence in advancing the new town. The record of roads might be continued *ad infinitum*. Enough has been told, however, to point out the early roads and the pioneers connected with their construction. To go into the numerous

turnpike road enterprises, of 1857-58 and later years, is entirely beyond the scope of this chapter.

*Ferrymen.*—The ferrymen must be named; for, not only did they carry on important work here before the days of bridges, but also paid license for the privilege of serving the people. On October 6, 1820, George Patterson was licensed to run a ferry across the Maumee river, which license was renewed in 1821; Almon Gibbs was permitted to place a ferry at Miami, October 6, 1820, which he carried on until his death, in 1822; Moses Rice, at Fort Defiance; Horatio Conant, on the Maumee, March, 1823, to 1827; Daniel Hubbell, on the Maumee, from 1823 to 1834; Timothy F. Upton, on the Maumee, 1828 to 1831; and Eunice Upton, 1831-33; Jonathan Wood, from 1833 to 1838; Ezra Sawyer, 1835-36; Johnson White, at Miltonville, 1836-43; Hemperly & Brown, 1837-38; Marmaduke Bunting, 1838-39; S. H. Stedman, 1844-45; and D. W. H. Howard, 1844-45, at Grand Rapids. The old record book closes in 1844. Though deficient in giving locations of ferries, it is complete in the record of names and amounts paid for permits, and to it must be credited the writer's opportunity to deal even thus briefly with the early ferrymen.

*Perrysburg Marine.*—The first craft on the Maumee was undoubtedly the light canoe of the Indian, which, as its owners became lower in nature's scale, gave place to the cumbersome "dug out," a stout but tricky boat, which the English-speaking pioneers adopted on their coming. What were the names of the craft, which carried the early French explorers along the Erie coast of Ohio and up her navigable rivers, may never be known, nor will the historian be permitted to write the names of the little, trusty vessels, which carried to the Foot of the Rapids, the hardiest and happiest souls ever identified with the inauguration of Indian trade in the West. The *coureur-des-bois* left no record of the boats behind. Since 1810, however, the newspaper reporter and custom-house official have made it a duty to keep a record of the river marine, and from such records the following facts are taken. The old journal, known as *Miami of the Lake*, published in April, 1846, a list of schooners, steamboats and propellers, built on the Maumee below the rapids.

In the first-class were the "Miami," built in 1810, a schooner of 25 tons; the "Guerriere," in 1827, 75 tons; the "Eagle," in 1827, 130 tons; the "Antelope," in 1828, 75 tons; the "Michigan," in 1832, 130 tons; the "Walter

Joy," in 1835, 130 tons; the "Caroline," 50 tons; the "Gazelle," 75 tons, and the "John Hollister," 130 tons, were also built in 1835, the "Favorite," 150 tons, in 1837, and the "Scotland," 100 tons, in 1845—all constructed at Perrysburg, with the exception of the "Guerriere," which was built at the mouth of Swan creek. Across the river, at Maumee, the "Merchant," 75 tons, was launched in 1834; the "Tippecanoe," 50 tons, in 1836; the "Maria," 100 tons, in 1836; the "Chippewa," 25 tons, in 1837; the "Tom Corwin," of similar burden, in 1840; the "Robert Hollister," 120 tons, in 1844, and the "Ireland," in 1846. The "Major Oliver," built below Perrysburg in 1837, was of 150 tons burden, and the "Ottawa," built at Oregon the same year, 130 tons burden. They were all schooners like the "Chippewa," which was constructed at Chippewa in 1809 and brought into the Perrysburg trade in 1810 by her master, Capt. Anderson Martin, who built the "Miami." Both vessels were captured by the British in 1812, but were recaptured by Perry, during the naval fight, and restored to Martin, who placed them in service for conveying Harrison's army across to Canada and up the Thames in pursuit of Proctor.

In 1833 steamboat building was introduced below Perrysburg, when the "Detroit," 200 tons, was launched. In 1835 the "Commodore Perry," 350 tons, was built at the Perrysburg yards; in 1837, the "General Wayne," 390 tons; the same year, the "John Marshall," 35 tons; in 1838 the "General Vance," 50 tons; in 1844 the "St. Louis," 618 tons; and, in 1845, the "Superior," 567 tons—all owned by Perrysburg investors. The work of steamboat building began at Maumee in 1838, when the "Chesapeake," 412 tons, was launched. In 1840 the "General Harrison," 326 tons was placed in service; in 1843 the "James Wolcott," 80 tons; 1845, the "Troy," 547 tons; while at Toledo, the "Indiana," 550 tons, was launched. The "Oliver Newberry" and "Andrew Jackson," built at Detroit, were purchased for the Maumee trade, and other sailing and steam craft brought in under purchase.

The first propeller built at Perrysburg was the "Sampson," 250 tons, in 1843, and the second the "Princeton," 400 tons, in 1845. The "Globe," 300 tons, was launched from the Maumee yards in 1845, but like the others was owned by individual citizens of Perrysburg, and by the Perrysburg Steamboat Company.

The old captains were Martin, of the "Miami;" Jacob Wilkinson, of the "Black Snake" (1815); David Wilkinson, of the "Guerriere" (1826), and of the "Eagle" (1828); Amos Pratt,

of the "Antelope" (1829), of the "Maria" (1832), of the "Merchant" (1833), and of the "Gazelle," (1834); David Wilkinson, captain of the steamboat "Commodore Perry" (1835); E. K. Forbes, of the "Caroline" (1835), and of the "Favorite" (1837); C. V. Jennison, of the "Maria" (1836); D. P. Nickerson, of the "Walter Joy" (1835); Amos Pratt of the steamboat "General Wayne" (1837); Jesse Bailey, of the "Oregon" (1837); Charles G. Keeler, of the "Major Oliver" (1837); Shibnah Spink, of the steamboat "Gen. Vance" (1838); I. T. Pheatt, of the "Indiana" (1841); Amos Pratt, of the "Sampson" (1843); G. W. Floyd, of the "St. Louis" (1844); Amos Pratt, of the "Princeton" (1845); David Wilkinson, of the "Superior" (1845); C. G. Keeler, of the "Robert Hollister" (1846); Charles Ludlow, of the "Globe" (1846); Selah Dustin, of the "John Hollister" (1847), and William Wilkinson, of the "Defiance" (1847). In 1818 the historic steamboat "Walk in the Water," was built for the Buffalo and Orleans trade, but it failed to run the bar below Perrysburg, and was placed on the Detroit line. Such schooners as the "Nancy Jane," of which Jacob Wilkinson was master; the "Sally," sailed by William Pratt, the "Walter," by Amos S. Reed, and the "Leopard" by John T. Baldwin, entered the river to the Foot of the Rapids in 1818 and 1819. The "Fire Fly," Luther Harvey master, entered in 1820. In 1823, Capt. Baldwin, named above, sailed the 12-ton schooner "Happy Return," while Isaac Richardson was master of the "Wapakoneta," a little boat of 12 tons. The "Vermillion," 34 tons, of which John Baldwin was master, and "The Packet" of Miami, sailed by Almon Reed, entered in 1824. This Reed was master of the "Lady Washington" in 1825. In 1830, Henry Brooks brought in the "Essex," a schooner of 30 tons; in 1831, the "Independence" sailed by James Foster, entered the port, and these boats, with nearly all of those built at Perrysburg, Maumee and Toledo, may be said to have been engaged in the Maumee trade. In 1837, the steamboat "Gen. Wayne," under Capt. H. C. Williams, plied between the Head of the Rapids and Flat Rock, near Defiance, so that passengers might leave Perrysburg at noon and arrive at Defiance about 7 o'clock in the evening, or leave Defiance at 6 o'clock in the morning and arrive at the Head of the Rapids about noon. In May, 1838, the "Andrew Jackson" ran between Perrysburg and Manhattan, stopping at Maumee, Oregon, Upper Toledo and Lower Toledo four times a day, and, in 1839, the "Oliver Newberry" and "Erie" made regular

trips between Perrysburg and Detroit, leaving at 7:30 A. M. and arriving at Detroit about 4 P. M. Prior to this, even from 1822, a number of lake vessels called regularly at Perrysburg *en route* from Buffalo to Detroit.

In 1846, the aggregate tonnage of the Maumee Valley was more than half the steamboat tonnage of the lakes in 1835, and lacked only a ton of being one-fourth of the entire steamboat tonnage of 1845. The tonnage of sailing vessels, constructed in the Valley, lacked only 1,025 pounds of being one-fifth of the aggregate lake tonnage in 1835, and only 875 pounds of being one-fourteenth the aggregate tonnage of 1846.

Hundreds of stories relating to these days are still told. Hosmer pictures the determined character of the old lake captains of the Maumee more than once, and Capt. David Wilkinson particularly. In the fall of the year 1840, Capt. Wilkinson's steamboat, "Commodore Perry," was lying at the Perrysburg dock, the Captain was sick, and his crew were either sick or scattered. The Captain was a great admirer of Commodore Perry, and always made it a point to attend celebrations of Perry's victory over the British fleet at Put-in-Bay. In that year the great naval triumph was celebrated in grand style at Erie, Penn. Sick as was Wilkinson, he was bound to attend the celebration, and insisted upon Shibnah Spink taking charge of the boat for the trip. A raw crew was collected, the Captain was carried to the boat and placed on a cot in his room, and the trip was made successfully, though not without many difficulties which seemed almost insurmountable. Those who knew him were not surprised at his making the trip, for all obstacles were forced to yield when he determined upon a line of action.

The story of the "Queen Mab," as associated with the old "Exchange Hotel," is a familiar one to the people of Perrysburg. Inside the bar was a small trap door in the floor known to but few persons. Beneath was a walled cellar deep and dark which was reached by a step ladder. This unknown vault was once stored full of the highest grades of imported liquors. How they came there, where from and when, outsiders did not know. About that time a fellow named Jack Olney frequented the Maumee a good deal. Jack was a New Yorker, a confirmed cripple, yet a jolly, openhanded sort of a fellow, a favorite with sporting men. Jack owned a little pleasure craft called "Queen Mab." She was ship-rigged in every appointment, painted black, and as handsome as a bird and a good sailer. Jack frequented the river, bay, and lake as far as Detroit

and Malden, and often indulged his friends in a pleasure ride on the "Queen Mab," treating them with the most generous hospitality. But the report leaked out after the "Queen" had gone, that she was a sly little smuggler, false lined and equipped for the business, yet so carefully as to leave no ground for suspicion. So insignificant a craft of course received no attention from the custom officer who was stationed then at Miami, and the dark-mantled little "Queen" had no trouble in taking on a valuable cargo at Malden in the night and making her way unsuspected to any of the lake or river ports. Whether she ever landed a cargo on the island in the Maumee in front of Perrysburg, which afterward found its way to the dark cellar, is at best only a surmise. Bensman and Thurber, the original proprietors of the house, who were favorites on the "Queen," are gone; the cellar walls have long since tumbled in, but the impressions of our chronicler are that Jack Olney could tell how that cellar came to be stored with the best imported high grade liquors, and that there never was a gayer smuggler than the little "Queen Mab."

Among the stories of wrecks by winds, or collisions, or fires, that of the schooner "Eclipse," in September, 1822; of the schooner "Sylph," in May, 1824; that of the schooner "Surprise," April 28 or 29, 1826; that of the schooner "Guerriere," May 29, 1832; and that of the steamer "G. P. Griffith," June 17, 1850, concern the marine of the Maumee, either in ownership or personnel of people lost. In 1826, Capt. David Wilkinson commanded the "Guerriere" and rescued the survivors of the wrecked "Surprise." In 1832, the "Guerriere" was sailed by R. Pember for John Hollister, the owner. When lost on Middle Sister Island, May 29, 1832, it was Capt. Pember who saved most of the crew and passengers, a woman and her four children being lost. In 1850, Charles C. Robey was captain of the "G. P. Griffith." He, his wife, mother-in-law and two children, all of Perrysburg, were drowned, and about 300 passengers perished in the waters of Lake Erie. Most of the crew, too, were lost, so that, all in all, the burning of the steamer, in sight of Fairport, Ohio, that 17th of June, 1850, was a calamity as appalling then as the burning of a great ocean liner would be to-day.

*Comparisons.*—In 1838, the merchants of Perrysburg paid on freight from New York City at the rate of \$22 a ton, *via* the Erie canal and lake boats, while from Perrysburg to Chicago a sum of \$10 extra was charged. The fall rates

were very much higher, being no less than \$4 for a package the size of a barrel between Buffalo and Chicago. The insurance was \$12.50 a ton between these points, and between Perrysburg and Chicago \$8.34 a ton. The completion of the Michigan Southern Railroad to Chicago, in 1852, changed all this, brought Perrysburg within a few hours' ride of the Gateway to the West, and made traveling a luxury rather than an affliction. In 1841 Toledo began to take the lead of Perrysburg in marine interests; in 1842 seven steamboats were gathered under one management to run between Buffalo and Toledo, and, within a few years, the new town on the site of Fort Industry took precedence in everything except beauty of location. Perrysburg, of course, did not lose all her marine interests; for, until recent years, ship building was carried on, and several large boats were launched from her yards each year.

*Railroads.*—In 1832 the Ohio Legislature granted charters to twelve railroad companies, but of the number the Mad River & Lake Erie was the only one constructed. In 1839 this road was completed to Bellevue from Sandusky, and in 1844 to Dayton, Ohio. In 1832, when the name Toledo began to mean the village on each bank of the Maumee, below the Rapids, the idea of railroads running through the Black Swamp took possession of the leading spirits among the people, and Toledo would, in their mind's eye, become the great terminal of many systems. There were 232.54 miles of railroad completed in Wood county down to the close of 1893, of which the B. & O. had 24.46 miles; the Bowling Green, 21.21; the Columbus, Findlay & Northern, 1.06; the C., H. V. & T., 35.38; the Dayton & Michigan, 37.34; the L. S. & M. S., 15.51; the T. & O. C. main line, 41.40, and Western line, 40.87; the Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City, 2.09, and the Toledo, Walhonding Valley & Ohio, 13.42.

The Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad begins its history with the charter granted by Michigan, in 1832, to the Erie & Kalamazoo Railroad Co. Its history, so far as it relates to Wood county, begins in 1850, when the Toledo, Norwalk & Cleveland Railroad was undertaken, which was completed to Toledo, December 20, 1852, and through service to Chicago inaugurated February 7, 1853. The Junction Railroad Co. began paralleling the T., N. & C. in 1850, *via* Perrysburg and Maumee, and pushed forward the work as far as grading and building piers for the proposed bridge at Perrysburg. In 1853 the enterprise fell into the ownership of what is now

the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Co., and work ceased along the line, though subsequent efforts were made to have the road completed. The vote of Perrysburg, in May, 1851, on the question of subscribing \$50,000 to the Junction Railroad Co. was 98 *pro* and 1 *contra*—the odd fellow being a German laborer who had his own ideas on such subscriptions. In June, W. V. Way was elected a director; B. F. Hollister and John C. Spink being among the directors elected October 25, 1850. The Cleveland and Toledo company constructed a bridge at Toledo in 1855. The line between Cleveland and Buffalo was completed in 1853 by three corporations known as the Buffalo & Erie, the Erie & North-east and the Cleveland, Painesville & Ashtabula Companies. In 1853 the Erie & Northwest was consolidated with the other two roads, and its six-foot gauge made to correspond with the four-foot-ten-inch gauge of the two roads forming that link in the present trunk line. The Erie Gauge war resulted. In 1869 the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad Co. was formed as owner in fact of all the lines named, together with the proprietary roads known as the Toledo & Detroit, the White Pigeon & Kalamazoo, the Jonesville & Lansing, and the lines running to Oil City, Pennsylvania.

The Ohio Railroad Company, organized at Painesville April 25, 1836, was granted \$249,000 by the State, and large sums of money from the people along its proposed line, from the Pennsylvania boundary to Manhattan, on the Maumee, 177 miles. At Maumee the crossing of the river would be made so as to connect with the proposed Manhattan & Detroit Railroad. Under the plans of the projectors, the superstructure from the Maumee to Fremont (twenty-nine miles) was completed in March, 1842; but here the work ended, and the sum of \$237,220, or \$11,780 less than the State contributed, was lost.

The Pittsburg & Bellefontaine Railroad was a reality so far as bonds and good will were concerned. The Act authorizing Wood county to subscribe \$100,000 to this road was observed by the commissioners April 23, 1839, when they subscribed for one thousand \$100 shares and appointed an agent to borrow the money. As told in the transactions of the commissioners, this agent's report and his resignation were received and accepted, and the end of the enterprise was at hand. There is no report of the cancellation of the subscription, or of any further dealing with the bonds.

The Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad Company may be said to have become the owner

of Wood county's first north and south road. The Dayton & Michigan Railroad Co. was chartered in Ohio, March 5, 1851, to build a road from Dayton, Ohio, through Wood county, *via* Lima and Toledo, to the Michigan line in the direction of Detroit. On June 17, 1859, the road was completed to Tontogany. On August 18, 1859, the road was completed to Toledo, the cost of construction and equipment being \$6,903,190.92. T. J. S. Smith was then president, Matthew Shoemaker, superintendent, and Preserved Smith, treasurer. Ten days after the date given, its first freight was received at Toledo, being ten cars of staves consigned to P. H. Brickhead & Co. On May 1, 1863, the D. & M. was consolidated with the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton road. Down to 1880, a rate as high as ten cents a mile, and as low as two and one-fourth cents a mile, was charged for passenger service. The freight rates ranged from seven to twenty cents a ton for one mile to one and four cents a ton a mile, for through freight. The main line from Toledo to Cincinnati is 202.3 miles in length; Dayton to Ironton, 164.1 miles; Dayton to Delphos, 94.9 miles; Tontogany to North Baltimore, 19.4 miles; Cincinnati to Middletown, 13.9 miles; Hamilton to Indianapolis, 99 miles; and Desher to Findlay, 18.1 miles, or 611.7 miles of single track.

The Columbus, Hocking Valley & Toledo Railway was conceived in 1867, to remedy the delays in travel between Cincinnati and Toledo, *via* the Cleveland, Columbus & Cincinnati and the Cleveland and Toledo Railroads. At a meeting held in Columbus in 1867, Gen. Robinson, of Hardin county, presiding, with Fred R. Miller, of Wood county, secretary, it was resolved to continue the Columbus & Hocking Valley Railroad, then in operation northward. At a meeting held the same year in Toledo, the authority to seek charters for four companies was given; C. C. Waite, a son of Chief Justice M. R. Waite, was appointed chief engineer, and by December 13, 1867, he reported the survey of a line, 123½ miles in length, from Toledo, *via* New Rochester, Freeport, West Millgrove, Fostoria, Springville, Upper Sandusky, Marion, Middleton, Bellepoint, White Sulphur Springs, and Dublin, to Columbus. This line was not adopted. Within a year or two the "West Line," 127½ miles long, was surveyed through Bowling Green and Marysville, while the "East Line," 123.7 miles in length, was surveyed almost over the route of the survey of 1867. In March, 1873, the choice of routes was submitted to the Toledo council, and that body selected the eastern survey. In May,

1873, Toledo, which had donated \$200,000 toward the construction of the East Line, voted a similar sum toward the construction of a road over the western survey. Work was begun under the charter of May 28, 1872, to the Columbus & Toledo Co., and to the other road, on each line, but the supreme court declared its donations unconstitutional, and this judgment caused the cessation of work on the "West Line," while the "East Line" builders pushed forward their enterprise, and on December 5, 1876, saw the road completed. On January 10, 1877, the first through passenger train, over that road, rolled through Wood county *en route* to Columbus.

The Toledo & Woodville Railroad was a local enterprise of 1869, suggested to Toledoans by the greed of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, which down to that date commanded Toledo's commercial aspirations east of the river, and opposed them in many ways. This terminal road was to extend 22½ miles southeast to Woodville, in Sandusky county, and offer to the new roads an easy entrance into the city. A sum of \$450,000 was voted by the citizens toward the construction. J. H. Sargent surveyed the line, and April 10, 1870, J. Edwin Conant was awarded the contract for construction; but he surrendered such contract, and May 4, 1871, the directors contracted with the Baltimore & Ohio, the Toledo & Michigan, and the Mansfield, Coldwater & Lake Michigan Companies to pay for right of way and depot grounds, and bridge the Maumee, the city giving \$420,000 in bonds, if the work were completed within eighteen months. The companies named contracted with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to iron the road, build depots, machine shops, and equip the little system. On June 11, 1872, the trustees, displeased with the slow procedure, accepted a contract from the Pennsylvania Company. On May 1, 1873, the road was open for traffic, and February 2, 1874, a train of twenty-seven cars left Toledo for Philadelphia. In 1878, the trustees sold the road to the Pennsylvania Company for \$225,000, without conditions. It may be called a terminal road, since the great Pennsylvania Company, and the C., H. V. & Toledo use it in entering from the south; the Detroit & Canada Southern, the Toledo, Ann Arbor & North Michigan, and the Ohio & Michigan, in entering from the north. It is not now known by its original name. The Toledo & State Line road, built in 1872-73, was merged into the Pennsylvania system, and now forms a part of that road.

The Ohio Central Company is the new name of the Atlantic & Lake Erie Railroad Company,

incorporated in June, 1869, to build a railroad from Toledo, *via* Fostoria, Bucyrus, Mt. Gilead, New Lexington and Athens, to Columbus. What work was done under that charter became the property of the reorganized company—the Ohio Central Railroad Company—in 1879, when the Sunday Creek Valley road was absorbed. In 1880, the branch from Corning to Shawnee, in Perry county, was completed and accepted by the new company, so that by the new year of 1881, 148 miles of road, from Bush's Station to Toledo, and sixty-five miles from Corning to Columbus, were in operation. From September 29, 1883, to April 15, 1885, the company's affairs were in the hands of a receiver. Then the bondholders became owners, and reorganized as the Toledo & Ohio Central Railway Company. In August, 1886, the company leased a portion of the Kanawha & Ohio Railroad, and entered on that prosperous business career which has made it not only a great international coal-road, but also a great freight and passenger road between Central and Northern Ohio. On January 30, 1883, the last spike in the Toledo and Indianapolis road, between Toledo and Findlay, was driven. On January 27, the first hand-car rolled into Bowling Green, and three days later passenger trains brought invited guests to the barbecue at Allentown, or Cygnet, in Bloom township, tendered by E. Shinabarger, the owner of the new village, in recognition of the completion of the road. The gross earnings for the year ending August 31, 1895, amounted to \$1,903,990.04, and the net earnings to \$190,740.23.

The Toledo, St. Louis & Kansas City, known as "The Clover Leaf," is the new name of the Toledo, Delphos & Burlington Railway. The company, organized in May, 1879, as the legal name of the consolidated companies, known as the Toledo, Delphos & Indianapolis Railway Company, organized in 1872; the Toledo & Maumee Narrow Gauge, incorporated the same year; the Delphos & Kokomo, and the Delphos, Bluffton & Frankfort, incorporated in 1877.

The project of building the Toledo, Thornton & St. Louis Railroad was discussed in January, 1872, before a meeting held at Bowling Green, Dr. T. M. Cook, E. Reed, S. L. Boughton and E. A. Barton being the principal speakers.

In 1880 the Dayton, Covington & Toledo was absorbed, and in March, 1881, the Dayton & Southeastern. The last named company's line from Dayton to Gallipolis, 144 miles, was constructed, in fact, by the T. D. & B.; in 1881 the branch, from Lebanon to the junction, with the Cincinnati Northern, was built, and, same

year, a branch from Wellston to Ironton was commenced. The extension of the Swan Creek road to Hamilton street, Toledo, where it connects with the T., St. L. & K. C., was an individual rather than a corporate enterprise. George Laskey, who resided at Grand Rapids until his removal to Toledo, in 1877, was one of the founders of the T., St. L. & K. C. system. It was a narrow-gauge road connecting Grand Rapids with Toledo, and, until and since its absorption by the "Clover Leaf," the principal aid to Grand Rapids' trade and commerce.

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad.—The beginnings of this historic railroad were made July 4, 1828, by no less a personage than Charles Carroll, of Carrollton. The nucleus of this present immense system was for many years the only means of rapid transit between the Forks of the Ohio and Baltimore. In later years the road was gradually extended westward, after the design of its founders, and in our own times, by new lines and consolidation of short roads, pushed forward its iron bands to the Gateway of the West, becoming, under the Garretts, a trunk line connecting Lake Michigan with the Chesapeake—the old city of Maryland with the new and precocious city of Illinois. Early in 1872 the work of construction between Newark (Ohio) and Chicago was entered upon, and this extension of 365 miles completed, the road was opened for traffic to Baltimore, 831 miles, in November, 1874. The Pittsburg & Western, leased for some years by the Baltimore & Ohio Company, became the property of the company in 1891, and, with the new road from Akron to Chicago Junction, is used as the short line between Chicago and Baltimore—the old line *via* Bellaire and Grafton being 858.8 miles, or 27.8 miles longer than the road *via* Akron and Pittsburg. The total length of the four great divisions of this system is 2,052.98 miles, to which may be added 614.68 miles of second, third and fourth track, and 756.74 miles of side track, or a total of 3,424.35. The rolling stock embraces 896 locomotives, 689 passenger coaches and 27,589 freight cars. At Chicago its terminal facilities are represented by the great depot and yards known as the Grand Central Depot, a modern palace on Harrison street, near the business center, while at Washington and Baltimore its terminals hold even as close a relation to the hearts of these cities. The main line through Wood county (twenty-four miles in length within this county) was constructed under the charter of 1872. On this division all through trains over the old and new roads run, affording unusual advantages to the southern half of the county. The



road may be credited with founding the thriving towns of North Baltimore and Bloomdale, and the villages of Welker, Bairdstown, Denver and Hoytville; for without it, enterprising men would scarcely seek, on their sites, safe places for the investment of capital. The exhibit of the Baltimore & Ohio at the World's Fair was in itself a history in iron and wood, showing the quaint beginnings of the road in contrast with its present magnificence in extent and equipment. The general superintendent makes headquarters at Chicago, Ill., while the general passenger agent—Charles O. Scull—has his office in Baltimore, the birthplace of the road.

The Bowling Green & Tontogany Railroad, and the Bowling Green & North Baltimore Railroad are referred to in the chapter on Bowling Green.

The Toledo & Maumee Valley Railroad Com-

pany was organized by Parks Foster, W. A. Taylor, Thomas H. Tracey, A. K. Detweiler and others, to build a road from Toledo to Perrysburg. The road, eight miles in length, was completed in August, 1894 (in forty days), eight miles from the Toledo city limits to Perrysburg. Early in 1895 this company widened the bridge at Perrysburg, so that this road will connect with the company's road to Maumee, making a belt road. Proposed extensions of this electric system are seriously entertained, and it would not be surprising to learn, within a few years, that all the important towns and villages of the county were connected with the county seat by electric railways. [Since the writing of the above the road has been extended to Bowling Green, completed October, 1896, and is in operation under the name of The Toledo, Bowling Green and Fremont Electric Railroad.]

## CHAPTER XXIV.

[BY FRANK W. DUNN.]

PUBLIC LANDS—INDIAN TREATIES—LAND SURVEYS AND SALES IN THE WESTERN TERRITORY—THE "SEVEN RANGES"—FIRST AND LATER SURVEYS WITHIN WHAT IS NOW WOOD COUNTY—FIRST GRANT MADE BY CONGRESS FOR LANDS LYING WITHIN PRESENT LIMITS OF WOOD COUNTY—TOWN OF PERRYSBURG—PUBLIC SALE OF LANDS AT WOOSTER—SUNDRY ACTS OF CONGRESS RELATING TO PUBLIC LANDS—LAND GRANTS—MILITARY BOUNTY LANDS—CANAL LANDS—SWAMP LANDS—SCHOOL LANDS—MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS—CONCLUSION.

**B**UT little is known, comparatively, outside of official sources about the history of the public lands of the United States. In this chapter, for which no higher rank is claimed than that of a compilation, only a few of the more important matters can be noted; yet sufficient, perhaps, to enable the general reader to obtain a greater knowledge of the original history of the lands in this portion of the National domain, which have, within the memory of men yet living, been subdued and transformed from a dense wilderness of forest, into pleasant farm homes and villages.

The public lands of the United States were acquired by treaty, cessions by States, conquest or purchase. Under the treaty of peace of September 3, 1783, closing the war of the Revolution, Great Britain recognized the United States, as sovereign and independent, and relinquished

all proprietary and territorial rights of the same. During the period of government of the United States, under the Articles of Confederation, the Western lands, which included the entire territory east of the Mississippi river and north of the Ohio river, and west of Pennsylvania, became the subject of much heated discussion among the thirteen original States, each claiming the right to control, to sell and dispose of such of the lands as it claimed to own. Many of the claims conflicted, on account of overlapping boundaries, as defined in the grants from Great Britain, to the different colonies and to individuals; but this difficulty was finally adjusted, by deeds of cession from the several States to the National Government. When the Government was subsequently organized, the title to the unappropriated public lands became vested in it, as the successor of the Government, under the Con-



federation. At this time the Mississippi river was the western boundary of the United States.

Within a few months after the treaty of peace between Great Britain and the United States, and after the cession of Western land, by the States of New York and Virginia, the Congress of the Confederation immediately began to take steps toward the organization of the Western Territory. A committee of three members, consisting of Thomas Jefferson, Mr. Chase, and Mr. Howell, submitted to Congress resolutions embodying a plan for the temporary government of this Territory. These resolutions provide that the lands ceded, or to be ceded, by individual States to the United States, when the same shall have been bought of the Indian inhabitants, and offered for sale by the United States, shall be formed into additional States.

*Indian Treaties.*—The several treaties, already referred to at length, were, in the earlier instances, treaties of occupancy, and, in the later cases, treaties of cession. They were written for this chapter; but, as Mr. Evers had also summarized them in connection with the military movements against the Indians, they are omitted here.

It is not to be understood that these relinquishments were made on the part of the Indians without an equivalent. Large sums of money were paid to them, and stipulated to be paid, in perpetual annuities, as well as goods and merchandise. For instance, at one of the treaties it was stipulated that the United States should pay ten thousand dollars, in goods, and a perpetual annuity of two thousand, four hundred dollars, besides furnishing the Indians with two blacksmiths for ten years. And, among the provisions of the treaty at the Foot of the Rapids, the United States engaged to erect a sawmill and gristmill, for the use of the Wyandots, and to provide and maintain two blacksmiths, one for the use of the Wyandots and Senecas, the other for the Indians at Hog creek.

In reviewing these treaties, made from time to time between the United States and the Indian tribes, who claimed the right of possession to the soil, we are fully convinced that the Indians received a just equivalent in money and goods, or otherwise, and thereby the United States obtained an absolute title to the land. It is an historical fact that none of the public lands had ever been disposed of, by the Government, prior to its cession by the Indians.

*Surveys and Sales.*—Congress had entire control of the public lands, and in May, 1784, a committee, previously appointed, reported an Or-

dinance for ascertaining the mode of locating and disposing of the lands in the Western Territory. This Ordinance was discussed and amended, until finally, on May 20, 1785, it passed, providing for townships, each six miles square and containing thirty-six sections, each one mile square. The first public surveys, under this Ordinance, embrace lands running north from the Ohio river, known as the "Seven Ranges." The sections were numbered from one to thirty-six, commencing with No. 1 in the southeast corner of the township, and running from south to north, in each tier, to No. 36, in the northwest corner of the township, as shown in the following diagram:

|    |    |    |    |    |   |
|----|----|----|----|----|---|
| 36 | 30 | 24 | 18 | 12 | 6 |
| 35 | 29 | 23 | 17 | 11 | 5 |
| 34 | 28 | 22 | 16 | 10 | 4 |
| 33 | 27 | 21 | 15 | 9  | 3 |
| 32 | 26 | 20 | 14 | 8  | 2 |
| 31 | 25 | 19 | 13 | 7  | 1 |

From May 20, 1785, the three commissioners composing the board of treasury made sales, and assumed control of the administration of all matters pertaining to the public lands. The first officer in charge of the surveys was styled: "The Geographer of the United States," and the only person who ever held the office was Thomas Hutchins, who served from 1785 up to his death, which occurred in 1789. After his death the management of the surveys devolved upon the board of the treasury, until a special officer was again placed in charge, under the Act of 1796, which provided for the appointment of a surveyor-general, and which directed the survey of that part of the lands northwest of the Ohio river, in which the titles of the Indian tribes had been extinguished, and which had not been already conveyed by patents, or divided, in pursuance of the Ordinance passed May 20, 1785, or which has not been heretofore and during the present session of Congress, may not be appropriated for satisfying military land bounties, and

for other purposes. Said lands to be divided by north and south lines, run according to the true meridian, and by others, crossing them at right angles, so as to form townships of six miles square. One-half of the said townships, taking them alternately, to be subdivided into sections, by running through the same each way, parallel lines, at the end of every two miles, and by marking a corner, on each of said lines, at the end of every mile. It was further provided, that the sections should be numbered progressively, beginning with No. 1, in the northeast section, and proceeding east and west, alternately, through the township, till the 36th section be completed in the southeast corner. This method of numbering sections is still in use, and is illustrated by the following diagram:

|    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 6  | 5  | 4  | 3  | 2  | 1  |
| 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 18 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 30 | 29 | 28 | 27 | 26 | 25 |
| 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 |

It was further provided, that whenever seven ranges of townships were surveyed below the Great Miami, the surveyed sections were to be first offered for sale, in whole sections, at public auction, under the direction of the governor, or secretary of the Territory, said sales to be held at Cincinnati and at Pittsburg. They were to be sold to the highest bidder, but for not less than two dollars per acre, one-twentieth part of the purchase money down, and within thirty days enough more to make one-half of the purchase money, and one year's credit for the remaining half. The townships, remaining undivided, were to be sold in the same manner, under the direction of the secretary of the treasury, in tracts of one quarter of a township, and for not less than two dollars per acre. The four central sections in each township were reserved from sale. The lands also remaining unsold, in the "Seven Ranges," which were surveyed under the Ordinance of May 20, 1785, including the lands sold but not paid for, were ordered to be sold as follows: The townships which were directed to be sold entire, under said Ordinance, to be offered for sale at Philadelphia, at public vendue in quarter townships, reserving the four center sections; the other townships, directed to be sold under said Ordinance, in sections, to be offered for sale, at Pittsburg, under the regulations provided for herein.

Under this Act, Rufus Putnam was appointed surveyor-general, and served until 1803. From 1803 to 1813, Capt. Jared Mansfield, of the United States army, filled the office, and, aided by Thomas Jefferson, made many useful changes and improvements in the system of surveys.

On May 10, 1800, the Act of May 18, 1796, was amended, and further provided for the establishment of four land offices, at Cincinnati, Chillicothe, Marietta and Steubenville; each to be under the direction of an officer, to be known as the Register of the Land Office. The lands were to be sold in sections and half-sections, for not less than two dollars per acre, purchasers to deposit one-twentieth part of the purchase money, on the day of sale, and within forty days to pay one-fourth part of such purchase money, including the amount deposited; another fourth to be paid within two years; another fourth within three years, and the remaining fourth within four years from date of sale, with interest, at six per cent., upon the deferred payments. The purchaser was also required to pay, exclusive of the purchase money, a surveying fee of six dollars for each section, and three dollars for each half section, purchased by him. Section 12, of the Act of March 26, 1804, provided, that the sections of land, reserved under former Acts, should be offered for sale, in quarter sections, to the highest bidder, under the directions of the register of the land office, and the receiver of public moneys, where the land offices are kept; the sales to remain open at each land office for three weeks only, and the lands not to be sold for less than two dollars per acre. The Act of February 11, 1805, authorized the surveyor-general to cause all the lands, which, under the Act of 1796, were sub-divided, by running through the townships parallel lines, each way, at the end of every two miles, and by marking a corner on each of the said lines, at the end of every mile, to be sub-divided into sections, by running straight lines from the mile corners, thus marked, to the opposite corresponding corners, as nearly as possible, equi-distant from the corners of the sections on the same.

One of the rules to govern these surveys is thus laid down: "All the corners marked in the surveys, returned by the surveyor-general, shall be established as the proper corners of sections, or sub-divisions of sections, which they were intended to designate; and the corners of the half and quarter sections not marked on the said surveys, shall be placed, as nearly as possible, equi-distant from those two corners, which stand on the same line.

The first surveys within the present Wood county, were made in the twelve-miles-square reserve. The exterior, sub-divisional and meander lines of Township No. 1, of said reserve, and which includes the north part of Middleton township and a small portion of Perrysburg township, adjoining it on the north, was surveyed by Elias Glover, in October, 1805. Additional surveys and re-surveys were made in this township, by William Brookfield, D. S., in 1816-17. The exterior lines of Township No. 3, of said reserve, embracing the north part of Perrysburg township and the west part of Ross township, were run by Elias Glover, in 1805. Re-surveys of exteriors, lots fronting on river, meanders and islands in the Maumee river, were made from 1816 to 1834, by Joseph Wampler, D. S., and William Brookfield, D. S. Township No. 4, of said reserve, which lies wholly within Perrysburg township, and includes the village of Perrysburg, was surveyed by Elias Glover, in 1805. The exterior lines of the township of Jackson, Milton, Weston, Grand Rapids, and Sections 1, 2, 11 and 12, Washington, were surveyed by Samuel Holmes, D. S., in 1819. The sub-divisional lines of these townships were run, in 1821, by Price F. Kellogg, D. S.

The exterior lines of the townships of Henry, Liberty, Plain, and Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, Washington, were surveyed by Samuel and Alexander Holmes, in 1819, and the sub-divisional lines, by I. T. Worthington, D. S., in 1821. The north part of Washington township, and the west part of Middleton township, extending north, as far as the south boundary line of the twelve-miles-square reserve, were surveyed by I. T. Worthington, and the subdivisions by P. F. Kellogg, in 1821. The exterior lines of Bloom, Perry, Montgomery, Freedom, Center, and the south part of Webster, were surveyed by Alexander and Samuel Holmes, in 1819, and the sub-divisional lines by S. Bourne, D. S. in 1821. The east part of Middleton, south of the reserve line, and the northwest part of Webster, were surveyed by Alexander and Samuel Holmes, running the exterior lines, in 1819, and by I. T.

Worthington, surveying the sub-divisional lines, in 1821. It appears that the entire surveys of Troy, and Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 and 32, in Webster, were made by Charles Roberts, D. S., in 1820. In Lake township, the exterior lines were surveyed in 1820, by Alex. Holmes, D. S., and the sub-divisional lines, by Ambrose Rice, D. S., in December, 1833, while the surveys in Ross township (outside of the twelve-miles-square reserve) were made by Ambrose Rice, D. S., in April, 1834.

An Act of Congress of March 3, 1805, provided for the survey and sub-division of lands lying north and west of the Indian boundary, by the Treaty of Greenville, which were ceded by that treaty to the United States; and that the lands be offered for sale, at Detroit, in the Territory of Michigan, or at such of the other land offices, established by law, in Ohio, or in Indiana Territory, under the same regulations as other land within the district. This placed the lands in the twelve-mile-square reserve in the Detroit land district, where the same remained until the Act of April 27, 1816, hereinafter noted. The land office at Wooster was established under the Act of March 3, 1807, for the disposal of the lands lying between the United States Military Tract and the Connecticut Reserve. The office of commissioner of the General Land Office was created April 25, 1812. The first commissioner was Edward Tiffin, who served from 1812 to 1814. He was distinguished as the first Governor of Ohio, under the Constitution.

The first grant made by Congress for lands lying within the present limits of Wood county, was on April 26, 1816, as follows:—"That Amos Spafford, collector of the District and Port of Miami, shall have the right of pre-emption to 160 acres of land, to include his improvements, situate within the limits of the reserve of twelve miles square, at the Rapids of Miami of Lake Erie, the boundaries of which shall be designated under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury; which tract of land shall be granted to him, at the same price, and on the same terms and conditions for which the other public lands are sold at private sale." [The patent of this grant was signed by James Monroe.]

This tract of land lies on the Maumee river, west of the town of Perrysburg, adjoining "Fort Meigs," and is known as "Spafford's Grant." At this period the only land in Wood county, to which the Indian title had been extinguished, was the twelve-mile-square reserve, ceded to the United States by the Indians at the Treaty of Greenville, but as yet none of this land had been

offered at public sale by the Government. Squatters or settlers had located upon the lands bordering on the river, previous to the year 1812, and were driven away by the Indians, who were hostile to the Americans during the war. Many returned after hostilities had ceased, to find their homes destroyed and themselves destitute. The plat of the public surveys shows the private claims of those settlers, all of which are on the north side of the Maumee river, except that of Amos Spafford. These claims embrace several thousand acres; among them are the claims of Whitmore Knaggs, William Brown, John Askin and others, nearly opposite Perrysburg. All of these private claims were taken under Acts of Congress, regulating the grants of land in the Territory of Michigan.

The Act of Congress of April 27, 1816, providing for the laying out of a town, and for a further survey and sale of the lands in the reserve, placed all of these lands in the land district of Wooster.

In a recent history of Lucas county, prepared by Clark Waggoner and others, it is written:

To add to the serious trials to which these settlers were subjected, the title to the lands occupied by them was brought in question. These had been purchased as parts of the twelve-miles-square-reserve, which, by mistake, had been a second time ceded at the Treaty of Brownstown, subsequent to the purchase by the settlers. They had no more than become settled after their return, at the close of the war, than Congress ordered the sale of the tract. In a letter to President Madison on the subject, Amos Spafford appealed in behalf of these sufferers, and asked that the time and location of the sale might be so fixed that they could have opportunity for securing the lands held by them, saying: "Should the time not be known, or the place of sale so remote that myself and others could not attend, all would be lost. First, burned by the enemy; second, destroyed by our own army; and, third, sold out by act of the Government, to whom, we don't know. This would be the last sacrifice that we could possibly make." The sale was finally held at Fort Meigs, the settlers obtaining titles to their lands without competition.

When the Act authorizing the sale of the lands in the twelve-miles-square reserve, to be held at Wooster, became known, a large number of the settlers at that time had not yet received patents, and their rights as settlers had not yet been confirmed by the commissioners for the Detroit land district. It was no doubt in behalf of these claimants that Mr. Spafford interceded in his letter to President Madison. They were now in a new land district, and no provision had been made for them in the Act directing the sale at Wooster, except those to whom patents had been granted. The operations under this Act were entirely different from the provisions made in the Acts regarding the public lands in the Territory of Michigan, under which the settlers had located their claims, and it is readily seen

how their status, as settlers, was affected by the change. After corresponding with the general land office with reference to this matter, the writer is led to believe that instead of a sale of lands at Fort Meigs, as related by Mr. Waggoner, commissioners were sent there to investigate the rights and claims of these settlers, and to confirm the rights of such as were legally entitled thereto. Patents had been issued to a few of the settlers prior to the passage of this Act, the oldest in date being that to John Askin, for four hundred acres, dated April 20, 1811. Another to Whitmore Knaggs, for six hundred acres, dated July 3, 1812, during the administration of President Madison. These patents contain recitals that the claims were confirmed by virtue of "An Act to regulate the grants of land in the Territory of Michigan," and, as noted above, all were on the north side of the Maumee.

*Town of Perrysburg.*—On April 27, 1816, it was enacted by Congress, that so much of the tract of land, of twelve miles square, at the British fort, of the Miami of the Lake, at the Foot of the Rapids, ceded by the Wyandots and other Indian tribes, to the United States, by the Treaty of Greenville, August 3, 1795, shall, under the direction of the surveyor-general, be laid off into town lots, streets and avenues, and into out-lots, in such manner and of such dimensions, as he may think proper. The tract so to be laid off shall not exceed the quantity of land contained in two entire sections, nor the town lots, one-quarter of an acre each. When the survey shall be completed, a plat thereof shall be returned to the surveyor-general, on which the town lots and out lots shall respectively be designated, by progressive numbers, who shall cause two copies to be made, one to be transmitted with a copy of the field notes, to the commissioner of the general land office, and the other, to the register of the land office at Wooster.

As before stated, the tract of twelve miles square had been surveyed in the year 1805, and the Act of Congress authorizing a town to be laid out, also directed the surveyor-general to re-survey and mark the exterior lines of said tract conformably to the survey made in December, 1805, and also to cause divisional lines to be run through each section and fractional section, binding on the river, so that each sub-division may contain, as nearly as may be, 160 acres. Provided, that in running the sub-divisional lines no interference shall be made affecting or impairing the rights of persons to whom patents have been granted for land lying within the limits of the said twelve miles square. These tracts, lying on

the Maumee river, were designated, in the surveys, as River tracts; those lying on the south side of the river, now in Wood county, being numbered consecutively, from 44 to 86 inclusive. It was further enacted, that all of the land within the twelve-miles-square reserve, except Section 16, reserved for school purposes, together with the in-lots and out-lots, in Perrysburg, should be offered for sale to the highest bidder, at Wooster, the sale to remain open for seven days and no longer. The quarter-sections and fractional quarter-sections not to be sold for less than two dollars per acre; the in-lots for not less than twenty dollars each, and the out-lots for not less than five dollars an acre; all of such lands and lots remaining unsold at the public sales, to be disposed of at private sale, by the register of the land office, at Wooster, under the regulations provided by law—patents to issue in the same manner as for other lands of the United States.

Afterward, it appears that difficulties began to arise about the boundaries of lots and streets, as originally surveyed, until finally an Act was passed by the Legislature of Ohio, on March 7, 1835, by which the town council is authorized to cause to be made a new and entire survey of the streets and alleys, which, when recorded in the records of Wood county, shall be held and deemed in all courts, to be a correct survey of said streets and alleys, and to exhibit the true situation of the same. This survey was accomplished by Hiram Davis, a plat of which is to be found in the public records. Subsequent legislation affecting the town will be noticed hereafter.

The public sale of the lands directed to be held at Wooster, under the preceding Act, took place, in July, 1817, and was upon the credit system, forty days being allowed for the first payment of 25 per cent, the balance to be paid in three equal annual instalments. Land companies were formed among the capitalists in the east, who purchased tracts at the sale, the prices ranging from \$2.13 to \$75 per acre. Many of the tracts purchased reverted to the United States, on account of failure to pay the deferred instalments and interest. The credit system had always been a source of difficulty to the government, on account of default in the payments; the revenue arising from the sales of land was much less than was anticipated, besides the government was in competition with several of the States, which were disposing of western lands—Connecticut selling her Western Reserve lands in northeastern Ohio, at forty cents per acre—Virginia selling lands in Kentucky—North Carolina in Tennessee

—Pennsylvania, Georgia, and Massachusetts selling lands at reduced prices, which tended to check emigration to the Northwest Territory. As a remedy, the credit system was abolished, under the Act of April 20, 1820, and the price of land fixed at \$1.25 per acre, payable in cash, at the time of sale.

The Act of Congress, of February 22, 1817, provided that "from and after September 1, 1817, the sections designated by Nos. 2, 5, 20, 23, 30 and 33, in each and every township, of the public lands, the sale of which is now, or hereafter may be, authorized, shall be offered for sale, either in quarter sections, or half-quarter sections, at the option of the purchaser; and, in every case, the division of quarter-sections shall be made by a line running due north and south." Land districts were formed under the Act of March 3, 1819. One of said districts comprised all the land lying between the west line of the State and the line now forming the west line of Wood county; the district extending north, to the northern boundary of the State, and south to the Indian boundary line established by the Treaty of Greenville, and for the sale of which a land office was established at Piqua. The public lands lying between the line now established as the west line of Wood county, and the west line of the Connecticut Reserve, having the same boundaries north and south as the district before mentioned, formed another land district, and, for the sale of which lands, an office was established at Delaware. The Act authorized the President to appoint a register and receiver, at each land office, and also provided for the sales of the lands (except Section 16, in each township, reserved for the support of schools) to the highest bidder, at the land offices, where the public sales were to be kept open for three weeks and no longer; said lands to be sold for not less than two dollars an acre. The President was authorized to remove the land offices established by this Act, whenever he considered it expedient, to such place within the district as he judged most proper. By virtue of the authority thus conferred, land offices were established from time to time, at Wapakoneta, Lima, Upper Sandusky, Defiance, Bucyrus and Tiffin.

Under the Act of April 24, 1820, nearly all of the lands belonging to the United States, within the present limits of Wood county, were entered. The first section of the Act provides, "that from and after the first day of July, next, all of the public lands of the United States, the sale of which is, or may be authorized, by law, shall be offered for sale to the highest bidder, in

half-quarter sections; and when offered at private sale may be purchased at the option of the purchaser, in entire sections, half sections, quarter sections or half-quarter sections; none of said land to be sold, either at public or private sale, for less than \$1.25 per acre; none of said land to be sold on credit, but complete payment to be made on the day of purchase." Next follows the Act of May 15, 1820, viz.: "That there be granted to the State of Ohio, at the minimum price for which the public lands are sold, the right of pre-emption, to one quarter section, in, or near, the center of each county, included in the purchase recently made of the Indians, by the treaty concluded at St. Mary's, September 20, 1818, for the establishment of a seat of justice, in the said counties; provided, the purchase be made before the commencement of the public sales; and provided, also, that the proceeds of the sale of each quarter section, which may be made, under the authority of Ohio, shall be appropriated for the purpose of erecting public buildings, in said counties, respectively, after deducting therefrom the sums originally paid by the State aforesaid; and provided, further, that the seat of justice for said counties, respectively, shall be fixed on the lands so selected." This Act was afterward repealed, as to that feature of it, requiring seats of justice to be established at, or near, the center of said counties.

*Congress Helped Perrysburg.*—Another Act of Congress, relating to the old county seat of Wood, which became a law, May 7, 1822, is in effect as follows: "That the right to all the unsold in-lots and out-lots, in the town of Perrysburg, be and the same is hereby vested in the commissioners of Wood county, and the right to all the unsold town lots and out-lots, in the town of Croghansville, be and the same is hereby vested in the commissioners of Sandusky county, in said State, on condition that said commissioners shall permanently locate the seat of justice, for their respective counties, at said towns; and that the net proceeds of the sales of so many of said lots as are necessary to be retained, for the purpose of erecting public buildings thereon, be applied to the erection and improvement of the public buildings and squares, in said towns, respectively. This special grant was no doubt made in lieu of the quarter section granted for county-seat purposes, in the preceding Act of May 15, 1820. It was not until the Act of Congress of April 5, 1832, that the public lands were sub-divided and offered for sale, in quarter-quarter sections, of forty acres each. The Act was not put in force until 1834, owing

to delays in preparing the necessary plats for the use of the local land offices.

*Land Grants.*—Various grants were made by Congress from time to time, some of which directly concern the lands in this county, and from which arise the terms "Road Lands," "Swamp Lands," "Canal Lands," etc. In connection with these grants, we shall also notice the Acts of the State Legislature with reference to the same. The grant made by Congress to the county commissioners of Wood of certain lots in the town of Perrysburg, for the purpose of establishing a seat of justice at said town, and for the erection of public buildings, has been already noticed in this chapter. A subsequent Act, approved July 27, 1842, gave to each purchaser, his heirs or assigns, of any lot or lots, in said town, at any sale for taxes thereon, assessed by the laws of Ohio (the title to which had not been divested from the United States in any other manner than under color of such tax sale) the right to make an entry of the same, at any time within one year from the passage of said Act, at the land office in the district within which said town is situated, at the price for which the same were struck off at Wooster in July, 1817, with interest from that date.

Another Act of Congress, approved February 20, 1845, relating to the lots in said town, provided that all title to lots in said town derived from Ohio, under color of the grant made to the State by virtue of the Act of Congress, entitled: "An Act for laying out and making a road from the lower Rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie to the western boundary of the Connecticut Western Reserve, in the State of Ohio," approved February 20, 1823, be and the same are hereby recognized as valid and confirmed, in the same manner as though the title to said lots had been vested in said State, under the aforesaid Act: Provided, "That the authorities of said State shall, within one year from and after the passage of this Act, furnish the commissioner of the general land office with a certified list of all lots heretofore sold and disposed of, under color of the above recited Act."

Under the heading "Road Lands," of this chapter, the Act referred to, granting certain lands to the State of Ohio, for the construction of the above mentioned road, is more fully noted. It appears that the State authorities, under said Act, appropriated certain lots and lands within the limits of Perrysburg, which were not intended to be included in the above grant for road purposes, and hence confusion arose as to the title. The above mentioned Act, therefore, was passed to quiet the title in the owners, who had pur-

chased said lots from the State. A deed of quitclaim from the United States to the owners of the lots in question bears date March 10, 1846, during the administration of President Polk, and is recorded in the deed records of this county. The lots, thus relinquished by the United States, are fully described in said deed.

*Maumee and Western Reserve Road Lands.*—Article 2, of the treaty of Brownstown, before mentioned, between the United States and certain tribes of Indians, held November 25, 1808, is a cession by said Indians, to the United States, of a tract of land for a road, 120 feet in width, from the Foot of the Rapids (Perrysburg) of the River Miami of Lake Erie, to the west line of the Connecticut Reserve, and all the land within one mile of said road, on each side thereof, for the purpose of establishing settlements along the same. Article 3, of said treaty, is an agreement that the lines embracing the lands given and ceded by the preceding article, shall be run in such directions as may be thought most advisable by the President, for the purposes aforesaid. The Act of December 12, 1811, authorized the President to appoint three commissioners to mark a road from Perrysburg to the western line of the Connecticut Reserve; said commissioners to make and to transmit the plats to the President, who, if he approve, shall cause the plats to be deposited in the office of the treasurer of the United States, and said road shall be considered as established and accepted, pursuant to the treaty of Brownstown.

A subsequent Act, approved February 4th, 1815, provided that in surveying lands ceded by the Indians, at Brownstown, the ordinary mode of surveying the public lands should be so far deviated from, that the boundary lines of the tracts to be laid off should be run parallel to, and at right angles with, the road laid out, in conformity to said treaty. Whether any commissioners were appointed, or a survey of the road, or of the lands ceded, by the United States, as contemplated, was made under the last two Acts, we are not able to state, in the absence of any official report in the matter, but it appears by an Act, approved February 28, 1823, that Ohio was authorized to lay out, open and construct a road, from the lower Rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie to the western boundary of the Connecticut Reserve.

In order to enable Ohio to open and construct that road, a tract of land, 120 feet wide, whereon to locate the same, together with a quantity of land, equal to one mile on each side thereof and adjoining thereto, to defray the ex-

penses of said road, was granted to the State, to commence at the Miami Rapids and terminate at the western boundary of the Connecticut Western Reserve, with full power and authority to sell and convey the same, and apply the proceeds to the making of said road. In view of the proposal in the foregoing Act, the State Legislature at once took action thereon, by appointing John Wallace, of Champaign county, John Patten, of Wayne county, and Quintus F. Atkins, of Ashtabula county, commissioners, to locate and survey said road, 120 feet wide, and to file a plat of said survey in the office of the Secretary of State. Said commissioners were charged with the duty of valuing the lands, on each side of said road, one mile in width, and to certify the same to the Secretary of State, together with a plan of constructing the road, and the probable expense of its construction. This was followed by another Act of the Legislature, of February 25, 1824, which provided for constructing said road, and for a superintendent, to be appointed by joint resolution of both Houses of the General Assembly. The superintendent to give bond in the sum of \$5,000, conditioned for the faithful discharge of the duties required of him, and to account for all moneys received by him, for the sale of lands, &c. This Act also authorized said superintendent to enter into contract, for the building and constructing said road, and also for the sale of the lands adjoining thereto, granted by Congress; the lands to be offered for sale for not less than \$1.50 per acre; one-third of the purchase money to be paid at time of sale; one-third in one year, and one-third in two years. The superintendent was authorized to make contracts for constructing the road, payable in land, upon such terms as he might think most advantageous to the State. Under this Act, Atkins, one of the commissioners, was appointed first superintendent.

On February 7, 1825, the Legislature passed an Act, authorizing the superintendent of the Maumee and Western Reserve road to cause surveys of the lands belonging to the State of Ohio, in the reservation, at the foot of the Rapids of the Miami of Lake Erie, to be made as he might think fit, and to cause a plat to be made of the lands, so surveyed and owned by said State, and to sell said lands for not less than seven dollars per acre. It was under this Act that the new survey of out-lots to Perrysburg was made, a copy of which was unearthed by the writer in the State archives during the summer of 1895.

Under an Act of the Legislature, passed Jan-



uary 29, 1827, a surveyor was appointed to proceed to survey such of the lands, granted by Congress to Ohio, for the purpose of building and keeping in repair the road, as have not been heretofore surveyed, under the authority of said State. The Act provided, that said lands should be surveyed into lots of 80 acres each, and where there are fractional parts occasioned by said road, such fractional parts to be surveyed with, and attached to, the half-quarter section, lying back of and adjoining such fractional part. Triplicate plats of surveys to be made, one of each to be filed with the superintendent of road, Auditor and Secretary of State, and superintendent authorized to sell land for not less than \$1.50 per acre. Thomas R. McKnight, of Perrysburg, was appointed superintendent of said road, January 30, 1827. The lands in Wood county, surveyed under this Act, are designated as the Maumee and Western Reserve Road Lands, and are situated in the townships of Perrysburg, Lake and Troy; such of said lands as lie contiguous to said road are known as Road Tracts.

*Military Bounty Lands.*—There are no lands within the limits of Wood county specially granted for bounties to the soldiers and sailors of the United States, although a large quantity of land, in this county, has been located with military land warrants. It is proper to observe here, that on June 1, 1796, Congress set apart a tract of land, within the present State of Ohio, for the officers and soldiers, serving in the Revolutionary war, known as the United States Military District, comprising two and one-half millions of acres, embracing within its limits, in whole or in part, the counties of Tuscarawas, Guernsey, Muskingum, Monroe, Coshocton, Holmes, Knox, Licking, Franklin, Delaware, Noble and Lake. All warrants granted by the United States, under this Act, were restricted to, and located exclusively in this district, until after the passage of the Scrip Act, of May 30, 1830, by which the Revolutionary warrants could be exchanged for scrip, and the same located outside of the military district.

Another district, known as the "Virginia Military District," lying between the little Miami and Scioto rivers, containing over four million acres, was reserved in the cession by Virginia, in 1784, of her territory northwest of the Ohio river, for the purpose of satisfying the warrants, issued to the officers and soldiers of the Continental Line, army and navy, under the laws of Virginia, for military services during the war of the Revolution, as they were promised by the Legislature of that State. Subsequent Acts were passed by

Congress, granting warrants to officers and soldiers, who had served in the war of 1812, and in the war with Mexico, which were allowed to be located upon any of the unappropriated lands of the United States.

*Canal Lands.*—The Act of Congress, of May 24, 1828, granted to Ohio, for the purpose of aiding said State in extending the Miami canal, from Dayton to Lake Erie, by the Maumee route, a quantity of land, equal to one-half of five sections in width, on each side of said canal, between Dayton and the Maumee river, at the mouth of the Auglaize, reserving each alternate section of the land unsold, to the United States, to be selected by the Commissioner of the general land office, under the direction of the President, which land, so reserved to the United States, shall not be sold for less than two dollars per acre. The said land hereby granted to Ohio, to be subject to the disposal of the Legislature of said State, for the purpose aforesaid and no other. Said land to be selected by the Governor, and a report of such selection to be made to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States. After such selection, the State was authorized to sell and convey the same in fee-simple. The quantity of land granted to the State under this Act was five hundred thousand acres.

Under the provisions of this Act, the State of Indiana was authorized to convey and relinquish to Ohio, upon such terms as may be agreed upon by said States, all the right and interest granted to the State of Indiana to any lands within the limits of the State of Ohio, by an Act, entitled: "An Act to grant a certain quantity of land to the State of Indiana for the purpose of aiding said State in opening a canal to connect the waters of Wabash river with those of Lake Erie, approved March 2, 1827," the State of Ohio to hold said land on the same considerations upon which it was granted to the State of Indiana, by the Act aforesaid. The Legislature of Ohio, by Act passed December 22, 1828, assented to the several provisions and conditions of the preceding Act of Congress. An Act of Congress, approved March 2, 1855, confirmed the selection of land made by the State of Ohio, under the Acts of March 2, 1827, and of May 24, 1828. Several thousand acres of lands, granted by the Acts of Congress aforesaid, were located in Wood county, and are found in the townships of Perrysburg, Lake, Ross, Webster, Freedom, Perry, Middleton, Plain, Washington and Weston. Also, one-quarter section in Milton township, and a tract of ninety-one acres in Portage township. The total quantity of land



granted to Ohio, for canal purposes, was 1,100,361 acres.

*Swamp Lands.*—The subject of worthless public lands, swamps, marshes and overflowed lands, was frequently discussed in Congress, at an early period, but no legislation was had successfully, until the Act of March 2, 1849, which applied exclusively to Louisiana. Then followed the law of September 28, 1850, extending the grant, to enable the "State of Arkansas to construct the necessary levees and drains, to reclaim the swamp and overflowed lands therein," the last section of which enlarged the grant, so as to embrace "each of the other States of the Union, in which such swamp and overflowed lands, known and designated, as aforesaid, may be situated." The reasons assigned for these donations to the several States, were the alleged worthless character of the lands, in their natural condition; the great sanitary improvement to be derived from the reclamation of extensive districts, notoriously malarial, and the probable cultivation that would follow; and the enhancement in value, and readier sale of Government lands, adjoining the same.

The above Act made it the duty of the Secretary of the Interior to make accurate lists and plats of all such lands, and transmit the same to the Governors of the several States, in which such lands might lie, and at the request of the Governor of any State, in which said swamp and overflowed lands were situated, to cause patents to be issued to said State therefor, conveying to said State the fee-simple of said land. Said Act also provided, that in making out lists and plats of the lands aforesaid, all legal subdivisions, the greater part whereof was wet and unfit for cultivation, should be included in said lists and plats; but when the greater part of a subdivision was not of that character, the whole was to be excluded therefrom.

In pursuance of said Act, on November 21, 1850, the Commissioner transmitted to the Governors of the respective States, to which the grant applied, copies of office circular, setting forth the provisions of said Act; giving instructions thereunder, and allowing the States to elect which of two methods they would adopt, for the purpose of designating the swamp lands, viz.: 1st: The Government field notes could be taken, as the basis for selection, and all lands shown by them to be swamp or overflowed, within the meaning of the Act, would pass to the States. 2d: The States could select the lands by their own agents, and report the same to the United States Surveyor-General, with proof as to the

character of the same. Ohio was one of the number of States which elected to make its selection by its own agents.

Up to and including June 30, 1883, Ohio laid claim to 54,458 $\frac{1}{8}$  acres, but, up to the same date, there had been approved and patented to said State 25,640 $\frac{1}{8}$  acres. By an Act of the Legislature of Ohio, approved March 2, 1853, the auditor of State was directed to transmit to the county auditor of each county, in which any swamp or overflowed lands were situated, a list of the same, by such description and in such divisions and subdivisions, as reported by the Secretary of the Interior to the Governor of said State of Ohio. It was also made the duty of the county commissioners of each county to appraise said lands and make return, in writing, to the county auditor; and, upon such return, the auditor was required to give notice, in some newspaper in said county, at least thirty days, that sealed proposals would be received, until the expiration of said time, for draining and reclaiming said swamp lands, in the manner specified by, and under the direction of, said county commissioners, to be paid in said lands, lying in said county, at the appraised value thereof; the bids, when opened, to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, such bidder to enter into bond, with security, for the faithful performance of his contract, which was limited to two years from the date of such contract. Upon completion of his contract, each contractor received from the county auditor of his county a certificate for the amount due him thereon, and containing an accurate description of the land to which he was entitled. Such certificate, when presented and delivered to the Governor, entitled said contractor to a deed from the State. The townships in this county containing swamp lands appropriated under this Act, are Jackson, Milton, Portage, Center, Montgomery and Webster.

*School Lands.*—The most important act of the founders of the American Republic, is the provision made for educational purposes. The first reservation, for such purposes, was made by the Congress of the Confederation, in the Ordinance of May 20, 1785, which provided that Lot No. 16, of every township shall be reserved for the maintenance of public schools, within said township. This was an endowment of 640 acres in a township of six miles square, but the manner of establishing such public schools, or by whom, was not mentioned, or pointed out. This reservation, by subsequent enactment, became perpetual. This endowment of one thirty-sixth part of the public land, was

the subject of much legislation in the years following. Whether the public schools, thus endowed by the United States, were to be under National or State control, remained a question, and the lands were held in reservation, until after the admission of Ohio into the Union. By the Act of April 30, 1802, authorizing the formation, of a State government in Ohio, Congress submitted three propositions, which were offered for the acceptance or rejection, by the convention, to form the constitution for said State, for as yet no transfers had been made by the United States of the title or control of the sixteenth section of reserved school lands; one of these propositions being, "that the section No. 16, in every township, and where such section has been sold, granted or disposed of, other lands equivalent thereto, and most contiguous to the same, shall be granted to the inhabitants of such townships, for the use of schools." This proposition was accepted by resolution, passed in convention, November 29, 1802.

An Act of Congress of March 3, 1803, contains the following: "That the following several tracts of land, in the State of Ohio, be and the same are hereby appropriated for the use of schools in that State, and shall, together with all the tracts of land heretofore appropriated for that purpose, be vested in the Legislature of that State, in trust, for the use aforesaid, and for no other use, intent or purpose whatever; that is to say: one thirty-sixth part of all the lands of the United States, lying in Ohio, to which the Indian title has not been extinguished, which may hereafter be purchased of the Indian tribes by the United States, which 36th section shall consist of the Section No. 16, in each township, if the said land shall be surveyed into townships of six miles square, and shall, if the lands be surveyed in a different manner, be designated by lots." The Legislature assumed control of all the school lands within Ohio, and enacted laws, from time to time, regarding the use and management of the same. Finally, by Act of February 1, 1826, Congress authorized Ohio to sell all or any part of the lands reserved and appropriated by Congress, for the use of schools, and to invest the money arising from such sale in some productive fund, provided said land, or any part thereof, shall in no case be sold without the consent of the inhabitants of such township or district.

After the passage of this Act, whenever it was desired to sell the school lands of any township, a special Act was obtained from the Legislature authorizing such sale, until, finally, a general Act

was passed, April 16, 1852, under which they have been sold since that time.

The provisions of the Act are cited here to show the manner of making such sales. First, it was enacted that all those lands granted by the Congress of the United States for school purposes, known as Section 16, might be sold; that in townships where no vote had previously been taken for the sale of such lands, the trustees of any original surveyed township, to which such lands belonged, should give not less than thirty days notice to the legal voters, residing in such township, to meet at a specified time and place, and cast their ballots for or against the sale of any such lands belonging to such township; if such ballot was in favor of a sale, the trustees were required to deposit one of the poll-books with the county auditor, together with a copy of the proceedings had in relation to such election. The next step necessary and requisite was for the trustees of such township to file a petition in the Common Pleas of the county, asking the court to appoint three disinterested freeholders, not residents of the township, in which the land was situate, to divide and value the same, in money. If the proceedings were found to be legal, the prayer of the petition was then granted, and three persons were appointed to divide and appraise the lands, and, if necessary, call to their aid the county surveyor; the divisions to be made into such parcels as would be best for the sale thereof. The court, upon examining the return of said appraisers, and finding their proceedings to have been regular and just, then certified the same, and ordered such proceedings to be entered of record, a copy of which was required to be filed in the office of the county auditor. The auditor then advertised said land for sale six weeks in a newspaper of the county, and by notices posted in the county, containing a description of the lands to be sold, the valuation of the same, and the time when it would be offered at public auction by said auditor at the door of the court house, at not less than the appraised value thereof; one-twelfth of the purchase money to be paid at the time of sale, and the balance in eleven annual instalments of equal amount, with annual interest thereon. The land was to be sold to the highest bidder over the appraisement, and on the terms above stated. The purchasers of the land, when having made payment in full, received from the county auditor a final certificate to that effect, and that such purchasers are entitled to receive from the State a deed in fee-simple for said land. Upon filing such certificate with the Auditor of State, a deed was pre-

pared, signed by the Governor, and delivered to the person entitled to receive it.

It is worthy of notice that the Territories which have been organized and afterward admitted as States subsequent to the admission of Ohio, were also granted the Section No. 16 in each township for school purposes, until the organization of the Territory of Oregon, in 1848, when Senator Stephen A. Douglass, of Illinois, inserted in the Act an additional grant for school purposes of Section No. 36 in each township, making the reservation for school purposes of the 16th and 36th Sections, or 1,280 acres in each township, of six miles square. Each of the States admitted since that time has had granted to it both of these sections.

*Miscellaneous Grants.*—Besides the various grants of land made by Congress to the several States and Territories, many special grants and donations of land have been made to private individuals for services rendered, a few of which we shall notice, none, however, being within the limits of Wood county, except, that under an Act passed June 4, 1832, directing that a patent or patents issue to Dr. Eliakim Crosby, for a quantity of land equal to two sections, which might be located on any of the unappropriated lands of the United States, subject to entry; a portion of the land selected lies within said county, consisting of eighty acres, in Section 17, in Webster township, and eighty acres, in Section 26, Plain township.

The first grant was an Act of the Continental Congress, August 14, 1776, offering to receive, and make citizens of, deserters from the British army, and tendering to each deserter, or his heirs, absolutely, fifty acres of unappropriated land in some one of the States. Another Act was an appropriation of one township of land, in Ohio, to Arnold Henry Dorhman, an agent for the United States at the Court of Lisbon, during the Revolutionary war. This land was located

in the Steubenville land district. During the Revolutionary war there was a force of Canadian officers and men in the army of the United States, known as "Refugees from Canada." To these were reserved three townships in Ohio, on the shores of Lake Erie, but, afterward, other lands were appropriated, in lieu thereof. In 1803, Congress directed the Secretary of War to issue land warrants to Gen. LaFayette for 11,520 acres. The land was to be located, surveyed or patented at his option, or the warrants could be received, in payment for lands, within the State of Ohio. In 1804, Congress ordered that the warrants, above granted, might be located by Gen. LaFayette, in Orleans Territory. In 1824, on the occasion of LaFayette's last visit to this country, Congress directed that \$200,000 be paid to him, and also granted to him, or his heirs, a township of land in Florida.

In closing this chapter, we deem it of interest to mention that not a few of the men, who have been prominent in National and State affairs, have held title to lands in Wood county, and some of them are yet living. Of these, we find the names of President R. B. Hayes; of the Governors of Ohio—Joseph Vance, Reuben Wood, Seabury Ford, David Tod and Charles Foster; of the Governors of Michigan—Alpheus Felch, Austin Blair and H. H. Crapo; Hon. Caleb Smith, Secretary of the Interior, under President Lincoln; Hon. M. R. Waite, Chief Justice of the United States; Senators Joshua R. Giddings and Benjamin F. Wade; Judge Joseph R. Swan; Gen. Thomas M. Keys; Hon. James Wadsworth, of Geneseo, N. Y., and his sons, Gen. James S. Wadsworth and William W. Wadsworth; Aristarchus Champion, a capitalist and banker of Rochester, N. Y.; Jesse Stone and Sumner Stone, of the State of New York; Andrew D. White, ex-president of Cornell University, and ex-minister to Germany; Lyne Starling, the founder of the City of Columbus, Ohio, besides numerous others.

## CHAPTER XXV.

GAS AND OIL FIELD—GEOLOGY AND PHENOMENA OF THE WOOD COUNTY FIELD—WELL DRILLING—VARIOUS RESULTS—PROF. ORTON ON PETROLEUM, ETC.—HISTORY OF THE INDUSTRY—DISCOVERY OF GAS—OIL WELLS—COMPANIES AND SYNDICATES—PEN SKETCH OF THE OIL BUSINESS IN WOOD COUNTY, BY JAMES O. TROUP.

THE story of the gas and oil reservoirs of Wood county, though opened only about ten years ago, is interesting to the economist as well as to the geologist of to-day. Why Nature closed in these reservoirs and kept them hidden from the oil operator for so many years, and why she continues to keep the chemist in ignorance of her oil manufacturing methods, are questions as new now as they were in 1885. Then the men of Bowling Green drilled deep into the earth to find light and heat. In 1886, the men of North Baltimore drilled deeper in search of oil. Each reaped rewards for their searches subterranean—they know they got more gas and oil than were expected, and continue to receive these presents from mother earth; but, here, knowledge ends. The enterprise of the oil man and the work of the driller tell us that oil may exist in the Trenton rock of Ohio, as it does in the sands of Pennsylvania, but whence it comes, the location of the laboratory, the substances from which it is expressed or distilled, its share in gas making, the period required for renewing the reservoirs, and many other points men desire to know, are left untold—surrendered to the speculators or guessers. In this chapter what is known of Wood county gas and oil is related, and references are made to the great wells of the county.

Throughout this field, the Trenton limestone is found, generally at the depth of 1,150 feet or about 440 below tide level. In 1886, in the North Baltimore well, No. 1, it was ascertained to be 360 feet; at Bairdstown, 315; in the Simon's well, at Bairdstown, 301 feet, and in the Bloomdale, No. 1, 360 feet below that level. The observed rock pressure in the Godsend well of Bloom township was 465 pounds to the square inch, and the calculated pressure, 473 pounds, while the specific gravity of the oil on entering the tank, was 42°, proving superior to that found in the upper fields, such as Findlay and Lima. The dead or unproductive line, as determined in

1886, was 500 feet below tide level, but there have been some exceptions to this general rule. It would not be an oil field unless the exceptions balanced or outstripped the general rule. Some of the phenomena of the field are hereafter described. In the mechanical and scientific work of converting the crude into commercial oil almost everything has been accomplished. In addition to what the Standard had done, in November, 1888, the Bradner refinery forwarded the first carload of oil refined under the Yargan process, and, within the last six years, further advances have been made toward rendering this oil very nearly equal to any on the market.

The 2,293-feet test well, on the Hager farm in Webster township, two miles east of Sugar Ridge, was drilled 735 feet, through the Trenton rock, to the salt water of the ocean. Three miles north of the Hager, a Chicago syndicate drilled a test well, finding only seven feet of Trenton rock resting on black limestone shale, hundreds of feet in thickness. In each case the god of commerce was not propitious, but the god of science was. Against such failures may be opposed the Ducat well, in Liberty township, the Foltz-farm well, near Cygnet, the Denver well, on the Chase farm, and many others, where the drillers' hopes were based on uncertainty, or the great gasser which is said to have produced hundreds of tons of gas every twenty-four hours where the drillers sought for oil.

Again, almost on the west line of the county, the oil basin proved that the drill may only locate it, and confirmed the law of uncertainty which rules. The report, speaking of the development of that field, says: During the year 1894 there were 3,001 wells completed in Ohio, it being the banner year of the field. The largest well completed during that period was that of the Kirkbride Bros., on the Jones farm, in Madison township, Sandusky county. The daily output was said to have been 20,000 barrels, but it never produced it. The well yielded 310 barrels

of oil an hour, which is equivalent to 7,440 barrels in a day of 24 hours. It was completed in October, and is said to have produced 500 barrels a day for some months after. The same firm completed a 1,200-barrel producer on the same farm. The territory where the gusher was struck had for years been considered worthless, and the wells caused much excitement.

The well drilled by C. S. Wade for S. E. Niece, on the Chase farm in Henry township, a mile and a half west of North Baltimore, known as No. 1, and one drilled 150 feet distant made a race for the oil rock, the second well striking it first, when oil answered the drill at the rate of 2,000 barrels a day, and held up a record of 1,400 barrels for 19 consecutive days. Well No. 1 then struck oil at twenty-nine feet in the Trenton, and assumed control of the production, but soon after its neighbor enticed the oil away. Then No. 1 was drilled seven feet deeper and torpedoed, when a great body of oil responded and No. 2 slept as a producer for a time. This alternate production was observed for some weeks, until No. 1 settled down at 400, and No. 2 at 300, barrels.

The drill, not the geologist, told us that oil and gas underlies large sections of Henry, Liberty, Plain, Middleton, Washington, Perrysburg, Bloom, Portage, Webster, Center, Lake, Troy, Freedom, Montgomery and Perry townships. What it may yet accomplish in its subterranean research, no man knows. Gushers and gassers, as great as any recorded, may yet answer to it, to reward enterprise and labor.

"The questions in regard to petroleum," says Prof. Orton, "have been answered in different ways, but one line of answers commends itself to us on so many grounds that it is generally accepted by all those who have the knowledge that entitles them to form an opinion. An answer that may be named only to be rejected is that petroleum and the gas derived from it are results of chemical action alone. The conditions necessary for their production, it is argued, are the presence of metallic iron, potassium and sodium, at some considerable depth within the earth, and at a white heat, and yet reached by the percolation of water derived from the atmosphere, and, therefore, holding in solution carbonic acid. It is held that chemical combination would result between the substances thus brought together by which certain compounds of the petroliferous series would be formed. It is probably true that some such results would follow under the conditions supposed, but to propose this explanation of the origin of petroleum is, to the

last degree, preposterous. Contrary to a commonly received opinion, petroleum is an abundant and very widely distributed substance. It is found, for example, in every stratum of the Ohio scale, without exception; in the shales and limestones, in a disseminated condition, sometimes recognizable only with difficulty, and in the sandstones and conglomerates in larger or smaller accumulations. All the facts point to a local origin of this series. The process must be widespread and everywhere active.

"A second answer, and the one to which, as I have stated, all properly qualified students come, is that petroleum is the result of the decomposition of living matter, either vegetable or animal. The arguments in support of this view are convincing and unanswerable. Organic substances, both in nature and under artificial conditions, pass readily into the hydro-carbon series in which petroleum belongs. Vegetable matter, wood and leaves, for example, when decaying, out of the reach of air at the bottom of ponds or lakes, or buried in the earth, give rise, as every one knows, to fire damp, or light carbureted hydrogen. Also organic substances, when subjected in closed vessels to high temperature, generate gaseous and liquid products closely allied to petroleum in its derivatives. Fish oil can be made to pass, by very slight modifications, induced by heat, into petroleum proper. The manufacture of coal gas is one of the most familiar illustrations of the possibilities in this line. Seeing that the materials for this production are so abundant in nature, and that the processes for generating at least some member of the series, are so readily brought into play, there is no necessity whatever for abandoning these explanations and inventing a far-fetched and unverifiable theory to account for the origin of gas and oil. But while all geologists accept this view of the derivation of petroleum and gas from organic substances, they entertain different notions, to some extent, upon the important question whether the change is effected by chemical decomposition at ordinary temperature, or at high temperature, arising from the invasion of sedimentary beds by dikes of molten matter from the interior of the earth, or from the mechanical strain to which strata have been subjected while being bent into mountains."

*History.*—The Drake well of Pennsylvania, drilled in 1859, must be considered the beginning of the petroleum industry, as it is known to-day. Nevins & McKeown were the first to drill expressly for oil in Pennsylvania; Colonel Drake was the first to drill for it successfully. A few years later, farmers examined every creek and well for

signs of the black grease, and, from the Susquehanna to the Maumee, echoes of oil discoveries were heard. In April, 1861, J. L. Russell brought to Perrysburg, from Rocky Ford, in Bloom township, samples of petroleum. He reported to the editor of the *Journal* that an eastern company was drilling in that vicinity. Similar reports were brought in from Middleton township; but the whole business resulted in failure, as the Pennsylvanians could not find the oil sands with which they were familiar, and had no idea of the Trenton being an oil reservoir. Excitement was not altogether quieted, for a preacher named Miller, residing where Hatton village now is, mortgaged his farm in 1862 or 1863, and moved to Pennsylvania to invest in oil lands.

Early in 1865 new ventures were made, leases recorded, and some work accomplished with the drill; but the workers did not yet comprehend the value of the Trenton, and surrendered their ideas to circumstances.

The lease of the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the east part of Sec. 30, T. 3, R. 11, was made January 16, 1865, to Andrew Klingensmith by David Wiley. That of the undivided one-half of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 19, T. 3, R. 11, was made January 16, 1865, by Samuel Bartlett to Klingensmith, and, on the same date, the S. E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 30, T. 3, R. 11, was leased by the same from John M. Wiley. Reason Whitacre states that a well was drilled on this lease, and a little gas found. Wiley placed an old gun barrel in the hole, from which gas flowed for a few years.

One of the first oil leases recorded in this county was that from Julian Bartlett to Andrew Klingensmith, on January 18, 1865. The territory leased was in Sec. 19, T. 3, R. 11, known as eighteen acres set off as a dowry to the grantor, except the house, garden and orchard thereon. On this tract, Klingensmith was empowered to explore, mine, dig, drill, or bore, for oil, salt-water and minerals until January 18, 1945, the word "minerals" meaning coal, iron, lead and every mineral of value, as an article of use or trade. Mrs. Julian Bartlett required of the grantee exact account of the products of mines or wells, but what her share of the profits or royalty was to be is not specifically given. The record shows, however, that she bound Klingensmith to be diligent in his work, the penalty for negligence or unnecessary delays being the cancellation of the lease. Before the close of January, 1865, Klingensmith assigned these leases to Michael Sarver, and, for almost twenty years, the enter-

prise of the oil men slept, so far as the Ohio field was concerned.

The lease from B. L. Peters to Wm. H. Ijams & Co. concerned the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 35, T. 3, R. 10, and the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , same section, was made January 25, 1865. Jacob Blasser leased, on January 25, 1865, to W. H. Ijams & Co., the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 35, T. 3, R. 10, and the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  in the same township.

The lease made by Henry Carrel to Parley Carlin and W. H. Ijams, January 28, 1865, concerning the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 35, T. 3, R. 10; the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 34; the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 35; and the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 35, provided that the lessees should mine and excavate for petroleum, coal, rock or carbon oil or other valuable mineral or volatile substance, giving to the first party one-eighth of minerals found.

The Perrysburg Petroleum Company was organized October 3, 1865, with the following members: W. V. Way, F. R. Miller, Jonathan Perrin, John A. Shannon, A. G. Williams, Asher Cook, Edwin Tuller, George N. Parsons, J. W. Ross and E. D. Peck. The object of the company was "to bore and dig for oil, salt and other vegetable, medicinal and mineral fluids in the earth, and for refining and purifying the same." In later years, another company was organized to develop the gas field, references to which are made in the chapter on Perrysburg village.

In the eastern part of the county a few of the more enterprising men of Freeport thought they would brave the cynics of the village by drilling for oil, and, with Austin Beck as president, J. B. Lockhart, Richard Angus, Louis Riley, David Phister and Younker, directors, and Henry Carey, driller, did explore the earth down 150 feet. Carey having gone so deep without finding oil, his partners considered further work useless and withdrew.

An editorial notice of oil development, in Wood county, appears in the *Perrysburg Journal* of June 7, 1865, in the following words: "The oil fever in this vicinity seems to be reviving, and is again in its ascendant. We are reliably informed that the lands at the mouth of Grassy creek have been leased to parties from Pennsylvania, who propose boring for oil." In July following, N. L. Besanson, of Portage, while sinking a well for his steam sawmill at Milton center, discovered oil at seventy feet. This oil burned readily, and had all the characteristics of petroleum. In October, the *Journal* warned its readers against the oil fever, in this manner:

"To every poor man we say, stand from under this humbug, it will soon fall and illustrate the old adage of 'fools and their money are soon parted.' A word to the wise is sufficient." Hall, Worman & Co. then had 400 acres in Troy, and a large acreage round Perrysburg; but the idea of clines and anti-clines, of oil channels and gas reservoirs, was not possessed by the master drillers. Below Waterville, on Ballou's farm, wells were drilled and a show of oil found.

In July, 1875, some persons discovered, in the northwestern sections of Bloom township, quantities of crude petroleum floating on the waters of a spring, and, reporting this, a number of the farmers agreed to "bore" 100 feet until the "oil spring would be struck." The result of their strong resolutions was zero; for a full decade elapsed before the true oil men drilled to the true sand.

The Bradner Natural Gas Co. was incorporated later, and drilled a well on the stove factory lot. A show of oil was found, but, like other early ventures in the field, the enterprise fell through. Messrs. Edmonds, Wise, Bort, *et al.* formed the B. & O. Refining Co., and to them the factory lot and equipment of the Bradner Gas Co. were donated; but the enterprise of the partners did not meet with success.

Gas was discovered at a depth of 242 feet, while the well at the infirmary was being drilled, in August, 1884. Enough gas was supplied for one stove, and continues down to the present time. The drillers were Andrew Byers and M. O. Ladd. Before sunrise one morning they heard the water bubbling in the well, and ran to inform Edwin Farmer of the fact. When daylight arrived, Farmer visited the well and declared it was gas, and shortly after they succeeded in lighting it and pumping from it one barrel of oil. In December, 1884, the Bowling Green Natural Gas Company was formally organized, and on January 5, 1885, organized with S. Case, J. O. Troup, R. W. McMahan, W. M. Tuller, G. C. Phelps, Earl W. Merry and C. W. Evers, directors. The last named was chosen president, with S. Case, secretary. Martin and Brownyear, who completed the Findlay well, were present, and a week or two afterward contracted for drilling, on a lot west side of Summit, and ten rods south of Clough, street, the well to be commenced by February 5. On February 9 a depth of ninety feet was reached, on the night of the 10th, 105 feet, and on the 25th, 270 feet. The *Sentinel*, noticing the gas produced at that depth, declared the smell of it would stop a clock. On Friday, March 6, 1885, the gas reservoir was struck at a depth of 1,130

feet. The well was shot at 1,250 feet on March 21, when a flow of about 400,000 feet was observed. On April 23, the second well was drilled-in, and, on May 12, shot at 1,192 feet, but consumed itself. On July 16, 1885, while Superintendent D. E. Sanger was packing the cap of well No. 1, he struck the cap (then pressed by 375 pounds of gas to the square inch), when splinters of it struck his face, tearing away the flesh and causing his death. The company issued an address to the citizens April 2, 1885, in which reference is made to the first well, then producing about 400,000 feet of gas at 400 pounds pressure, and to the new well at the north end of town, then drilling on a lot of Earl W. Merry. On March 31 gas was brought, through 475 feet of pipe, to the furnace of Hankey's planing mill, and proved its value as fuel. Later it was conducted to C. W. Evers' house, and on April 1 introduced into the mill office, where it proved its value as a heating and lighting quantity. That evening of April 1, 1885, the people of Bowling Green knew that they had entered upon a new era; but did not dream then that extravagance or waste would be punished by want, or that the natural reservoirs would be exhausted.

In the North Baltimore field, from Bairdstown to Hoytville and northward, oil men were busy leasing and drilling for oil and gas in June, 1886. On July 26, the well at Bairdstown was drilled-in, and proved a paying one.

The Simon well, four miles northeast of North Baltimore, on the Simon heirs farm, eight feet beyond Levi Simon's line, answered the drill of the Parmer Oil Company on July 30, 1886, when a strong flow of gas was struck at a depth of 1,010 feet, or twenty feet in the Trenton. The drill was kept at work some time longer, when the gas, being fired, formed a blaze seventy-five feet in height above the well's mouth. The roar of the escaping gas could be heard five miles away. Prof. Orton measured the well on August 6, 1886, and declared it to be producing 12,451,968 feet a day, or 341,968 feet more than the Findlay or Karg well. The "Godsend," in Perry, was then yielding 2,500,000, the Bairdstown 3,000,000, and the Bloomdale about 3,000,000 cubic feet a day. Think of it, 12,451,968 cubic feet of gas a day, or 275 tons weight of fuel!

On August 26, 1885, gas well No. 3, at Bowling Green, was completed, and by October, well No. 4, was finished. By the beginning of February, 1886, there were five gas wells and a sixth drilling, the five in operation yielding about 1,500,000 feet a day. The Weston well reached a depth of 1,571 feet on March 6, 1886, when a

supply of oil and gas answered the drill. It was reported that the well yielded from 50 to 80 barrels of oil, and a great quantity of gas, but in a little while it became an artesian well, producing excellent water. The R. W. McMahan well at Portage was completed March 10, 1886, when the supply was estimated at 2,000,000 cubic feet a day. The Tom Brandeberry was credited with 8,640,000 feet. The pioneer gas well on the Walter DeWitt farm, just north of Mermill, three miles from Bowling Green, was the tenth great gasser of the field. On April 7, 1887, this well was yielding about ten million cubic feet *per diem*, the gas reservoir being opened by the drill at a depth of 1,130 feet.

The ten-million-feet gas well, on the Johnson Campbell farm, three miles northeast of North Baltimore, was completed December 27, 1887. The burning Vandergrift well at Cygnet, on the Tank farm, was under control on December 1, 1887. It was drilled-in on November 24, and promised to be a 4,000-barrel gusher. That evening the gas caught fire from the engine of a north-bound passenger train. Three explosions followed, the engineer of the train received some burns, the derrick was quickly reduced to cinders and the flames from the well-mouth made summer in the neighborhood for a week. This well ceased to be a producer of oil at once, became a great gasser and is yet one.

The Perrysburg gas well, on the Slat's farm, below Waterville bridge, was completed in March, 1888, and before December 7, of that year, the municipality owned eleven gas wells, to which others were added.

*Oil Wells.*—The North Baltimore, or Henry township oil field, was the first to be developed. On December 1, 1886, the drill penetrated the Trenton rock on David Fulton's farm, on Section 14, to a depth below the mouth, of 1,194 feet. The drillers, and the Vandergrifts, who owned it, never opened a more discouraging hole, and were about abandoning work, when a resolution to go down another hundred or two hundred feet was adopted. When, at last, oil answered the drill, on December 13, the wily owners plugged the hole and let the 1,800-pound drill rest upon the plug, but the oil, like Banquo's ghost, would not down, and thus their only hope of acquiring more land, by making this well a "mystery," was defeated. On December 14 preparations were made for piping the product to Findlay, but, before this could be accomplished, thousands of barrels flowed over the land. The Fulton was recognized as a 600-barrel well, and maintained its production for a considerable time.

The Peters well was drilled-in at 1,210 feet, February 9, 1887, and, February 25, that year, Milton Taylor & Co.'s well on the Henning farm, nine hundred feet north of the Fulton well, was completed. On the 26th, when about deciding to abandon the enterprise as a dry hole, the drill penetrated the crust, the rumbling of gas and oil was heard, the fires extinguished, and presently the oil rushed through the pipes into the tanks. Forty barrels poured in in eight minutes, 200 barrels the first hour and 2,500 barrels the first twelve hours. The owners—A. E. Royce, Jesse Carothers, W. H. Smith, J. H. Sands and W. S. Coon—drilled this hole north of the great Fulton well, and were fully rewarded for their enterprise and perseverance. The Davis well, owned by the Vandergrifts, came in on February 26, and the fame of the field was heralded throughout the country. The Slaughterback, completed April 30, 1887, for Hankey Brothers, proved a 1,000-barrel producer, while Slaughterback No. 3, was drilled-in on June 28, to prove itself the peer of its great predecessor. It was said to have yielded 8,000 barrels the first day, but the official statement credits it with 4,800 barrels in twenty-two hours without being torpedoed. At the end of sixty days it was producing between 2,000 and 3,000 barrels, and down to October 1, 1887, yielded 100,000 barrels. The Taylor well, completed May 2, 1887, for Biddle & Ramsey, may be called the duplicate of the Slaughterback. The Bealer, drilled-in on May 4, yielded 1,500 barrels a day as a reward for its owners—Carothers & Snyder. The Nolan & Kennedy well, on the Eberly farm, drilled-in May 25, flowed 200 barrels, and, before the summer set in, a number of wells were reported as fair producers. The well on the Johnson Campbell farm, two and a half miles from North Baltimore, was yielding 13,000 barrels a month at the close of August, 1887. The well was drilled-in about the middle of August, but its power was not fully manifested until the tenth day, when the force of the gas sprayed the oil over the forest. Pliny Parker's well, on the Abe Fultz farm, was drilled-in August 29, 1887, and shot on August 30 with forty quarts of glycerine. The oil rose forty feet above the derrick for three hours before it was turned into the tanks, when 1,250 barrels were saved in two hours and fifteen minutes. On September 20, the Parker well No. 1, on the Fultz farm, caught fire, fatally burning Robert Johnson, the pumper. The Crocker well also caught fire, sending up a blaze to a height of one hundred and fifty feet, and destroying much property.

The Campbell well, in Bloom, which opened



with an extraordinary production, fell to 3,000 barrels a day by January 1, 1888, and continued to decline. Toward the close of 1888, the well on the Solether farm, near Jerry City, was drilled. The Sutherland followed, and a great field was opened. Toward the close of 1887, the pipe lines refused to accept more than one-third of the daily production of Wood county oil, and, as a result, the gassy wells, which could not be shut in by the casing process, produced thousands of barrels of oil, which, in the absence of tanks, flowed into the streams and thence to the lake. The wells mentioned are only a few of the pioneer greasers of this county. The Franks, drilled in at 1,077 feet for the Vandergrifts, on August 27, 1886, showed only 100 barrels, but fifty or sixty similar ventures with a like production added to the popularity of the field, and removed the work of drilling from the region of speculation. Many companies were organized in 1887. The Wood County Oil & Gas Co., of which J. R. Hankey, J. H. Sands, L. Black, J. O. Troup, S. Case, W. T. Reese and Dr. William Tuller were incorporators, was one of the leading industrial associations of the time. The field was not wanting in surprises, either. A phenomenon of the field was noticed in August, 1888, when the old Stockwell hole, drilled in August, 1887, was producing 125 barrels of red oil. It was purchased by Laney, who plugged the hole with iron siftings and next day found a clear crude, free from the red substance.

The North Baltimore field, in June, 1888, showed the following producers: Conroy, Duke & Myers, 5 wells; Associated Producer's Co., 6; Hazelwood Oil Co., 8; F. H. Rockwell, Miller & Co., 13; Sherman Oil Co., 7; United Gas & Oil Trust, 10; J. H. Van Wormer & Co., 7; Forest Oil Co., 6; Smith & Ziegler, 14; Hankey, Sands & Co., 8; Syndicate Oil Co., 5, and Wm. Fleming, 8.

Progress did not cease here. On May 12, 1889, it was reported that Barnd No. 1, at North Baltimore, struck an ocean of oil which poured out at the rate of 10,000 barrels a day. The showing would certainly favor such a report, but the catch was many thousand barrels below the number stated. It was enough, however, to re-attract attention to the old field, and win back many operators who had left to seek new and less productive pastures.

The Ducat well on the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, Liberty township, was completed May 20, 1888, for Collins and Potter. Being unprepared for anything extraordinary, they saw a production estimated at 5,000 barrels *per diem* going to

waste, nor was the flow controlled for several days. Early in July, it was said that no less than 10,000 barrels of oil, mostly from the Ducat well, floated on the waters of the Portage. On June 4th or 5th, the oil was fired, and soon a stream of fire four miles long and thirty feet high presented itself to the sightseers. In October, the Pernot Brothers struck a 3,000-barrel producer in Liberty township, south of the Big Ducat, and down to the present time the Liberty fields offers surprises to the lucky or plucky drillers.

The seventy-four wells in Liberty township, on July 1, 1888, were producing 20,000 barrels a day. The great Slaughterback well in Henry township, produced 75,000 barrels down to July 1, 1888, when it fell to a small well, having earned about \$15,000. The Amazon Oil Co. leased lands on the McCrory farm, and in April, 1888, finished No. 1 on that farm as a 500-barrel well, which it continued about a year, and is now a five-barrel well.

In July, 1888, oil was pumped from Cygnet to South Chicago, a distance of 306 miles, at the rate of little over twenty-six miles a day, or about a mile an hour for a nine-days' trip. Cygnet is 330 feet above the level of South Chicago. The 8-inch line of the National Transit Co. holds 65,000 barrels, so that with the lights of 1880, oil could only make a military march to Lake Michigan.

The Standard Oil Co. had 12,000 acres in Bloom, 7,000 in Perry, 3,000 in Portage, and 1,000 acres in Webster and Center at the close of 1888, when their great oil well on the Saylor farm, in Liberty township, came in, which was first reported to be a 6,000-barrel producer. Since that time other great companies have acquired immense tracts, large areas of which are held for future development. Down to August 10, 1888, the Standard Oil Co. had forty-three 35,000-barrel tanks in Wood county, and others building at the rate of two a week. It was then the purpose of the company to locate no less than seventy-five of such tanks between Cygnet and Oil Center on what is known as "Tank Farm."

The Delaney well, on the Mercer farm, produced 100,000 barrels during the fourteen months ending December 1, 1888, and continued, for some time, a 200-barrel producer. This well was yielding forty barrels in June, 1895, for its first owners. In 1889 a well drilled in the town of North Baltimore by B. A. Lawrence, started with a production of 400 barrels a day, and led to wholesale drilling until the council prohibited

further work. The oil men then sought a field for their enterprise on Sections 27 and 28, and were fully rewarded with great producers.

The Bradner Oil Co. took the lead in the development of the Freeport field, making leases on a cash royalty of four cents on a barrel. The well on the Fralick farm, Sec. 3, Montgomery township, may be considered the first heavy producer. Drilled late in 1889, it responded as a fifty-barrel hole, and led the way to the drilling of twelve more before May 1, 1890, in Sections 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11 and 15—all of which became known as sixty- and seventy-barrel wells. The rock is found at from 1,185 to 1,200, and oil at from fifteen to thirty feet in it, or about 500 feet below sea level, and from fifty to seventy feet above the dead line. The Paragon Co. drilled on the Risingsun farm for the corporation, to a depth of 1,218 feet, but found neither gas nor oil, though later and more fortunate drillers were successful in that field.

The Palmer Oil Company's well in Section 21, Portage township, yielded 250,000 barrels prior to the close of 1890, and was then flowing 150 barrels a day. It was one of the notable wells which made the township famous in oildom.

The Brown Oil Co. struck a 7,000-barrel well on the South  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the Northwest  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 23, Plain, in 1892, flowed for three or four months, running 250 barrels in twenty-seven minutes at the beginning, and settling down gradually until it became known as a seventy-barrel well in 1895. In July of this year, it was drilled deeper, torpedoed and improved.

The developments were not confined to Henry, Bloom and Portage townships very long. In 1889, and particularly in the spring of 1890, the stampede to Freeport was in progress, and, on every side of Montgomery township, and even north of the township line, the country was in the hands of the oil operator and driller. The completion of a well near Freeport, in March, 1890, which flowed 210 barrels in two hours, caused the great stampede, and, before the close of November, no less than 400 wells were completed, and many more commenced within the boundaries of Montgomery. Within the town of Freeport, 120 derricks were raised, and for some time the place was an oil city of considerable importance. Then the production began to fall by degrees, not to be raised again until the busy days of 1895.

In the old sections of the oil field, new surprises were appearing, and operators returned to their earlier hunting grounds.

The Haskins or "Sucker Rod" field, modern

in its development, has shown wonderful staying qualities. The field presents some strange phenomena, its direct line, as if following a river of oil, being not the least remarkable.

The Jerry City field came in during 1895 as one of the most progressive in the county. Front and back yards were given up to the driller, and the small boy, in hundreds of instances, could climb from the window of his sleeping room to dizzy derrick heights.

The Ohio Oil Co.'s well, on the Reese farm, a mile northwest of the great Kirkbride, was completed May 16, 1895, at sixty-seven feet in oil rock. At fifteen feet it yielded at the rate of fifty barrels a day; but the drillers, re-starting the tools, drilled fifty-two feet below, when the well gave 100 barrels an hour. On the next day it settled down to 50 barrels an hour. Whether it will fall as suddenly as did its predecessors—the Hollister, McMurray, Kirkbride, Baker and Delaware, in the Woodville field, has yet to be ascertained. The Corning Oil Co.'s well on the Philip Hartman farm, Sec. 12, Troy township, which flowed 220 barrels in the first half day, the Mountler Bros., 100-barrel well on the Rex farm, in Sec. 36, and their well on the Linker farm, in Sec. 25; the Westerman well on the Kohring farm, in Sec. 35; Plummer's well, in Sec. 25; the wells on Foster and Baker farms, in Secs. 12 and 13, Troy, and the Rock Oil Co.'s wells, in Sec. 2, Lake, with the ventures in Ross township, show the advance of the field.

In the Haskins or Sucker-rod field, the Marschka & Brannigan well No. 12, on the Emerick farm, Sec. 34, Middleton township, a 600-barrel producer, was completed early in June, 1895, while Barnes, Wittmer & Watt's well, No. 7, on Sec. 27, Hoag farm, came in as a 150-barrel well. Later, in June, the Pennell, Pitcher, Camp and Hodge well, on the Shadd farm, 2,500 feet west of Haskins village, struck oil rock at 1,198 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet, oil at 1,223 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet, and further pay-rock at 1,268 $\frac{1}{2}$  feet. This extension was calculated on the ground that the pay channel passed west of Haskins, under the river and through Waterville. The drilled declared in favor of this calculation, and a great well resulted.

Early in June, 1895, Munn's No. 1, on the Eberly farm, Sec. 7, Portage, and Fowler Bros'. No. 2, on the Hibbard farm, Sec. 36, same township, were drilled in and proved paying wells.

The North Baltimore field was holding its reputation in June, 1895, when the Carrothers, on the Lewis farm, Sec. 34; the L. D. Langmade, No. 5, on the Bushong farm, Sec. 33,

and Wallace & Coon's No. 6, Henning farm, Sec. 14, Henry township, with the Ohio Oil Company's No. 7, on the Welton farm, Sec. 35, and W. H. Milliken's No. 11, on the McKee farm, Sec. 28, Liberty township, came in as good producers.

The year 1895 was a memorable one in oil circles generally, and particularly in those of Wood county. The Sun Oil Company struck two great wells in the Risingsun field, while westward to Haskins large wells were reported weekly. From the report dated December 27, 1895, it is learned that there were 1,786 new wells completed in Wood county, 568 in Hancock, 189 in Allen, 749 in Auglaize, 1,132 in Sandusky, 41 in Lucas, 648 in Mercer, and Ottawa, Hardin, Wyandot, Logan, Van Wert, Henry, Paulding, Williams, Putnam, Defiance, Fulton, Shelby and Darke. Of these numbers there were 200 dry holes in Wood county, 98 in Hancock, 48 in Allen, 104 in Auglaize, 99 in Sandusky, 18 in Lucas, 76 in Mercer, and 187 in the miscellaneous counties. The new production for the year credits Wood county with 39,840 barrels daily; Hancock, 10,778; Allen, 2,512; Auglaize, 12,730; Sandusky, 27,268; Lucas, 715; Mercer, 9,422; miscellaneous counties, 5,010.

In the counties named 22,960 wells have been completed (down to December, 1895), at an average cost of \$2,000 each, or a total of \$45,920,000, to say nothing of the millions of dollars invested in pipe lines, pumping stations and buildings of all sorts. This number of wells is proportioned as follows: Wood, 7,897; Hancock, 3,291; Allen, 1,605; Auglaize, 3,046; Sandusky, 3,752; Lucas, 201; Mercer, 1,834; miscellaneous, 1,334. These wells were completed by years as follows: Prior to 1890, 7,355; in 1890, 2,151; 1892, 1,465; 1893, 1,877; 1894, 3,001; 1895, 5,559. Of the 22,960 wells, 3,560 were worthless for oil, but many of them were good gassers.

The extraordinary development of 1895 will compare favorably with the best days of the field. From a point below Haskins to the extremes of the old fields, the driller was at work day and night, and derricks appeared everywhere even as far east as the Krotzer farm in Freedom, and north through Troy and Lake townships into Ross township. The increase in the value of oil must be credited with this extraordinary activity, for, at the price ruling in 1894, there was little prospect for profit, even where a venture to turn out a fair producer. The increased value of Wood county oil gave drilling a fair commercial chance in which a good well on one lease would compensate for the water well or dry hole en-

countered in the search on another lease. It led many men to enter dangerous territory and win success therein; others it led beyond the boundaries described by the oil man's instinct, to lose money, time and labor which they invested in the prospect.

Below are given some extracts from a paper on the subject, prepared by James O. Troup, Esq., of Bowling Green:

"Recurring to the oil business, its magnitude in Wood county is shown by the following figures, which, though given in 'round numbers,' are substantially correct. There have been drilled in the county for oil and gas 9,000 wells. There are now in operation 5,500 oil wells. The production of the county up to this date (September, 1896) is 50,000,000 barrels. The present daily production is 30,000 barrels. In searching for and producing oil within the county there have been expended \$18,000,000. The capital at present invested in the business of producing is from \$11,000,000 to \$12,000,000. The writers have been unable to ascertain the exact number of employes in the business within the county, but it is in excess of 2,500, and the average wages paid to them is about \$75 per month. The average royalty paid to the land owner is about one-seventh of the gross production. This, at the present rate of production, and the present price of oil, means a monthly payment to land-owners of \$72,000. Add to this a monthly payroll of \$20,000, and we have from the oil-producing business alone \$92,000 paid out monthly, or \$1,093,000 annually, and finding its way among the people of the county.

"Thus far we have said nothing about the business of transporting and marketing the oil. The transportation of crude oil is a distinct and important industry. It is carried on in this field by means of railway tank cars, and by means of pipe lines. We shall speak only of the latter. There are several pipe-line companies in this field, the Buckeye Pipe Line Company doing far the largest business. For that reason, its method of transportation will be briefly described, as an illustration of how the business is carried on. It is not, as is often supposed, a purchaser or dealer in oil, but only a common carrier, storing and transporting oil, and charging a certain price per barrel for storage and pipeage.

"It has in this county a central pumping station located on the T. & O. C. railway about 10 miles south of Bowling Green. It has also 25 district stations located at different points in the county, with pipe lines extending from these to the tanks at the various wells in the respective dis-

tricts, and to storage tanks hereafter described. When a tank is filled and steamed, if steaming be necessary, the owner notifies the company's gauger for the district. If the gauger finds the oil in a condition for marketing, he gauges the tank, and the oil is run into the company's line. When the run is made he again gauges the tank, which is never entirely emptied. By this means he ascertains the exact quantity of oil run into the line, even to the 1-100th part of a barrel, and reports the run at the company's office. The royalty interest is entered upon the company's books to the credit of the land owner, and the remainder, called the 'working interest,' is entered to the credit of the well owner. Either party may sell his oil at once, or hold so long as he is willing to pay storage. Whenever a party desires to sell his oil he sends to the company's office a sale order, and receives in return a check for the market price, less charges for storage and pipeage. The ease, convenience and safety to the owner, of this method of marketing his oil, are obvious. From the district pumping station the oil is pumped to the company's storage tanks, of which it has over 300 in this county. All but six of these are located in the neighborhood of the central pumping station. These tanks are cylindrical in form, made of boiler iron or steel, and have an average capacity of 30,000 barrels. A dyke is thrown up around each tank. The object is to confine the oil in the space between the tank and the dyke in case of accident to the tank.

"That portion of the county covered by the oil field is a network of district pipe lines. Those of the Buckeye Pipe Line Company amount to over 500 miles, being more than sufficient to lay a continuous line from Nashville to Detroit. The main pumping station is said to be one of the largest in the world. By means of it the oil is

pumped from the storage tanks above mentioned, westward to Chicago, and eastward to the seaboard. The oil flows west through two 5-inch lines and one 6-inch line as far as Lima, and thence to Chicago through two 8-inch lines. Those who visited Machinery Hall at the World's Fair, and observed its immense battery of boilers, will be interested to know that the oil used under them for fuel came through these lines. Eastward the oil is forced through two 8-inch lines via Cleveland to Olean, N. Y., and thence, by different lines, to New York city and Philadelphia. On these lines, both east and west, there are relay pumping stations at necessary intervals. The capacity of the western line is 32,000 barrels, and that of the eastern line 35,000 barrels daily. The amount run daily at the present time is about 15,000 barrels west, and 30,000 barrels east. As the total is 15,000 barrels more than the daily production of Wood county, it is necessary to state that the production of Hancock, Sandusky and Wyandot counties is collected into the storage tanks in this county. The rate of the current in these lines depends, of course, upon the amount of oil forced through them and upon the diameter of the line. Ordinarily the speed in the 8-inch line is two miles per hour, increasing in the smaller lines to five miles per hour. The pressure upon the lines is enormous, and varies inversely with the diameter of the line. In the 8-inch line, and at the speed above given, the pressure is about 1,000 pounds to the square inch. The company has its private telegraph stations and telegraph lines throughout the field, and extending from the field to its principal offices both east and west.

"The capital invested in the storage and transportation of oil from Wood county is not less than \$10,000,000."

## CHAPTER XXVI.

### ASSESSMENT AND CENSUS STATISTICS—AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS—STATISTICS OF POPULATION—DECENNIAL CENSUS.

THE chapters devoted to political and educational affairs contain very complete statistics relating to voters and school children, while that on the Transactions of the Commissioners deals more or less exten-

sively with tax levies and financial affairs. Here, the assessed value of property, at stated periods, and the tax levied thereon are given, with figures on the products of the farm. The most important section of the chapter is that which deals

with the population. It differs from the assessment and agricultural statistics, in the fact of its authenticity. Though the former figures are summarized from State reports, they do not agree with true values or quantities, while it is known that the Census returns cover, practically, the number of inhabitants found in the county at the close of each decade, beginning with that ending in June, 1820.

*Assessment Statistics.*—The assessed value of real and personal property, within its boundaries, of 1826, was \$88,886, of which \$40,704 was assessed on lands, \$23,230 on town lots, and \$24,952 on personal property. The respective assessments, in 1830, were \$38,158, \$27,222 and \$15,884, or a total of \$81,264. In 1840, the assessment was increased to \$577,999, the lands being assessed at \$229,673, town lots at \$216,244, and personal property at \$62,082. The assessment for 1850 shows a total of \$1,195,183, the lands being assessed at \$890,736. This was increased, by 1860, to \$3,406,418, the lands amounting to \$2,353,142, town lots to \$253,100, and personal property to \$800,176.

In 1870, the total assessed value was \$4,737,217; of which land values were placed at \$2,621,271, and personal property at \$1,809,690. The valuation by townships, in 1871, is given as follows: Perrysburg, \$1,341,402; Weston, \$617,507; Middleton, \$434,520; Portage, \$259,403; Perry, \$48,692; Montgomery, \$493,814; Freedom, \$332,979; Troy, \$322,225; Liberty, \$363,039; Center, \$385,005; Bloom, \$438,451; Plain, \$518,972; Milton, \$454,524; Henry, \$257,227; Washington, \$450,893; Jackson, \$217,671; Lake, \$544,728; Webster, \$291,082, or a total of \$8,272,134.

The Act of April 26, 1872, authorized a one-mill tax, for township purposes, where the valuation does not exceed \$200,000, eight-tenths of a mill, where not in excess of \$300,000, one-half a mill, where the valuation does not exceed \$500,000, and one-fourth of a mill, where the assessed value is above the half-million mark.

In 1872, the valuation of 1870 was almost doubled, when the total assessment reached \$8,444,061, of which lands were valued at \$5,675,274, and personal property at \$2,253,740. In 1877, there were 391,585 acres of land valued at \$5,774,520, town lots valued at \$891,010, chattel property at \$3,112,640, or a total of \$9,778,170, on which a State tax of \$28,356.69 was levied, and a local tax for all purposes amounting to \$162,198.05, or a total tax of \$190,554.74, including \$49,741.40 for school purposes.

The assessed valuation, in 1890, was \$16,-

339,950, on which a tax of \$351,766.22 (exclusive of the one-dollar tax on 2,893 dogs) was levied, the total of county and local tax being \$271,705.39. The assessed value of real and personal property, in 1893, was \$19,266,790, the State tax, \$52,983.67, and the total tax (except the one-dollar tax on 3,124 dogs, and two-dollar tax on 114 female dogs), \$555,906.44. The actual tax levy for county purposes was \$385,775.89, being county, bridge-building, indigent soldiers' fund, road debts, township school—\$115,057.42; special, \$34,732; city and village, \$53,147.07; but neither poor nor miscellaneous taxes.

According to the State reports, there were 385,970 acres of land assessed in 1893, at \$9,486,130, with real estate in towns and villages assessed at \$2,655,250, and personal property in townships and towns at \$7,125,410, or a total of \$19,266,790, being about the ninety-first part of the assessed value of the State, \$1,752,990,930. The true total for Wood county, on a marketable basis, might be ascertained by multiplying the given assessed value by four. The total State tax levied in 1893, on a basis of 2½ mills, amounted to \$52,983.67; the county and local taxes amounted to \$385,775.89; the dog tax to \$3,388; and delinquent taxes of 1893 and former years, \$117,146.88, bringing the total up to \$559,294.44.

The assessment, which is the only official or legal document upon which to base the value of property, may be said to be only 25 *per centum* of the true value, so that, in times of ordinary prosperity, Wood county is valued for about seventy-seven million dollars.

*Agricultural Products.*—The production of grain, etc., in Wood county, from 1888 to 1892, is shown as follows:

|                   | 1888      | 1889      | 1890      | 1891      | 1892      |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Wheat.....        | 618,529   | 610,601   | 417,535   | 802,827   | 556,859   |
| Rye.....          | 67,033    | 98,463    | 36,038    | 41,244    | 24,176    |
| Buckwheat....     | 2,566     | 3,860     | 6,727     | 2,764     | 2,974     |
| Oats.....         | 815,896   | 829,471   | 471,724   | 635,603   | 514,925   |
| Barley.....       | 27,264    | 62,972    | 47,873    | 36,815    | 18,449    |
| Corn.....         | 2,779,229 | 1,908,214 | 1,607,937 | 2,075,381 | 1,515,235 |
| Hay (tons)...     | 17,937    | 20,341    | 26,314    | 23,231    | 29,403    |
| Clover hay (tons) | 8,383     | 14,702    | 13,833    | 14,375    | 10,878    |
| Clover seed....   | 15,080    | 19,092    | 8,479     | 5,149     | 3,345     |
| Flax fiber (lbs.) | 61        | 1,500     |           |           |           |
| Flax seed (bu.)   | 236       | 61        |           |           | 20        |
| Tobacco (lbs.)    |           |           | 280       | 125       |           |
| Potatoes.....     | 161,386   | 169,389   | 89,651    | 175,748   | 82,114    |
| Wool.....         | 164,145   | 80,091    | 123,156   | 120,066   | 120,894   |

In 1894, there were 30,752 sheep, while, in 1895, the auditor of State credits the county with

only 24,816 sheep of the 3,005,403 credited to the State.

The assessed value of live stock is given as follows: In 1893, there were 12,349 horses valued at \$486,270; 15,328 cattle, valued at \$198,220; 196 mules, at \$6,380; 31,917 sheep, at \$66,180, and 17,005 hogs, at \$63,180. The figures for 1894 and 1895 will not vary very much from these just given. While the county has not really felt the effects of the financial depression of 1893-95, so prevalent outside the oil fields, the shadow of that depression was visible, darkening enterprise, and postponing, to a certain extent, private and public improvements.

The tax levy authorized by the commissioners in June, 1894, shows 2 mills for current expenses of the county, 2.05 mills for county bridge purposes, 2 mills for building court house, and .10 of a mill for relief of indigent soldiers. The finances for the year ending September 3, 1894, so far as the funds which the commissioners control are concerned, are given as follows: Current expense fund, \$47,365.73; county bridge fund, \$20,080; county building fund, \$1,840; recorder's fee fund, \$689.20; new court house fund, \$101,290.67; special dog fund, \$4,183.15; county infirmary fund, \$18,245.20; and soldiers' relief fund, \$4,019.20. Of the total sum, the expenditures amounted to \$140,145.44. The township, ditch and school taxes are not considered in the commissioners' report, but it may be said that they exceed the total of the general taxes. The county has a good deal to show for its annual expenditures—good roads, great drainage canals, a magnificent new court house, valuable infirmary property, and well-kept records.

*Statistics of Population.*—In 1860, there were only 1,411 males and 1,031 females of foreign birth of the total population of 17,886. The native population, in 1870, was 21,445; in 1880, 30,170, and in 1890, 40,066. The foreign population, in 1870, was 3,151; in 1880, 3,852; and in 1890, 4,326. The figures given for the natives include 43 Africans in 1870; 132 in 1880; and 187 in 1890, as well as four natives of China. Of the native-born residents, in 1890, 21,171 were males, and 18,895, females; while, of the foreign-born residents, 2,528 were males, and 1,798, females. In 1890, there were 9,344 dwellings and 9,604 families in the county, giving 4.75 souls to a dwelling and 4.62 to each family. Bowling Green had 786 dwellings for 797 families, and North Baltimore, 546 dwellings for 608 families. The number of males in the

county, between the ages of five and twenty years, was 7,851, of females, 7,359; and of males, twenty-one years and over, 10,528, or very nearly one-fourth of the total population. The distribution of population is 74.2 to the square mile, or one inhabitant for every 8.62 acres. The capacity of the county for sustaining a population bears about the same relation as its assessed value does to its true value. With four persons to 8.62 acres, or 296.8 to every square mile, the country would not be overtaxed, though, in the light of latter-day wants, many of the inhabitants would have to forget luxuries, which they now enjoy, and all would have to give more labor and more attention to agriculture. With manufacturing industries in number, the farming community of Wood county, increased to the maximum given, would become the wealthiest in Ohio.

*Decennial Census.*—The population of the original county, in 1820, was 733, but as the territory embraced a large part of northwestern Ohio, not more than one-third that number of white persons resided within its present limits. In 1830, before Lucas was detached, the population was 1,102; in 1840, within the present limits, 5,357; in 1850, 9,157; in 1860, 17,886; in 1870, 24,596; in 1880, 34,022; and in 1890, 44,392.

| TOWNSHIPS AND VILLAGES.                         | 1840  | 1850  | 1860   | 1870   | 1880   | 1890   |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Bloom township, in. villages .....              | 437   | 658   | 1,198  | 1,804  | 2,022  | 3,384  |
| Bloomdale village .....                         | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 130    | 519    |
| Cygnut village .....                            | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | .....  | 870    |
| Balrdstown village .....                        | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | .....  | 347    |
| Jerry City, in Bloom .....                      | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 124    | 251    |
| Jerry City, in Portage .....                    | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 109    | 279    |
| Center Tp., in part of Bowling Green .....      | 97    | 357   | 802    | 1,331  | 2,023  | 3,370  |
| Bowling Green, in Center .....                  | ..... | ..... | .....  | 471    | 792    | 1,878  |
| Bowling Green, in Plain .....                   | ..... | ..... | .....  | 435    | 747    | 1,589  |
| Freedom township, in. villages .....            | 238   | 454   | 971    | 1,089  | 1,997  | 1,945  |
| Pemberville village .....                       | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 644    | 844    |
| Grand Rapids township, including .....          | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | .....  | 1,021  |
| Grand Rapids village .....                      | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 332    | 872    |
| Henry township, in. village .....               | 213   | 321   | 454    | 685    | 1,068  | 4,496  |
| North Baltimore village .....                   | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 701    | 2,857  |
| Jackson township .....                          | 26    | 74    | 144    | 347    | 1,028  | 1,587  |
| Hoytville village .....                         | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | .....  | 306    |
| Lake township, in. village .....                | ..... | 152   | 551    | 1,120  | 2,207  | 2,131  |
| Millbury village .....                          | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 483    | 546    |
| Liberty township, in. 1-2 Portage village ..... | 215   | 236   | 635    | 965    | 1,232  | 2,013  |
| Portage village, part of .....                  | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 119    | 162    |
| Portage village, in Portage .....               | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 185    | 276    |
| Middleton township, in. villages .....          | 193   | 331   | 652    | 1,221  | 1,606  | 2,090  |
| Haskins village .....                           | ..... | ..... | .....  | 243    | 381    | 321    |
| Milton Tp. (Milton and Weston, 1840) .....      | 539   | 244   | 675    | 1,464  | 2,181  | 2,287  |
| Milton Center .....                             | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 108    | 354    |
| Custar .....                                    | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 248    | 325    |
| Montgomery township, in. villages .....         | 609   | 922   | 1,575  | 1,636  | 2,283  | 2,856  |
| Bradnerville .....                              | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 281    | 441    |
| Risingun village .....                          | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 344    | 485    |
| Freeport, in. in township number .....          | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | .....  | .....  |
| Perry township, in. villages .....              | 569   | 898   | 1,232  | 1,323  | 1,474  | 1,449  |
| West Millgrove .....                            | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 222    | 307    |
| Perrysburg township, in. Perrysburg .....       | 1,041 | 1,779 | 2,834  | 4,100  | 4,112  | 4,121  |
| Perrysburg city .....                           | 1,199 | 1,491 | 1,835  | 1,909  | 1,909  | 1,747  |
| Plain township, in. Bowling Green .....         | 272   | 492   | 1,300  | 1,719  | 1,985  | 2,673  |
| Bowling Green, in Plain .....                   | ..... | ..... | .....  | 435    | 747    | 1,589  |
| Bowling Green, in Center .....                  | ..... | ..... | .....  | 471    | 792    | 1,878  |
| Portage township, in. half of village .....     | 199   | 403   | 853    | 1,069  | 1,434  | 2,328  |
| See villages in Bloom and Liberty Tps .....     | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | .....  | .....  |
| Troy township .....                             | 333   | 556   | 896    | 1,057  | 1,407  | 1,803  |
| Washington township, in. village .....          | 244   | 504   | 839    | 1,321  | 1,426  | 1,212  |
| Tontogany village .....                         | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 343    | 283    |
| Webster township .....                          | ..... | 237   | 674    | 922    | 1,197  | 1,420  |
| Weston township, in. village .....              | ..... | 546   | 1,359  | 1,833  | 2,351  | 1,558  |
| Weston village (in. in Milton, 1840) .....      | ..... | ..... | .....  | .....  | 686    | 845    |
| Total .....                                     | 5,357 | 9,157 | 17,886 | 24,596 | 34,022 | 44,392 |

## CHAPTER XXVII.

### BOWLING GREEN.

PREAMBLE—SETTLEMENT AND NOMENCLATURE [FROM THE PEN OF C. W. EVERS]—EARLY TRADERS—REMINISCENCES OF MRS. J. A. SHANNON—BUSINESS CIRCLES, 1866-1876—SCHOOLS—MODERN BUILDINGS—MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS—FIRE DEPARTMENT—GAS COMPANY—AN EXPLOSION—BOWLING GREEN'S PIONEER RAILROAD—CHURCHES—CEMETERIES—MISCELLANEOUS SOCIETIES.

THE seat of justice of Wood county, near its geographical center, is admirably located for the purposes of trade and commerce, as well as for the administration of county affairs. Two railroad lines, with their branches, bring the town within forty minutes' ride of the southern and northern townships, while a stone road, running east, insures to the people of Center and adjoining townships a good thoroughfare at all seasons, and easy access to this central trading place.

Prior to 1870, the present busy town was a quiet hamlet. In that year the Census enumerator found 906 inhabitants there. Ten years after there were 1,539 inhabitants credited to the corporation, while in 1890, no less than 3,467 residents were reported. The population in the fall of 1895 was alleged to exceed 4,000. Basing the number of inhabitants on the number of voters (911 votes cast for candidates for commissioner) in November, 1895, the population, at that date, must have been a little above the 4,000 mark. In 1890 there were 786 dwelling houses in the town for the 797 families reported. Within the past six years many modern houses have been built, bringing the total up to 1,000 dwellings, few, if any, of which are tenantless. The construction of business houses has been carried on, until now the business center extends from Mt. Ararat northward to a point near the last location of John M. Hannon's pioneer tavern.

A reference to the chapters on Plain and Center townships will show the order in which the Martindales, Thurstins, Moores, Hollingtons, Shivelys, Walkers, Stauffers, Richards, Tracys, Hartmans, Booths, Mackies, Manvilles, St. Johns, and other pioneer families settled on or near the site of the present town of Bowling Green. The chapters named will also present to the reader the story of pioneer days in this vicinity, the

names of the men and women who ventured down from Mt. Ararat to clear the wilderness and make it ready for their children; of the men who converted it into the most favored land in Ohio, and of the stern, honest fellows who governed the two little republics from which the town of Bowling Green was detached in 1855.

In this chapter it is proposed to deal with the settlement as well as with the social and commercial development of the area within the limits of the corporation. Legends and records have been compelled to enter the service of the chroniclers, and every measure that care could suggest has been taken to insure accuracy; so that this pleasant and prosperous town may be given a chapter complete in historical details and authentic in every particular. The introductory to the story of the village, written by C. W. Evers, in September, 1895, and published in the *Tribune*, tells of settlement and nomenclature.

The first time white men came to disturb the forest solitudes where Bowling Green now stands, was in June, 1812, when Hull's army passed here, marching from Dayton to Detroit. That column of troops, preceded by guides, scouts and axemen, followed in turn by the cavalry battalion, with its gaudy pennons, escorting the commanding general, with his gaily uniformed staff retinue; then the infantry, field bands, artillery and trains formed a pageant which even to-day would attract all Bowling Green to the east side of town, about where the T. & O.C. railway track lies. That is about on the line the troops held, until near Ridge street, when they turned a little to the west, coming out on the Maumee nearly opposite Waterville. That was the first wagon trail through the interior of Wood county, and the only one for the two succeeding decades. The land was then owned by the Indians. After the war, in 1817, at a treaty at the Foot of the Maumee Rapids, described elsewhere in these pages, the United States bought the land, at a price slightly less than four cents an acre, and in 1819 sent surveyors here, which was the second appearance of white men on official business. In 1821 the final surveys were completed, and the plats made, when the lands were ready for market.

Unfortunately the Black-Swamp country, after the war of 1812, had a worse reputation, if possible, than ever; the soldiers and others who had been here told horrible stories about it. Few buyers of land came none to the interior of the county. Those who stopped invariably located on or near

the river; so that, aside from roving parties of Indian hunters and occasional white fur-traders, or the weekly trips of the old Bellefontaine mail carrier, the interior of the county was practically unknown, and shunned by settlers for more than a decade after its survey. Prior to the year 1828, Collister Haskins, at Portage, was the only settler between Findlay and the Maumee settlement. Some few entries were made in Plain and Center in 1831, as noticed in the histories of those townships, but the pioneer entry in the present corporation was made October 29, 1832, by Elisha Martindale; the tract, forty acres, in the northwest part of the town, described as the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 24, Plain, lying on both sides of Haskins road or street, is known now as the Clinton Fay place. Martindale later bought 120 acres more; he built his cabin, where the present "Fay House" stands, near the great willow tree, just west of the road, the following spring, 1833. Careful inquiry has failed to discover evidence of any cabin here prior to that date; Lee Moore, Henry Walker, Jacob Stauffer and others came and built in the summer and fall of 1833. Alfred Thurstin began his cabin in November, 1833, as did Joseph Hollington, Sr.; but so far as known the Martindale cabin was the first, and stood on the first land entry, in what is now Bowling Green.

Dropping now the order of dates of entry, we will begin in the south part of town, west side, and note the names of early Main street owners. Next north of what is called the Joseph Bender road, S. E. of Sec. 30, a quarter section was entered by Joseph Hollington, Sr., August 5, 1833; later called the Tooker farm. The N. E. corner of this tract is on Main street, opposite the Napoleon road, which latter is on half section line instead of section line, as believed by many. The next entry was by Benjamin Reed, the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30, Plain, extending north to Pearl street. This tract was afterward sold to Samuel and J. M. Lamb. Still north, between Pearl and Wooster streets, the half of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 24, Plain, cornering at Gaghan's block, was purchased in the name of Stephen Ward, April 18, 1833, and afterward sold to Thomas Tracy; it is the second oldest entry in the corporation. North of Main street, still in Sec. 24, Plain, Henry Walker entered forty acres, November 25, 1833, and in June following all the balance of the Main-street frontage, to the Poe road, which is the section line. Thos. Tracy after a time became owner of the south part of this purchase of Walker's. Just north of the Poe road Andrew Race entered the corner forty in Sec. 13, Plain, now in name of Culver and Carl.

Across the street in Sec. 18, Center, Jonathan Fay, October 3, 1833, entered eighty acres cornering on Main street and Poe road. Starting south from that road, Henry Walker, on August 5, 1833, entered the whole Main-street front to Ridge street, being W. Pt. of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 19, Center. In 1835, Walker sold this tract, about 109 acres, to Robert Barr, who afterward deeded the north twenty acres to his daughter, who was the wife of John M. Hannon. From Ridge street south to the section line at Pearl is the Main-street frontage of Alfred Thurstin's entry, 109 acres and over, made November 2, 1833, being W. Pt. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 19, Center. Joining Thurstin on the south, Lee Moore, September 16, 1833, entered the whole Main-street frontage of Sec. 30, Center, south to the Bender road, except that of the forty-acre tract lying south of the Napoleon road, which was booked to George Wickham. This latter tract has since been in the name of Charles Petford, James Smith and others.

These few notes from the land entry books, though not including all entries embraced in the present corporation of Bowling Green, neither the names of all purchasers, are yet sufficient to afford the reader some idea of the pioneer real-estate men of the town, and when they first came. Some, perhaps only one or two, of all those named, bought merely for speculation. Most came in quest of homes. Some tried life here, got tired of it and left. Of those faithful ones who remained to buffet with adversity and fight the battle that was eventually to make a town here, of which they never even dreamed, perhaps, most, alas!, have passed from this stage of action; their toils and trials have ceased. They did their part bravely and well; their work of subduing the wilderness, more than half a century ago, and its results, are

before us to-day. Their descendants and successors surely have just cause to remember them with respect and pride. If the story of their humble start in the race, and their faithful stewardship to the end, shall inspire us with the ambition to do our part as well, then this story will not have been told in vain. A glance at the land entry books shows the rapid influx of settlers from 1833 to 1836 or '37. That was an era of speculation. Everyone had a mania to buy land; but the money panic and business crash of 1837 brought it to a sudden end. That was a paralytic stroke from which the western country did not entirely recover until the California gold discovery, more than a decade later. Wood county was especially prostrated. There was nothing here that the people could sell, not even their homes, but there was most everything in the way of necessities, even, to buy. There was in those gloomy years little to inspire hope; there was much to thwart and discourage effort.

By the middle of the year 1834 the ridges and higher spots, within a radius of three miles of this place, were mostly patented from the government, and in many instances the owner had built and occupied his cabin on his new purchase. This brought the population largely to the west and north, where the most ridges lay. The mail carrier between Perrysburg and Bellefontaine passed on the old army trail once each week, at first every two weeks, and this group of settlers petitioned for a post office in their midst; they were a little distrustful, however, that Collister Haskins, of Portage, might not approve of the move, and went about it a little cautiously. The story of this enterprise incidentally reveals how the village was given its name.

The civil history of a town is but the biography of its founders and their successors, in which every incident, sometimes the most trivial, has an interest to the dwellers therein. Not only the name of a town, but what or who suggested that name, often becomes of interest. Since Bowling Green has become the thriving seat of justice of one of the most prosperous counties in Ohio, inquiry is often made how it happened that it was so named. For the first time in history the story is here related, with the incidents that led to the naming, as told to the writer by two of the pioneers who had a part in it at the time, and several others who knew all the circumstances. Bowling Green was christened after or for the capital town of Warren county, Ky., by Joseph Gordon, a veteran mail carrier of pioneer days. Of one who performed so important a part in our infantile state, we naturally ask, who was he? In his paper, the Findlay *Courier*, January, 1847, William Mungen wrote editorially of Gordon as follows:

"Joseph (Chauncey) Gordon was born in Allegheny county, Penn., January 29, 1784. In the year 1801 he commenced carrying the mail on horseback, from Russellville, Ky., *via* Bowling Green, to Glasgow, a distance of eighty-five miles, once in two weeks, for which he received twelve dollars a month. In 1802 he took the contract to carry the mail from Shelbyville, Ky., to Nashville, Tenn. In consequence of the route being changed, he carried the mail only two months. From that time till October, 1804, he carried it from Shelbyville to Russellville, Ky. In October, 1804, he commenced carrying the mail on horseback from Wheeling, Va., to George Beymers, in Ohio, a distance of fifty miles, with a led horse and a heavy mail on each. In 1805-6 he carried the mail from Wheeling, through St. Clairsville, Zanesville, and New Lancaster, to Chillicothe. In February, 1823, he commenced on the route between Bellefontaine and Perrysburg, a distance of eighty-one miles, through a wilderness, there being but one family residing in Hardin county, and but one post office on the route, at Findlay. Mr. Gordon was the only contractor on this route from February 7, 1823, to December 31, 1839. Since 1839 he has carried the mail semi-weekly from Bellefontaine to this place, fifty-five miles."

Jacob Stauffer's cabin here was the central point of the new post office movement. Henry Walker, son-in-law of Stauffer, was to be the postmaster. The Walkers and Stauffers occupied the same cabin; it stood on the high ridge just east of Main street, not far north of Merry avenue, close to where Dr. E. P. Thomas' house is to-day. Gordon, on one of his northward trips, had stopped at Stauffer's, as was his usual



custom, in passing; the petition for the new office was ready, except that the movers, two or three of whom were present, had not yet agreed upon a name. The old mail carrier, who stood on the cabin steps listening to the discussion, said to Stauffer, half jestingly: "If you will give me a tumbler of cider I'll give you just the name." Stauffer, who had brought out a keg of cider from Columbiana county, filled a glass and handed it to Gordon; the latter, briefly explaining how appropriate the name he would suggest was to the landscape about them, said, with a sweep of his arm, "Here's to the new post office of Bowling Green," swallowed the cider and was in the act of mounting his horse when those present detained him a moment while they could write a name in the petition, which was the one he had suggested. The papers were soon folded, and on their way to Perrysburg for some additional endorsements, after which they were sent to Washington. The office was established March 12, 1834. In 1835, when Walker sold his place, he and the Stauffers moved over to the west side of Main street, where the office was kept for a time, since when it has had many different locations and masters. Afterward, in 1855, when the village was incorporated, there seemed no good reason why it should not take the same name as the postoffice.

Aside from school and church work Bowling Green had but little history prior to the time she was incorporated that does not properly come within the purview of the histories of Plain and Center townships. Robert Mackie's store enterprise at the Napoleon road, in the south part of town, intended as the nucleus of the village of Mt. Ararat, never, under its various proprietors, met expectations. John Hannon in the north end, with his tavern and blacksmith shop, did not attract village neighbors about him. When, in 1846 or 1847, Dr. E. D. Peck sent L. C. Locke out here to start a mercantile enterprise, most of the settlers were sure it would be a failure; the proprietors did not feel sanguine; for the stock was opened on a very small scale in a little room in one corner of a tavern, called "White Hall," on the west side of Main street, just north of where a hotel called the "American House" has since stood. A man named Gossett kept the hotel then. Locke soon felt encouraged to call on his partner for larger quarters. Then was Mt. Ararat's chance for resurrection. Locke tried to buy out Simeon Eaton & Co., who were sort of successors to Mackie, though in a better building and on the east side of Main street. The owners declined to sell, and the star of Mt. Ararat sank to rise no more. Locke bought an acre of Alfred Thurstin, including that part of the east side of Main street from the First National Bank, south, and taking in the opera house, and there built a store and residence under one roof; his trade was prosperous, and not long after he was appointed postmaster, and a little later built and operated an ashery, the first manufacturing enterprise begun in the village, if we except Caleb Lord's cabinet shop. Locke, by his enterprise, had practically determined where the center of the village would be. Any one who came in after that, and wanted to go into business, located as near Locke's store as he could get.

*Early Traders.*—On January 16, 1835, George Wickham sold to Robert Mackie one acre on the N. W. corner of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30, Center; while, on June 25, 1836, Joseph Hollington sold to Louisa M. Mackie, a small tract in the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 25, Plain, thus giving the Mackies a location on each side of the State road. Lee Moore deeded to Mrs. Mackie, on June 30, 1836, a tract of 41.70 acres in the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, Center township, with frontage on the State road. Mackie built, on the Wickham tract, a log barn in 1835, and, about the same time, a log house on the east line of Sec. 25, Plain, in the

extreme N. E. corner of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , almost opposite the point where the Napoleon road leaves Main street. On November 5, 1836, the Mackies deeded to Dr. Eli Manville, in consideration of \$200 paid, the tract beginning on the S. W. corner of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30, in Center township, except the lots previously sold by Mackie to Jacob Hartman and Neptune Nearing, and the lots deeded to the township trustees for a school building site. At the same time, Mackie sold to Manville one acre in Sec. 25, Plain township, commencing at a stake on the State road, extending forty-six links nearly S. E. from the S. E. corner of the frame house built by the grantor. On November 5, 1836, he conveyed to Manville one acre in the extreme N. W. corner of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30, and accepted in payment for these tracts, in-lots Nos. 9 and 46 in the town of Miltonville, the price named being \$1,000. These transactions, with the fact that Mackie was licensed in 1835 and 1836 to sell goods, leave no doubt whatever regarding Mackie's ownership of lands on Mt. Ararat, the establishment of a store and the erection of a frame house at that point by him. His sale of all real estate to Dr. Manville, late in 1836, is also of record; while the fact that he was the first merchant is authenticated by many pioneers.

A mercantile license was issued to Eli Manville in 1837, which was renewed in 1838. He was a popular physician, druggist and general merchant, and the successor of the pioneer dealer. Wolverton, the Indian doctor, was here then, as he had been prior to 1837, while northward a distinct settlement existed in the neighborhood of the post office.

The old "Mackie House" became the property of Simeon Eaton, of Maumee. Simeon Eaton, who married the widow of Jonathan Fay, in September, 1844, built the square-roofed house nearly on the opposite side of the street, afterward known as the "Gilmour House," to which he removed his stock of goods in 1843, and which store was kept until some time in 1856, the last proprietor being the late Alex. Selkirk. As shown in the record of old merchants of the county, Eaton was licensed to keep store in 1844. The last public purpose for which the Mackie place was used was when G. Z. Avery kept a tavern there in 1852-53, and the 4th of July "doings" there that year was a shooting match for a bear. The Underwoods used it in 1855 as a dwelling-house; then Drake, the blacksmith. It was torn down in 1894. John M. Hannon kept the first tavern. He afterward lived on and owned what has since been known as the Huff place, in the

north part of town, later owned by F. Renz. Hannon was a "character" in that day, and no one who knew him can forget him for his outlandish eccentricity. He was a thick-set, round-headed, compact man, with short curly hair and piercing black eyes. He seldom wore a hat or coat, and was often without shoes. He lived at home more like an Arab than a white man. A part of his humble habitation was windowless, and was shared with the chickens for a roost. He seemed to prefer this mode of life, though it ill suited his wife. If there were an old, crooked-legged, ill-shapen horse in the country, Hannon was sure to get it, and his gear of ropes, strings, straps and hickory bark, with wagon to correspond, would shame a Florida cracker. It was said of him derisively that he could tie on a horse's shoe with a dry elder withe.

Jacob Eberly was the first blacksmith in Center, and consequently the first in the Bowling Green district; but Jacob Whitmore was undoubtedly the first regular one in the village; though Hannon gave some attention to his trade before Whitmore appeared. John Whitehead, of Plain township, made tables and chairs for many years, and may be called the cabinet maker of the settlement; though Caleb Lord and his partner, Bailey, opened the first regular cabinet shop on or near the site of the Commercial Bank building of the present day. John Drake, the third blacksmith, worked near the Mackie store for some years, and in 1848 purchased Jacob Whitmore's shop for \$150. Being unable to pay \$100 of the purchase money, he migrated to Fort Leavenworth, in 1850, earned a fair sum of money there, and returning the same year carried on business "at the old stand" for a long period, and became a famous maker of plow shares. E. I. Carr's wagon-shop was the next industry. He erected a shop north of the old Burns house of later days, in 1848 or 1849, but moved to California that year or in 1850.

Ed. Gossett, a painter by trade, and an instructor in band music, was the next landlord, and kept house in a little frame building on the corner where the old "American" stood, in the north part of town. It went by the name of "White Hall," and burned down some years ago. It was in a corner room of that building that L. C. Locke opened out a little stock of goods in 1846, some say '47, where he remained until the Hood building was completed for use. To show how accidental the location of the town at this particular place was, it may be here stated that Locke tried to buy land for his store, of Jacob Hartman, opposite the "Gilmour House" (north

of it), nearly or quite three-fourths of a mile south of the corners at the "Lease House." During the early part of Fillmore's Presidency, Locke was appointed postmaster, and his store soon became general headquarters in the settlement. Locke occupied a part of the building for a residence. The building, though since much improved in extent and appearance, was considered quite an extravagant affair here in those days. Judge Cook, who was then a young man, a plasterer by trade, came out from Perrysburg and plastered the walls for Locke.

The records of deeds throw a light on real-estate transactions, at and round the "corners" in 1837, 1846 and 1848. On August 12, 1837, Joseph Wade sold to Theron Pike two acres, Sec. 18, T. 5, R. 11, situate in the S. E. of N. W. and N. E. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , except a small piece in the extreme N. W. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Locke & Peck bought an acre from Alfred Thurstin on east side of Main street, September 14, 1846, where is now the First National Bank, and one-half acre in 1847. William G. Lamb sold for \$70, on January 25, 1848, to Theron and Thomas M. Pike, a tract of one acre and thirty-two rods of the N. E. corner of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 24, Plain, and they also bought twelve rods on the west side of Main street, south of Wooster, and sixteen rods back. On February 25, 1852, William Lewis bought the present Milliken corner from Alfred Thurstin, for \$50, which he sold the same day to Thomas M. Pike.

The Locke store rose above primitiveness before the close of 1848, and drew custom from the traders of Portage, New Rochester and other trading points outside Perrysburg. He established an ashery on a large scale, and thus provided profitable employment for a number of men. He exchanged general merchandise for farm products, and became a forwarding agent as well as a merchant. To his enterprise and business ability the importance of the little hamlet known as Bowling Green, of 1848, must be credited, and it is not a matter for surprise to hear old settlers say that were it not for Locke there would be no town between Portage and Perrysburg. The Pikes, Theron and Thomas M., purchased the land known as "Gaghan's Corner," and "Yunker's Drug Store," early in 1848, and, the same year, Thomas M. Pike built a little frame house, in which he installed a small stock of goods; the same which Mrs. Maria Pike carried on in later days.

The reminiscences of Mrs. J. A. Shannon (Lucy Bassett) speak of the village as she knew it early in the "fifties." "I taught here," she

said, "in the summer of 1853 and '54, but was not the first teacher in the old school house. It was well adorned with ink stains and knife marks when I began my work there. Mrs. Maria Pike kept a small store on Gaghan's Corner, and there were no houses going west until you reached the brick one where Mrs. Gorrill now lives. It was then occupied by the widow Tracy and her son-in-law, Isaiah Norton. Mrs. T. was the mother of J. R. Tracy, of Toledo. Going east from Alfred Thurstin's corner, now Lincoln & Son's drug store, was a little stone house occupied by a Frenchman named Donzey (now the Crim place), and the next house was where Mrs. D. Noyes now lives. From the old Lamb place, now Ordway, there was no house until you reached Lee Moore's. James Lamb then lived in a log house on the high knoll opposite Moore's. Dr. Lamb lived in a log house just north of Mrs. Laura Smith's; and in a log house, standing near where A. E. Royce once lived, David Lee then lived. Capt. Locke then kept the store and post office in the 'Hood House.' Mr. George Thomas was then building the hotel on the corner, while he fed and housed the tired and hungry in what in the 'eighties' was the 'Commercial House,' in the north part of the town. Dr. Rogers lived where J. V. Owens now does, and the widow Lowell occupied a log house nearly opposite. I think there was no house between A. Thurstin's and Mrs. Lowell's on the east side of the road. The children from the families of Messrs. Poe, George Williams, J. H. Thurstin and Peter Richards, came to that old school house. The next year (1854), Mr. Thomas occupied his new hotel—later the 'Lease House'—and G. Z. Avery the one in the north part of town."

During the ensuing decade very few changes took place in the commercial or business circle. From 1861 to 1865 a few new men became identified with the village. After Appomattox a few more located here, and in 1866 began to make their presence felt. Ordway & Truesdale established a saw- and flouring-mill in January, 1862, and placed Perry Thomas in charge. In the flouring-mill were one run of stone for buckwheat and two for wheat. There were no demands in those days for patent flour; the people lived to work and eat, to be strong and healthy, so that the coarse products of the buhrs suited the appetites of 1862, as well as that of the roller-mill does the appetites of 1896, if not better.

The business circle in 1866 comprised S. L. Boughton (merchant and P. M.), C. F. Button, William Hood and A. A. Thurstin, general merch-

ants; Dr. George W. Vail, or Vail & Fookes, clothing dealers; Reed & Rodgers and L. H. Burns, grocers; George W. Scovill, dealer in sewing machines; Addison Fay (later Gring & Fay), dealer in boots and shoes; Owens & Getman, dealers in dry goods, boots and shoes and hardware (dissolved partnership in 1867, J. V. Owens continuing the business); Rogers & Manville, druggists; S. S. Thomas, photographer; Miss Stove, milliner; Lee and Joseph Klopfenstein and Samuel G. Hopkins, lime-kiln operators; Charles Noyes and Caleb Lord, furniture dealers; Luce & Stearns, jewelers; Curren & Sares, meat market; Clippinger's tannery; D. H. Richards succeeded Richards & Cooley; G. Z. Avery carried on the Bowling Green and Tontogany and the Bowling Green & Findlay stage lines, while J. Ames owned the Bowling Green & Haskins hack line, with headquarters at the "Prairie House," Haskins. In 1867, Rudolph & Sons occupied William Hood's old store; H. Huffman established himself in the hardware business; A. Selkirk in the boot and shoe trade; Kitchen, Yonker & Lindsay carried on the planing-mill and sash and door factory, and Isaac Clay, to whom G. Z. Avery sold his hotel in November, 1866, became a factor in the life of the village. In 1868, Aaron Coggeshall established his butcher shop, and Simeon Pierce his barber shop. Lewis H. Cass, of Cass' Corners, offered his stock of merchandise for sale in February, 1868; I. B. Banks advertised his Weston store, and Feagles & Cunning their Haskins store.

In 1871, mention is made of Hugh Cargo, the landlord of the "American House;" Clifford's hack line; Hull & Smith's boot and shoe store; A. E. Ebersole, druggist; Reed & Beverstock, bankers; F. R. Gafkey, manufacturer of doors, sash and blinds; and William A. Whitaker, postmaster. Two years later, J. D. Whitaker advertised his drug store; Reed & Martin, their grocery, and wagon factory; Gedney & Gibbs, their drug store; L. Sader's drain-tile factory; Fred Eaton & Co.'s dry-goods house.

The business circle in Centennial year embraced George W. Gaghan, Beverstock & Merry, Evers & Rudolph, H. H. Callin, F. Eaton, and H. H. Yonker, named above, with C. F. Bell and Frederick & Kinney, dealers in boots and shoes; Peter Tisseur, jeweler; C. H. Lehman, dealer in meats; Hankey & White, clothing merchants; William Goit, tinner and dealer in hardware; A. E. Royce, dealer in farm produce; Z. G. Callin, harness-maker; Mrs. Albright, milliner; A. J. Orme, owner of planing and shingle mill; William Wade, dealer in boots and shoes; A. J.

Needel, owner of flouring-mill; R. S. Lease, of the "Lease House;" James Blake, bakery and restaurant; A. H. Boardman, pump-maker; G. H. Ross, restaurant; English & Shuler, flouring-mill owners; J. W. Campbell, cider manufacturer; Alexander Shields, contractor and builder; Leaming & Latshaw, druggists; Samuel Slocum, maker of picture frames; George Kirk and W. H. Wood, surveyors; W. M. Wakefield and R. Bates, blacksmiths; and the newspaper publishers, physicians and lawyers named in other chapters.

*Schools.*—The reminiscences of the first school at Bowling Green, written by the late Joseph Hollington, and published in the *Sentinel* in 1884, drew attention to a most interesting subject, and brought the majority of the surviving pupils together, in July and August, 1895, to discuss the question fully. Alfred Thurstin, the owner of the house in which school was held, is the owner also of the house in which the old pupils assembled on July 31, 1895. Nathan Moore, Samantha (Shively) Richards and Ambrose Hollington, with C. W. Evers and others, were present, and the following story of the pioneer school was declared correct:

The first Thurstin cabin was partially completed in 1833. It was of the regulation size and style, being a log structure, 15 x 20 feet in floor area, chinked with mud and covered with shakes held in place by weight-poles. The puncheon floor was down, and in this condition the builder left it, hoping to make the place his home when he would return in 1834 or 1835. During the summer of 1834 the residents of the locality determined to organize a school, and hiring a teacher (as some say, a female instructor; as others, S. W. Hanson, of Maumee) they sent their children *en masse* to gather up the crumbs of wisdom which might fall from the tongue of the pedagogue. The pupils were: Eliza, Maria and Louisa Martindale, Henrietta and Phoebe Moore, Nathan and Albert Moore, Ambrose, Albert and Samantha Shively, Richard, Ambrose and Joseph Hollington, Mahalla and Henrietta Race, and Isaac Hixon. For six weeks the children attended school, while their teacher "boarded round," receiving at the close of the term a small sum in recognition of his services. The sport at noon and recess, was playing around in the brush, swinging on grape vines, picking wintergreen, killing snakes, of which there were plenty, and chasing squirrels. There was very little order or system in the school-room, and the pupils were allowed to do pretty much as they pleased; they went out when they wanted to, and came in

when they got ready. It was fun for Joseph Hollington, for he had had a light taste of the rigid discipline of the schools in the Old Country. The books used were whatever the family happened to have; some brought a Testament, another a history, and another a spelling-book, and another the "Life of Marion." If there were an arithmetic in the school-room, no one recollects the fact. *En route* to school one morning, a massasauga attacked William Hollington, and the boy would have died had not the Indian doctor, Wolverton, shown the people a weed, the juice of which counteracts the poison of the rattlesnake. Willing hands picked and pressed the wild plant, and others applied the juice, so that in a short time the boy was able to resume attendance. At that time there was a three-acre swale on Main street, near the present "Hotel Brown," which had no outlet, and was a favorite rendezvous for snakes of all kinds.

The South school house, a log structure, which stood near the intersection of Main street and the Napoleon road, on the north side of the road, within the limits of Bowling Green, was built in 1835 by Adam Phillips, Lee Moore, Henry Shively, Joseph A. Sargent, Joseph Hollington, Sr., David L. Hixon, Thomas R. Tracy and David DeWitt. W. G. Charles is said by some persons to have been the first teacher, and W. R. Peck, or "The Little Doctor," the last teacher in 1851. The building took the place of the Thurstin cabin, and in it some of the pupils, named as attending the first school in 1834, continued their lessons. The names of the children and adults, as remembered by William Phillips, are as follows: "The relator, John Lorenzo and Daniel Thurstin, Isaac and Margaret Hixon, Peter F. Richards, Samantha Shively, Ambrose, Alfred and Albert Shively, Thomas, William, Abigail and Isaac Tracy, Washington, Joseph and John DeWitt, Nancy and Snowden L. Sargent, Amelia Crago, Ann Stauffer, Caleb Clark, Nathan and Albert Moore, Frank Maginnis, Henrietta and Phoebe Moore, Richard, Joseph, Ambrose and William Hollington, Mars Nearing, and John, Fred. and Josephine Hartman." William Bailey, a visitor from New York, was among the first, if not the first, to preside over that school. Master Simonds, from Cleveland, followed, then Morris Brown, and, next, Isaac VanTassel (2). Miss Patty Burdick was an early teacher, and in 1841 Mrs. Richard presided over the institution.

Early in 1836 Alfred Thurstin, who had a team, was hired to go to Pemberville for boards to floor a log school house, erected at the inter-

section, or, rather, N. E. corner of Ridge and Main streets. The lumber cost \$8.00, and Thurstin's services \$2; but the district permitted the bills to run until they were outlawed, and then voted against paying them.

For a period of thirty-five years there was little to indicate the present condition of the schools. Though there was a marked improvement in the methods of teaching prior to 1871, the science of pedagogics was scarcely understood, and little attention was paid to the sanitary condition of school houses.

The Bowling Green English Classical Seminary was established by Rev. William McElwee, in the parsonage of the Presbyterian church, in 1871, but in August, same year, the Seminary was discontinued. Since that time private schools have been the exception rather than the rule here.

The records of the board of education date back to April 18, 1871, when S. W. St. John and A. S. Nims, members elect for three years, with Amherst Ordway, president, S. L. Boughton, secretary, and S. Case, treasurer (*vice* S. L. Boughton), met to transact business. The school tax levied was five and a half mills. The teachers employed were: Superintendent, at \$65 a month, H. C. Norton. Libbie Hecox was employed for the intermediate school at a salary of \$30. For the primary school Annie E. Poe was employed at \$25. Mary Pope taught the winter school in Lease's building, her pay being one dollar per day and, in March, 1872, Elizabeth Blackwood took charge of the intermediate school, while Anna Poe and J. L. Gilpatrick were teachers in the other schools. In April, 1872, J. H. Reid was chosen clerk, and S. L. Boughton, treasurer. In June Mr. Gilpatrick was offered \$100 a month as superintendent; later, Misses Poe, Van Tassel, and Husted were named as teachers, and, in July, the contract for building an annex to the school house was awarded to A. Ordway, on his bid of \$470. The school examiners in April, 1873, were David Cargo, S. Case and John H. Reid. In May, 1873, the board offered to the village council a room in the school house, free of charge, in lieu of the room for which the council paid \$60 annually.

In June, 1873, Superintendent Gilpatrick resigned; Gideon Ditto was offered the place, and Anna A. Shannon was employed as teacher in the secondary school. In January, 1874, Samuel Case was appointed superintendent, *vice* Ditto, and served until W. H. Wolf was appointed in February. Hugh Cargo was chosen a director in April, 1874, and with Messrs. Boughton,

Case, Reid and Nims formed the board. In August J. B. Cash was appointed superintendent. The election of 1875 resulted in the choice of P. S. Abbott, Joseph Hollington and A. S. Nims, *vice* J. R. Rudolph, while Boughton, Case and Cargo held over. P. S. Abbott succeeded Reid as clerk, but the latter succeeded Abbott in September, and at the same time L. D. Heller took charge of the schools as superintendent, Misses Minton, Van Tassel, Poe and the other old teachers named being still identified with the system, with Amelia Klopfenstein, Allie Lundy and Lillie Minton, new teachers. In April, 1876, there were thirty attendants in high school, thirty-three in grammar, thirty-four in intermediate, thirty-four in secondary and twenty-one in primary. M. P. Brewer was elected a director at this time, Kittie M. Smith was appointed teacher in June, and Eliza H. Webb, Florence Donaldson and Gertrude Foote in September. In April, 1877, Charles W. Evers and Andrew J. Manville were elected directors, and with Messrs. Brewer, Boughton, and Hollington formed the board. W. S. Haskell was employed as superintendent, and Charles St. John as a teacher in the grammar school, while M. P. Brewer was elected clerk. J. C. Lincoln was elected director in 1878, *vice* Reid; W. S. Haskell was offered the position of superintendent, and Lelia Swigart and Mrs. Richards added to the corps of teachers. The question of issuing \$16,000 bonds was discussed in January, 1879, submitted to vote in February, but defeated, when a second proposition submitted to vote on April 7, 1879, asking for \$13,000, was carried by a vote of 220 of the 319 votes cast. Messrs. Evers, Lincoln, Manville, Boughton, Brewer and Hollington formed the board at that time, and were, indeed, the spirits of improvement in school as in other matters.

In April, 1879, George C. Phelps and John A. Shannon, with Messrs. Evers, Hollington, Manville and Lincoln, were the directors; Charles W. Evers was elected clerk, *vice* Brewer, and George C. Phelps, treasurer, *vice* Boughton. In May, the bonds for \$13,000 were sold to O. S. Bond at par and one per cent. premium, and the battle over a school site commenced. The motion to purchase 1.90 acres of Mrs. Lease, adopted May 21, met with a strong protest, and was subsequently expunged from the record. On June 11, an offer of \$500 was made to Button & Smith, for 200 x 250 feet in Block No. 14, Button's addition, and \$500 to George W. Smith for the south 200 feet of the west half of Lot 110, in Block 12. The offers were refused, and condem-

nation proceedings instituted. By this means the property was acquired. Architect E. O. Fallis prepared plans for the building, and the work of constructing the first large house (other than the court house and jail) at Bowling Green was entered upon. The directors and officers named in 1879 were re-elected in 1880, and in August of that year purchased from S. L. Boughton three-quarters of an acre in the southwest part of Lot 326, Block B, of his addition, for \$300. Earl W. Merry took Director Hollington's place in December, 1880, and in April, 1881, he and John R. Hankey were elected directors, and, with Messrs. Evers, Phelps, Manville and Shannon, formed the board. C. W. Evers resigned the office of clerk in April, 1881, and John R. Hankey was elected to fill that position. In 1882, S. Case was chosen clerk, and A. J. Manville treasurer, to succeed Judge Phelps, while in 1884 W. M. Tuller was elected clerk and E. W. Merry treasurer.

The directors elected since April, 1882, were as follows: A. D. Stewart and S. Case, 1882; W. M. Tuller and J. C. Lincoln, 1883; J. D. Bolles, W. S. Haskell and E. W. Merry, 1884; A. M. Russell and W. S. Haskell, 1885; J. C. Lincoln and A. W. Rudolph, 1886, with J. D. Bolles, treasurer; I. W. Clayton, Robert Dunn and J. D. Bolles, 1887, with A. M. Russell, clerk; John H. Whitehead and J. S. McClellan, 1888, with Robert Dunn, clerk; J. L. Hankey and J. C. Lincoln, 1889; J. D. Bolles and Robert Dunn, 1890; Ira C. Taber and J. S. McClellan, 1891, with J. S. McClellan, clerk; Luther Black and J. C. Lincoln, 1892; R. S. Parker and J. D. Bolles, 1893, with Ira C. Taber, clerk; J. S. McClellan and Ira C. Taber, 1894, and Kate E. Rider and Eliza Haskell, 1895, with J. S. McClellan, clerk.

In May, 1884, the board appears to have taken, for the first time, a part in commencement exercises (though the first class graduated in 1882), for on the 20th of that month the members adopted a programme and ordered that the exercises be held in the court-room. J. W. Sleppey was superintendent and principal in 1883. S. Case succeeded Dr. Tuller as clerk in May, 1884, and in April, 1885, W. S. Haskell was appointed. In July, 1885, the Ruttan Heating & Ventilating Co. contracted to heat the Central building with steam at a cost of \$1,950. In 1885, D. E. Niver was appointed superintendent of the village schools. On April 5, 1886, the proposition to issue \$6,000 bonds, to meet the expense of erecting a school house on Ridge street, was submitted to the people, when 343

votes were cast for and twenty-six against it. In April, 1886, the  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an acre in Lot 326, Block B, Boughton's addition, was added to the school lot, and on May 18 bids for building were accepted. Another school house was authorized by the electors, April 1, 1889, when bonds for \$14,000 were authorized. D. A. Haylor was appointed superintendent in 1888. On May 7, 1889, the board proceeded to condemn Lots 1348 to 1356, inclusive; but later it was ascertained that Lots 1348 to 1352 could be purchased at \$400 each, and the other lots at \$350 each, and authority was given the committee to purchase them. On June 28 the contract for building was awarded to Ducomb & Brown, on their bid of \$8,480, and the beginning of the third large school house was made soon after. In May, 1891, the contract with S. P. Stewart to build an addition to the Central school house for \$4,353 was accepted. On November 7, 1893, the question of issuing bonds for \$6,000 to aid in building a \$13,000 addition to the main school house was submitted to the people, when 602 votes were recorded for and 188 against it. This opposition came mainly from the Fourth ward, the residents of which desired the building located there. In January, 1894, A. Graham signed the building contract, on his bid of \$8,873.60, and the latest monument, in brick and stone, to the advancement of the school interests of Bowling Green, was soon completed. The election of directors in April, 1895, brought 516 women to the polls, and resulted in placing two female members on the board of education. At the spring elections, 1896, C. S. St. John and J. N. Baker were chosen members of the school board.

*Modern Buildings.*—The large buildings of this city may be said to have been erected within the last seven years. The first brick house, built long ago by Thomas Tracy (the same occupied by Mrs. William Gorrill in recent years), remained the sole representative of brick construction for some years. Then a residence was erected on North Main street, one or two business houses in the vicinity of Main and Wooster streets, and, by degrees, a few brick dwellings appeared east and west of Main street. When Bowling Green became the county seat, the public buildings were added, but, even in 1870, the brick house was the exception, the gabled frame store and dwelling the rule. During the ensuing sixteen years, a good deal was accomplished by the residents to raise their village above the hamlet state. Prior to 1883, Bowling Green fought two county-seat wars successfully, built a \$20,000

court house, a \$20,000 school house, four church buildings costing at least \$20,000, purchased Fair grounds, park and a town hall, constructed two main sewers, and built a branch railroad to Tontogany. Of course, the Ohio Central road was built, a few stores and dwellings were added to the buildings of the town, the gas reservoir was explored, and newspapers were established prior to 1887, but, with all this quiet progress, the present city, with its broad streets, large business houses and elegant homes, was not outlined in the imagination of the citizens.

The spring of 1887 may be called the first summer of enterprise here. The transfer of real estate was carried forward with all the spirit of a new Western town, and the construction of buildings gave proof of the substantial character of the transactions. A lot on the corner of Clay and Main streets was sold for \$2,000, the Massillon Rolling Mill Co. paid \$45 a foot for sixty-seven feet on South Main street; while eighty feet in the same neighborhood brought \$3,500. Sixty-six acres of the Barton farm sold for \$9,000; ten acres of the Ralston farm, for \$5,000; five acres of the Watson tract, on North Main street, for \$2,500; nineteen lots in the Lay addition, \$6,000; a tract on South Main street at \$600 an acre; one lot in Boughton's addition for \$375; two lots on Morton avenue, for \$925; twelve and one-half acres in the south part of the town for \$500 an acre; the Wakefield property on South Main street, \$5,600; thirty-four acres west of town, for \$7,000; sixty acres on North Main street, bought by J. J. Gaghan, for \$24,000, and twenty-four feet on Court street, for \$1,000. Many other transfers were made before the summer of 1887 was passed, and the village cast aside its old pastoral ways to become an important business town. Enterprise was carried to such an extent that a document was presented to property owners, setting forth that, when fifty of them agreed to build, all would begin work, and give from fifty to one hundred new buildings to the city.

As a municipality the people were also "up and doing," for, as shown in the pages devoted to the transactions of the council, Bowling Green offered aid to manufacturers who would locate within its limits, and otherwise encouraged manufacturing enterprise. In April, 1887, the question of issuing \$10,000 bonds to encourage manufactures, was presented to the citizens, when 209 votes were recorded for the measure and three votes against it. That of expending \$25,000 on gas wells was also carried. By the beginning of December of that year, there was a municipal

gas-plant, furnishing the new glass-works and other industries with fuel and light, without price. The contract for constructing a system of water works was signed that month; the Canastota glass-works were in operation and, in all directions the searchers for oil or gas went forth from the busy town. Lots and farms sold for fabulous prices, and owners, who for forty years were content with little, saw their patience rewarded in a day, and years of labor paid for in an hour. The gas wells, described in the chapter on the Oil and Gas Fields, were the prompters of the metamorphosis, while the enterprise of the business men of the town was responsible for seizing the opportunity and turning it to account.

One-fourth of the newly built business district was destroyed by fire on August 4, 1887. The fire originated in a saloon or bakery, and spread until property valued at \$34,250 was destroyed. The value of the property destroyed appears trivial to the moderns, but to the town of that time the loss was a severe blow. Without wailing, the men of enterprise cleared away the ruins and built on a better scale. Little over a year passed away, when a second fire came to destroy the work of the builders. On October 31, 1888, a fire swept away many business houses, including C. W. Evers' "Sentinel block;" M. P. Brewer's *Sentinel* office; Rudolph Bros.' *Gazette* office; C. C. Ross' hotel; F. N. Griffith's store; Mrs. James Smith's opera house; Emerine & McCauley's hotel and livery, and several smaller concerns. A week later, McCauley & Emerine, W. R. Mowery, J. R. Rudolph, C. W. Evers and others began the work of rebuilding. On April 19, 1889, the Canastota Glass Works Co. lost heavily by fire, and during the last seven years several houses, stores, homes and barns have been wiped out by fire. The ruins of the glass works remain as reminders of the fires. Enterprise has covered the other fire-swept lots with substantial houses, filled up vacant places on Main street with good business buildings, and transformed a hamlet into a business-like city.

The principal buildings on the west side of Main street, beginning at the south, are the Disciples church, erected in 1890; the Elder block, by J. C. H. Elder and Henry Collier, in 1889; the Marschka block, erected in 1888; the Phenix & Helfrich block, in 1889; the Tribune building in 1893; the Royce block in 1889; the Commercial Bank building, erected by A. E. Royce in 1885; the Union block, by Chris. Lehman and Bolles & Manville in 1877; the Lehman block in 1886; the Gaghan block, by Geo. W. Gaghan, in 1888;

the Exchange Bank building, by J. R. Hankey, in 1871; the Kabig building, in 1885; the Cuning & Whitehead block, in 1893; the Slauson block, in 1893; the Heffelfinger building, by Reed & Merry, in 1871, remodelled in 1887; Rogers block, built in 1872. The Reed block, the first brick business block here, was erected in 1867 by Norton and Edwin Reed. Reed, Rogers & Manville are credited with building on the west side, in 1867, a mercantile and opera house. Kabig & McKenzie block, erected in 1892, by Frank Kabig and Allen McKenzie, the Orme block, in 1892, and the Cooley block, in 1893. South of the Disciples church (with the exception of Dauterman's livery stable), and north of the Cooley block, on this side, are the residences of many of Bowling Green's leading citizens.

The business houses on the east side of Main street, going north, omitting the flouring-mill, are the two-story stone carriage and blacksmith shop, built in 1859-60; the opera house, erected in 1889, by Ira C. Taber and John R. Hankey; the Hankey block, built in 1892; the Froney block of 1892, and the large house erected by him in 1895; the First National Bank block, in 1889; the Buckeye block, for J. R. Rudolph and Kramer & Chaney, in 1889; the Mowery building, erected in 1887, the Trichler block, for Mrs. Theodosia Trichler, in 1889; the Sargent block, in 1893; the four-story stone hotel and mercantile building, erected in 1895-96 on the southeast corner of Main and Wooster streets, for W. H. Milliken; the Lincoln block, built in 1874, by Alfred Thurstin, remodelled in 1889 for Dr. J. C. Lincoln; the Eagle block, built in 1889 for F. H. Boughton and Mrs. James Smith; the Thurstin building, in 1867, for A. A. Thurstin, remodelled in 1889; the Reed & Merry block, erected in 1888, for Edwin Reed, E. W. Merry and J. H. Sands; the Munshower block, erected in 1887; the "Hotel Brown," in 1889, by Paul J. and G. M. Brown (leased by Major McLyman and conducted by him until March 17, 1896, when L. H. Cottingham took charge); the Doctors block, erected, in 1887, for Dr. J. C. Lincoln and Dr. W. M. Tuller; the Orme livery barn, erected in 1887, and the Biggs block, erected in 1889. South and north on this east side are dwelling houses, many of which are modern in architecture and conveniences.

On Wooster street, west of Main, south side, are Dr. L. L. Yonker's brick block — 1892-93 — and the City Hall, noticed in other pages. Opposite are the Clark block, built in 1887, and the Union block, built in 1884 by C. F. Button. Beyond these buildings the street is a residence

one, with lines of heavy shade trees and large, modern homes. On Wooster, east of Main, are the *Sentinel* office, built in 1887 by C. W. Evers; the Wittmer block, erected in 1866 by S. L. Boughton, remodeled in 1889 by Fred Wittmer; the Methodist church and the "Ross House." The Black, Boughton, Brewer and other residences are west of the Ohio Central railroad; while east of that road are several homes. The streets paralleling Main street are favorite residence streets, and are well improved. Outside the business center Bowling Green may be called a garden city. Orchards are common, and almost every one of the older homes has its garden and orchard.

*Municipal Affairs.* — The petition for the incorporation of Bowling Green, dated July 23, 1855, was signed by S. L. Boughton, Alfred Thurstin, G. Z. Avery, Joseph Hollington, Hiram Noyes, John W. Pelton, John C. Wooster, W. G. Lamb, Lee Moore, J. M. Lamb, Daniel Noyes, C. P. Rogers, D. L. Hixon, L. C. Locke and thirty-eight others. It was considered by the commissioners September 3, 1855, but not until November 9 did they grant it, excluding, even then, the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 13, T. 5, R. 10, which the petitioners wished to be placed under the village government.

The records of the first meeting of the council are not to be found. The journals of the council down to 1866 are known to have gone where no mortal can search for them. The taxlevy documents afford very little information, and, of course, the *Perrysburg Journal* failed to notice such a place as the incorporated village of Bowling Green. From interviews and other sources it is learned that Dr. Lamb was the first mayor, Dr. Rogers, the second, J. D. Smith, the third, and Dr. Smith, the fourth. R. M. Culver held the office in 1866; Isaac Clay, 1867; Joseph Hollington, 1869; David Cargo, 1870; J. W. Canary, 1872; John A. Shannon, 1874; D. W. H. Day, 1878; John A. Shannon, 1880; M. P. Brewer, 1882; W. M. Tuller, 1884; B. L. Abbott, 1886; A. J. Mears, 1888 and 1890; A. B. Murphy, 1891 and 1892; and W. S. Haskell, elected in November, 1893, *vice* Mayor Murphy, resigned. Almer R. Campbell was elected mayor in 1896.

The office of clerk has been filled by E. H. Hull, 1866; David Cargo, 1867 (refused); S. Stearns, 1867; E. H. Selkirk, 1868; J. D. Bolles, 1869; E. H. Selkirk, 1874; Jasher Pillars, 1875; W. H. Smith, 1876-80; Frank A. Reid, 1880-82; R. S. Parker, 1882-84; E. H. Selkirk, 1884-86; Ira C. Taber, 1886-90, and E. H. Selkirk, 1890. B. W. Clayton, elected in 1892, is the present (1896)



very efficient clerk of Bowling Green. His record books are quite in keeping with their importance, and the advanced conditions under which municipal affairs are now transacted.

The treasurers of the village since 1866 are named as follows: D. Cargo, 1866; A. J. Manville, 1870; Wallace H. Smith, 1888; J. H. Underwood, 1893, and Allan J. Ross, elected in 1896.

The marshals from 1866 to 1874 were A. Walker, 1866; Nathan L. Badger, 1867; J. N. Stiner, 1868; P. M. Clifford, 1869; J. T. M. Reed, 1870; A. M. Wyckoff, 1871; Jonathan White, 1871; J. W. Brownsberger, 1872, and M. S. Davenport, 1874. Messrs. Biggs, Fowler and Reed filled the position in later years, while a large number of citizens have aimed to serve the village as guardians of the peace. In 1896 Joseph F. Reed was elected marshal.

The ordinance creating the office of corporation solicitor was adopted March 5, 1883. The office was held by D. W. H. Day, in 1884. On February 13, 1888, the office of city solicitor was created, and N. R. Harrington was elected to fill that office in April following. B. F. James was the incumbent in 1890, and R. B. Moore from 1892 to 1896, and re-elected in 1896.

The trustees of the gas works, elected in April, 1888, were John R. Hankey, Frank B. Roath, Jacob F. Long and Joseph H. Sands. The second city well was begun by them in August, 1888, L. W. Dougherty being then superintendent of the gas line until succeeded by J. H. Mohr. In 1890, J. H. Willey was superintendent, in April, 1891, R. B. Moore, J. F. Long, A. Graham and John Q. Adams were elected trustees, and served as such until the gas plant was sold to Mr. McDonald, as related in another page.

The councilmen of Bowling Green, elected annually since 1866, are named as follows.

- 1866 William Callihan, J. V. Owens, A. Ordway, G. J. Rogers, Lucius Boughton.
- 1867 Norton Reed, Harrison Huffman, G. J. Rogers, S. L. Boughton, E. Goit.
- 1868 A. Ordway, H. Huffman, Jacob Hall, G. J. Rogers, C. N. Culver.
- 1869 Norton Reed, M. S. Davenport, Hugh Cargo, Joseph Howells, J. W. Canary.
- 1870 A. Ordway, M. S. Davenport, Hugh Cargo, J. V. Owens, Lucius Boughton, A. A. Thurstin.
- 1871 C. Rogers, Norton Reed, *vice* Davenport and Thurstin.
- 1872 W. A. Whitaker, P. S. Abbott, A. Ordway.
- 1873 J. B. Newton, W. G. Lamb, C. H. Lehman.
- 1874 Harrison Huffman, C. F. Button, G. W. Gaghan.
- 1875 6 George W. Gaghan, R. A. Dunbar, A. D. Stewart, C. H. Lehman, E. Goit, J. D. Bolles.
- 1877 W. M. Tuller, Daniel Newton, E. W. Merry, M. P. Brewer, T. C. Reid, G. C. Nearing.
- 1878 Chris Lehman, Guy C. Nearing, H. Huffman, Richard Jones, *et cetera* Merry, Newton and Bolles.

- 1879 A. E. Royce, George Kimberlin, M. P. Brewer.
- 1880 Robert Dunn, G. C. Phelps, J. C. Lincoln.
- 1881 J. R. Rudolph, P. H. Garnett, M. P. Brewer.
- 1882 J. R. Rudolph, P. H. Garnett, S. Case, E. Goit, S. P. Harrison, Geo. White, J. C. H. Elder, Geo. C. Phelps.
- 1883 John A. Shannon, J. R. Rudolph, Geo. W. Gaghan.
- 1884 A. J. Orme, Samuel Ross, J. H. Whitehead.
- 1885 M. P. Brewer, A. J. Manville, Geo. W. Gaghan.
- 1886 M. P. Brewer, George W. Gaghan, A. J. Manville, J. H. Whitehead, F. Von Kanel, H. Terry.
- 1887 J. C. Lincoln, J. A. Noble, S. L. Boughton.
- 1888 Robert Dunn, Geo. W. Gaghan, A. E. Royce, E. W. Merry, *vice* Boughton, resigned.
- 1889 A. Froney, T. C. Reid, W. R. Noyes.
- 1890 A. E. Royce, Robert Dunn, S. R. Brown.
- 1891 W. S. Haskell, L. T. Van Tassel, A. Froney.
- 1892 D. J. Cargo, D. E. Niver, J. S. Giles, with W. H. Milliken and Amos Neifer.
- 1893 Lucius Boughton, B. P. Stratton, W. S. Haskell, A. B. Farmer, *vice* Haskell.
- 1894 M. P. Brewer, C. W. Evers, A. Graham, I. L. Hankey, *vice* Milliken.
- 1895 G. C. Dauterman, E. A. Barton, I. L. Hankey, with G. E. Mercer, C. W. Evers, M. P. Brewer, A. Graham and B. P. Stratton.
- 1896 C. W. Evers, M. P. Brewer, E. A. Barton and I. L. Hankey were elected.

In 1882, the question of purchasing grounds for park purposes was submitted to a committee of the council, who received from George Wooster an offer to sell that part of his grove, north of Thurstin avenue, for \$1,800. In October, the resolution to purchase grounds for a park was adopted, and December 4, 1882, the sale of \$3,000 bonds and the adoption of an ordinance for the purchase of grounds were recorded.

The contract with Ferris & Halliday for the construction of waterworks, was signed December 19, 1887, by the contractors, Benjamin L. Abbott, mayor, and Ira C. Taber, clerk of Bowling Green, subject, however, to the vote of the people. The contract came to naught; but early in 1892, another contract was entered into, which was carried out by June of that year.

The "Nine O'Clock Ordinance" passed in August, 1884, won for the council the thanks of the W. C. T. U. A year later, the question of lighting the streets was discussed, and the Natural Gas Co. asked to give prices. In December, 1885, the anti-explosive ordinance was adopted.

The resolution providing for the issue of \$25,000 bonds, the proceeds to be invested in drilling gas wells and supplying gas to the people of the village, was adopted in April, 1887. At the same time, the resolution providing for an election on the issue of \$10,000 bonds, the proceeds to be expended in the encouragement of local manufacturing industries, was agreed to. On April 13, the council voted to buy a tract of land for \$6,500; on April 28, authority was given to expend \$1,000 on a water well; on April 29, the celebrated offer to manufacturing enterprises

was made, and, on May 19, 1887, the first contract with manufacturers was entered into by the village. The council also rendered every aid in procuring right-of-way for the C. H. & D. R. R., and in every way worked enthusiastically in the interest of modern Bowling Green.

In the summer of 1888 many improvements, such as widening and macadamizing Main street, and constructing a great sewer therein, were under way; the repeal of the prohibition ordinance; the closing of saloons at a certain hour; opening new streets and contracting with glass and other manufacturers, occupied the attention of the councilmen. In January, 1889, the proposition to establish an electric-light plant and supply the village with thirty lights for \$3,000 annually, was submitted to Councilmen Lincoln, Royce and Dunn. In March, 1889, the franchise was given to the Silvey Electric Light Co. In October, 1890, it was ordered that the proposition to sell the city gas plant be submitted to the voters; but there is nothing on the minute book to show the action taken by the citizens. On November 21, however, the bid of A. C. McDonald is recorded. He offered \$6,500 for all the property and plant, which sum was accepted November 24, 1890. A year later a contract for the electric lighting of the city was made with Elias H. McKnight, and January 26, 1892, the contract for water works was entered into with Isaiah W. Newcomer. The subject of building a city hall was discussed in council March 31, 1892, and a resolution declaring such a building necessary was adopted. On April 18 Messrs. Froney, Haskell and Niver were elected a building committee, and on the 25th bonds for \$20,000 were issued to meet the expense of the house—the first for \$500 being payable March 1, 1893, and the last for \$500 on September 1, 1912. In April, 1892, the \$150 bid of H. W. Sterling for the old town hall was accepted; on June 26 the water works were reported complete, and the present city building practically finished; and in September the issue of \$12,000 six-per-cent. bonds was authorized to refund or meet the debts of the village, the first bond for \$300 being made payable March 1, 1896, and the last, for a like sum, September 1, 1915.

*The Fire Department* of the present time, with its steam engine and elaborate hose carts, was organized in 1888, to take the place of the old fire company of 1883. A few small fires suggested the organization of a body of fire-fighters, and in April, 1883, the council considered the question, approved of the plan, and in May appointed A. Ireland, chief engineer. Before

the close of the fall of that year, the men were called into service, and acquitted themselves so well, that on October 22, the council passed a vote of thanks to the members of the company. In July, 1885, the purchase of fire apparatus was authorized, and for over two years the little department battled with sundry little blazes. The big fire of August, 1887, however, showed its utter uselessness in a great emergency, and the people called for reorganization; hence, in January, 1888, the beginnings of the present fire department were made. Thirty-one members were enrolled, with George W. Gaghan, chief; Rev. J. H. Palmer, foreman; J. D. Bolles, first assistant; Bert Froney, second assistant; Aus. Harrison, secretary; C. B. Eberly, treasurer; George C. Ordway, foreman of the hose company, and Wm. Shemenour, foreman of the hook and ladder company. A few years later the system of water works was completed, and the department was reorganized to meet the new and better conditions. The fire of October, 1888, referred to in this chapter, pointed out clearly that the department, as organized in January, 1888, was unable to cope with any serious conflagration.

*The Gas Company.*—The story of the discovery of gas here is related in the chapter on the Gas and Oil Fields; but little is said therein of the men who drilled for the fluid, and tendered its use to the public. Their names may be given here as the original members of the Bowling Green Natural Gas Co., organized April 11, 1885: C. W. Evers, E. W. Merry, Chris, Lehman, M. P. Brewer, S. L. Boughton, Dr. J. C. Lincoln, E. W. Poe, Roath & Co., T. Alexander, Luther Black, Orrin Henry, J. O. Troup, W. M. Donaldson, R. M. Donnelly, Rogers & Manville, James W. English, Jasher Pillars, R. P. Morrison, B. R. Taber, W. A. Wiggins, J. H. Crane, Norton Reed, Mary H. Leet, J. D. Bolles & Co., George C. Phelps, Dr. W. M. Tuller, R. W. McMahan, S. Case, J. H. Watson, A. E. Royce, R. S. Parker, George W. Gaghan, F. A. Baldwin, W. A. Benschoter, R. C. Kinney, George Smith, George M. Brown, Dr. J. H. Whitehead, F. Von Kanel, J. C. H. Elder, L. T. Van Tassel, J. R. Hankey, Henry A. Lease, Edwin Reed, R. S. Thurstin, J. H. Sands, A. W. Rudolph and Brown & Martin. Gas mains were in all the principal streets by October 1, 1885, and gas for illuminating and fuel purposes supplied to houses, stores and factories—the limekilns being large consumers. In 1866 or '67 the town issued bonds, and went into the gas business, to supply factories and, incidentally, a few consumers. When the supply began to fail,

the city sold its lines and wells to the B. G. Natural Gas Co., above mentioned.

*An Explosion.*—The explosion of the Ohio & Indiana Torpedo Company's nitro-glycerine magazine of 520 quarts of explosive, occurred at 10:15 o'clock on the night of December 6, 1895. The magazine stood in a grove on Austin Fowler's farm, two and one-half miles southwest of the city, and only 300 feet away from the Bradford Company's store-house. The shock was felt throughout northwestern Ohio. In Wood county much damage was done, such as the breakage of glass, disarrangement of oil-pipe connections with tanks, etc. The damage to windows on the east side of Bowling Green's main street; at Tontogany and villages in central Wood county; and to the farm houses in the neighborhood, was said at the time to amount to a few thousand dollars; while the magazine, 300 feet away, was untouched. G. A. Smith, the manager of the Ohio & Indiana Company in this field, a fearless and intelligent worker in nitro-glycerine, could not explain the cause of the explosion. A hole, eight feet in depth and twenty-five feet in diameter, and shattered and uprooted trees, speak of the power of the glycerine. The fact that the stuff in the Bradford Company's magazine was frozen accounts for its escape from total annihilation.

*Bowling Green's Pioneer Railroad.*—The Bowling Green Railroad Co. was organized June 6, 1874, with S. L. Boughton, president and general manager; A. J. Manville, vice-president; A. A. Thurstin, secretary; F. Beverstock, treasurer; and they, with S. W. St. John, Henry Lundy and J. R. Rudolph, were directors. This association was the outcome of a meeting held at Reed's Hall, at which Mr. Boughton showed the necessity for a branch railroad to Tontogany. Committees were appointed to visit the nearest towns on the main line, then called the D. & M. R. R. J. B. Newton favored Roachton; John H. Reid, Perrysburg; S. L. Boughton, Tontogany, while others preferred Haskins and Weston. The men named were appointed to report on the points of junction favored by them; but S. L. Boughton's logic in favor of Tontogany prevailed, and the route surveyed by David Donaldson to that point was adopted. Capt. Black, S. W. Whitmore, Martin Warner, Judge Tuller, and other old settlers of that town being friendly to the enterprise. The right-of-way was obtained at a cost of \$2,248 from eighteen land owners, and on August 18, 1874, the pioneer railroad builders entered upon work. For the year ensuing, Mr. Boughton left his store every day to work on that

road, and gave half his time during the second year; S. W. St. John worked and "bossed" the grading from beginning to end, and A. A. Thurstin drove his horses in breaking the first furrows on Addison Fay's farm. Henry Lundy was not often called to work, nor did J. R. Rudolph exhaust his physical strength; but each gave moral and material support to the enterprise, as did the other local stockholders and the majority of the citizens. The grading and the team work cost \$1,447.60; ties cost \$3,366.92; timber, logs and lumber, \$2,027.25; one hundred and one citizens received \$4,627.92 for labor; \$115.18 were paid for tools; S. L. Boughton received for traveling expenses to Carrollton, Ohio; Pittsburg, Penn., Toledo, Cincinnati, Lima and Dayton, \$171.40, while the expenses of other agents amounted to \$101.93; fuel cost \$625.76; iron and rolling stock, \$9,576.52; freight and express charges amounted to \$1,384.45; books and printing to \$73.79; interest and discount, \$1,743.46; the "Y" at Tontogany, \$802.38, and miscellaneous expenses, \$1,703.98, or \$30,076.94 in all. Of this sum sixty-two men at Bowling Green gave \$13,630.78 and a few at Toledo \$2,445.00, or \$16,075.78 cash subscription. Bonds would not sell, but a sum of \$3,000 was borrowed from William Hood, all the stockholders, save one, being bound severally and individually to pay the note with interest. In addition, an assessment of 20 per cent. on stock was levied. The comparatively heavy debt urged the owners to lease the road to M. T. Wiggins for ninety-nine years for \$10,000, but the sum of \$750 or \$800 was yet necessary to pay up all debts. When the Wiggins brothers desired to sell their road to the C. H. & D. Co., they asked Mr. Boughton what he would demand for a majority of the stock. He replied, "\$1,000." The sum was paid within six months, the last debt was paid with interest, and the old Bowling Green Railroad Co. was disbanded.

The Carroll County railroad (including 210 tons of strap-rail, spikes and switch fixtures, purchased at \$33 a ton; the "Old Huldah," a seven-ton locomotive of twenty-horse power, two coaches, a box car and two flat cars), became the property of the Bowling Green Railroad Co., in 1874. At the beginning of May, 1875, a few days before the connection was made with the C. H. & D. at Tontogany, the receipts from passenger traffic were double the operating expenses. During the first week in May, the "Y" was placed, and combination trains left Bowling Green at 7 A. M., 1, and 5:30 P. M., and Tontogany at 8:10 A. M., 2:40 and 6:10 P. M. The total earnings for the month ending July 17,

1875, amounted to \$394.26, and the operating expenses to \$182. The road, as managed by Mr. Boughton until July or August, 1876, met all operating expenses and produced \$1,000 to be applied on the indebtedness.

Charles N. Culver, the first engineer, found he had a very fickle machine to deal with; but with care, he made regular trips and kept very close to schedule time. Henry A. Lease acted as attorney, conductor, passenger and freight agent, and man of all work. The engineer and brakeman were the only employes in the mechanical department. The road was built with the object of developing the interests of Bowling Green, and the stockholders and subscribers paid their moneys directly with this object, rather than with the hope of any financial returns; but the little iron way met all its expenses, and doubtless would have yielded profits, had its founders carried their enterprise a little farther toward making it a modern road. On the death of Treasurer Beverstock, Dr. Manville was elected to that position.

In 1878, Mark T. Wiggins leased the road for a period of ninety-nine years, the sole consideration being \$10,000. Under this lease, Mr. Wiggins operated the road, and substituted the "T" for the strap-rail. The locomotive "William Hood," superseded the "Old Huldah," and the road bed was improved. Greater changes were yet in store. A board of directors was one of them. F. Holderman was appointed superintendent, and Patrick Faha, roadmaster; the capital stock was increased from \$18,000 to \$40,000, of which Mr. Wiggins received \$20,000 stock for his interest; the rolling stock was increased to three locomotives, two coaches and four freight cars, the road bed was further improved, and the little iron way was in fair condition, when, in 1886, it was consolidated with the C. H. & D. railroad. In 1890-91, the North Baltimore extension was built by the latter company, and the Slippery Elm railroad of 1874-75 lost its identity in the greater system.

#### CHURCHES.

*Methodism* at Bowling Green may be said to date back to 1836, when Rev. Austin Coleman, of the Waterville circuit, preached in the log school house, south of the village, later, in what was afterward known as the "Bell school house," and in other cabins along the route to Waterville. James Wood is said to have been the first leader of this Bowling Green class, though John A. Sargent was leader of the older class at his house. Every sixth Sunday, the preacher ap-

peared here before his little congregation, at Henry Shively's house, which then embraced Peter Klopfenstein, W. C. Hunter, John A. Sargent, Alfred Thurstin, Robert Barr and James Wood, with their wives, together with the following named single members: Erastus, Zelpha and Diannah Hunter, Margaret Shively, Margaret Linsey, Eliza Hixon, Nancy Sargent, Susannah Groves and Isaac Tracy. A Sunday-school was organized the same year with Henry Lundy, superintendent. Among the early preachers, other than Mr. Coleman, may be named Wesley Broek, who was here in 1837, John Janes, Shortis and Fleming in 1838, Leonard Parker, 1838, Adam Menear, 1839, Rolla H. Chubb, 1840, Leonard Hill, 1841, Ezra C. Norton, 1843, I. J. Killum, 1844, W. W. Winters, 1845, and Thomas J. Pope, 1846. Thomas Barkdull and W. W. Winters organized a protracted meeting in 1846, which resulted in bringing many of the settlers into Methodism, among the number being Ambrose Hollington, now a preacher of Delaware county. Rev. F. W. Vertican came as preacher-in-charge in 1852; N. B. Wilson in 1853, and Ambrose Hollington in 1854. Mr. Hollington is still a citizen of Ohio, and was present at Bowling Green in July and August, 1895, when the beginnings of the church and school at Bowling Green were discussed.

The first mention of the Bowling Green circuit appears when David Gray was presiding elder of the Maumee district, and H. L. Nickerson, preacher-in-charge, in 1854 or 1855. J. A. Shannon came in 1856, and Martin Perkey in 1857. In 1859, S. L. Roberts and Josiah Adams were here; J. A. Shannon and Jason Wilcox in 1860, and G. Lease and I. N. Kalb in 1861. The Conference of 1862 divided the circuit into two parts, and again the Bowling Green part into four appointments. The eastern part retained the name "Bowling Green," while the western was given the name "Gilead," with Rev. J. Good, preacher in the first and G. Mather in the second. The appointments originally set off were Bowling Green, Portageville, Carrs and Tontogany. On November 14, 1863, Hull Prairie, or Haskins, class, was added, and the five appointments constituted Bowling Green circuit, of which Rev. J. Good was preacher-in-charge down to July 25, 1865. In September of that year, Rev. F. L. Harper succeeded him, and served until his death, January 22, 1866. In 1868, John S. Kalb was appointed, while, in 1869, Thomas N. Barkdull (who was here in 1860 and 1861, when John A. Shannon had charge) succeeded him. At that time the Meth-

odists held meetings in the old house of 1847, which stood on the site of the present Disciples church, and which was then (1869) owned by the Congregationalists. When that body secured a preacher, Mr. Barkdull was denied the use of the building, and had to seek elsewhere. Some time after, the Methodists found shelter in the Presbyterian meeting-house, but that body also found a preacher soon after. The society then rented Reed's Hall, in which services were carried on until the new or present building was completed, August 25, 1872. Rev. D. R. Cook succeeded Mr. Barkdull in 1872; L. M. Albright came in 1873, and was reappointed in 1875. That year, Bowling Green appears to have been attached to the Weston and Tontogany circuit, which was served by Adam D. Barnes and Joseph D. Sims until September, 1876, when Rev. I. N. Smith was appointed. Mr. Smith revived the society at Bowling Green, and succeeded in having it advanced to a station again. He sold the parsonage, and applied the \$700 received for that property toward the liquidation of the church debt. In 1879 he purchased a bell, and, on September 26, that year, ended his services as pastor, leaving to his successors a class of 157 members and eight probationers. Rev. R. Wallace was preacher-in-charge in 1879, and Rev. N. B. C. Love, from 1881 to 1883. The progress of this society during the last decade has been very marked. To the activity of the preachers and revivalists, as well as of the enthusiastic Sabbath-school workers, must be credited much if not all of this progress. They go a long way to arrest the advance of infidelity, and, unknowingly, perhaps, in working for themselves, do general good. The pastors of the Church since 1883 have been as follows: Rev. L. E. Prentice, one year, from fall of 1883 to fall of 1884; Rev. G. H. Priddy, one year, from fall of 1884 to fall of 1885; Rev. C. W. Taneyhill, three years, from fall of 1885 to fall of 1888; Rev. W. H. Scoles, four years, from fall of 1888 to fall of 1892; Rev. J. W. Holland (present incumbent), four years, from fall of 1892 to fall of 1896. The present membership is upward of 500.

*The First Presbyterian Church* was organized October 13, 1855, by Rev. Perry C. Baldwin, with the following named members: Tobias and Louisa C. Rudesill, Addison and Matilda Fay, John and Mary Evers, Nathan Noble, Sidney L. Brewster, Phœbe M. Moore, George Underwood, Mrs. Underwood, and Azial B. Bradley and wife. The election for elders, which took place the same day, resulted in the choice of Messrs. Rudesill, Fay and Bradley, who were at once ordained

and who organized with Tobias Rudesill, clerk of session. S. L. Boughton was ordained an elder April 7, 1860, chosen clerk of session in October following; in April, 1860, he was appointed superintendent of the Sunday-school. Ambrose S. Nims, wife and son joined this Church in 1869, and of it the senior Nims became a ruling elder, a position he was holding in the fall of 1895, though not on the list of active elders. John Coen, I. A. Noble, Fred VanFleet, D. E. Prosser, W. T. Reese and F. H. Boughton were elected elders from time to time, and were members of the session in 1895. In September of that year, S. L. Boughton, E. A. Barton, Frank W. Thurstin, D. A. Haylor, J. S. McClelland and Luther Black were elected elders. Mr. Baldwin, who organized the society, resigned the office of pastor, July 30, 1865. A year after, Rev. Robert Herenden was called, and until April 15, 1867, preached to the Presbyterians of Bowling Green as well as to the Congregationalists of Plain. In July, 1867, Rev. R. G. McCarthy came, and preached here until 1868. Rev. J. E. Vance accepted a call in the spring of 1869, and remained until April 17, 1870. Shortly after, a call was extended to Rev. William McElwee, of Philadelphia, who was installed pastor, June 3, 1870. Mr. Boughton, in his sketch of the Church, tells of his deposition by the Maumee Presbytery, September 19, 1871. His successor, Rev. J. B. Hubbard, came in the spring of 1872, and remained until March, 1879. A few months later, Rev. W. R. Higgins was installed, and preached here until October 7, 1883. Rev. Henry Cooper came in December following, and was pastor until July 1, 1885. Rev. J. R. Boyd supplied the pulpit until October 1, when he accepted a call as pastor, and attended to the duties of that office until his death, February 15, 1886. On June 20, that year, Rev. George S. J. Brown was called, and he preached here until the close of November, 1894. On March 1, 1895, Rev. R. M. Dillon, the present pastor, was installed to preside over the 351 members forming the society. The first house of worship, on the site of the present building, was erected in 1859, and dedicated February 8, 1860. The present \$15,000 structure, known as the Presbyterian church, was built in 1888, and dedicated March 31, 1889.

The Presbyterian Sabbath-school was organized April 8, 1860, with S. L. Boughton as superintendent, Mrs. Boughton, treasurer, Tobias Rudesill, A. Fay, J. VanGorder, Mesdames Wm. Hood, Lee Moore, P. C. Baldwin, Rogers, and J. VanGorder, teachers. At that time the Church society embraced fifty members, and the

school, including teachers, had about forty scholars. Down to May, 1880, no less than ninety-six teachers were enrolled. During the last twenty years, numbers of teachers, corresponding with the increase in scholars, have been employed, the first superintendent being still as active in Sunday-school matters as in Church affairs.

*The Catholic Church* of Bowling Green, dates back, as a congregation, to 1883, when forty children made their first communion in the new church building. Prior to that time, the few Catholic families of the central townships were considered parts of the Custar congregation. Sometimes Rev. Louis J. Filliere, of Providence, who for years attended eighteen stations in Wood and Lucas counties, came to visit the people. Father Hyacinthe Kollop succeeded him, but Dr. Leeming was the pastor, who, in 1883, prepared the children referred to above. It was Father Kollop who built part of the present chapel. In later years, the now celebrated young Paulist, Father Kress, was resident pastor, preceding Father Schriener, the present priest of Bowling Green and Cygnet. The development of the oil field, and the general advance toward modernism, brought to Bowling Green a number of Catholics, so that with the exception of a few old families who adhered to the faith, the congregation is made up of new citizens of the town and neighboring country. The pastoral residence, the addition to the church building, and improvement of the grounds are all the works of the present congregation, while the library was mainly collected by Father Kress.

*The Baptist Church* at Bowling Green, was organized March 27, 1858, at the house of S. L. Boughton, D. A. Avery being moderator, and S. L. Boughton, clerk. On March 31, W. Legally, Z. F. Williston, M. D. L. Buell, S. L. Boughton, Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Boughton signed articles of association. William Legally was the clerk in 1860. That organization disbanded, and little if anything, is known of it by the moderns of the town. The record, however, is at Haskins, and from it the above minute of the society's beginning was made.

The present society, known as the First Baptist Church, was organized September 29, 1878, with the following named members: Rev. James Abbott and Caroline Abbott, Rev. E. B. and Mrs. C. A. Turner, Mrs. J. H. Sands, George and Mrs. A. O. Kimberlin, Thomas W. Knight, Sr., and Thomas W. Knight, Jr., Amy and Ellen Knight, David Holbrook, W. S. Haskell, I. W. Clayton and Mrs. Theodosia Wade. The articles

of incorporation were filed April 15, 1880, when I. W. Clayton, B. L. Abbott and George Kimberlin were elected trustees, I. W. Clayton, clerk, and James Adams, president. The work of church building was then entered upon, the corner stone placed July 20, 1880, by Rev. James Adams (who was the pastor from December, 1878, to February, 1882), and the house completed in the fall, at a cost of \$3,500. M. W. Homes was pastor from April, 1883, to June, 1886; J. H. Palmer, from August, 1886, to October, 1890; and Rev. Herbert Agate from July, 1891, to the present time. There were 122 members belonging to this society in January, 1896, as reported by Mrs. J. H. Sands, the church clerk.

*The United Brethren Church* was organized in 1874, with a few members. For forty years prior to that time itinerant preachers of this denomination visited Bowling Green, Rev. John Crom being the pioneer in the work. Societies were organized east, west and south of the village, as related in the sketches of the United Brethren in Christ of Beaver Creek, Center and Portage, and to these societies the modern Moravians of this town belonged. In 1880, the local class was sufficiently strong to build a house of worship; the trustees selected a lot on the northeast corner of Court and Summit streets, and by the close of the year a brick house, 60 x 42 feet in area, was completed at a cost of \$5,000 for house and lot. Rev. J. M. Crim was the active spirit in beginning this enterprise, but Rev. J. P. Lea was the pastor during the finishing period and at time of dedication. In 1893, the house was remodelled and enlarged at a cost of \$4,000. In 1890, Rev. J. W. Hicks suggested the building of a parsonage, and the present house resulted, the cost being \$1,800. The growth of the society was slow for many years, but, since 1890, it has been rapid, the membership, at the close of 1895, being 450, while G. A. Smith presides over a large and flourishing Sunday-school. The pastors who have served this Church from 1874 to the present time, are named as follows: Rev. J. Long, 1874; E. B. Mower, 1875; O. E. Ramsey, 1876; L. Martain, 1878; J. M. Crim, 1878; J. P. Lea, 1879; J. W. Eastman, 1882; H. Doty, 1883; J. E. Hill, 1884; A. B. Leonard, 1885; J. W. Hicks, 1888; H. Doty, 1891; and J. H. Arnold, 1895.

*The Church of Christ*, though little over fifteen years old, is one of the prosperous religious societies of the town. There were 225 members enrolled on January 1, 1896, who subscribed \$1,868.19 for the sidereal year 1895. Nineteen

of the number paid more than their assessment, 102 paid the assessment, forty-eight paid a portion of their dues, and fifty-eight took no notice of the financial part of their duty as members. The figures are taken from Secretary Horn's report, made January 1, 1896. While the title given above is the legal one, though in the Eastern States the followers of Alexander Campbell are generally known as "Disciples" and in the Western States as "Christians." The society was organized in 1882, by J. V. Updike, with fourteen members. The lot fronting on Main street, and the old Methodist building of 1847, which stood thereon, were purchased from the Congregationalists in 1882, and the house was used for purposes of worship until 1890, when Daniel Mercer bought and removed it to his property. The present commodious building was erected on its site in 1890.

*The First Congregational Church* of Bowling Green elected trustees, January 13, 1868, and filed articles of association. N. A. Noble, Philander Raymond and N. L. Badger were the trustees; William Irons, at whose house the meeting was held, presided. In 1869 the trustees purchased the old Methodist building, and secured the services of Charles Irons as preacher; but within thirteen years they sold the building to the Disciples, and disbanded in 1882 or 1883.

*The Seventh Day Adventists* of Bowling Green signed articles of association March 6, 1879, and elected J. B. Craw, R. A. Boardman and H. H. Van Camp, trustees. The society struggled along for a short period, but left the field to the older organization, a few miles northward. *The Free Methodist, Free-Will Baptist, Church of God*, and a few other earnest sects also appeared here.

#### CEMETERIES.

The old cemetery of Bowling Green, which now may be called its own caretaker, was donated to the settlement by Robert Barr. Prior to its establishment, two children of Presley Walker were buried on the dune or ridge. After being set apart for burial purposes, the wife of Robert Barr was interred in the sand, and next, Robert Barr, himself. Margaret Arbuckle was the third person buried there. In 1891, while the transfer of the remains of the dead was in progress, her skeleton was found intact, with a part of the long hair well preserved.

The headstones now standing in the old cemetery tell the following tales of those who were interred there prior to 1850: Elisha Morse, 1834; Mary Wilson, 1837; Rev. I. VanTassel, March 2,

1849; Mary Gatehouse, 1848; Joseph Hollington, 1847; Anna Sage, Roswell Sage and Mary C. Powell, 1848; Van R. Smith, 1849; James Smith and C. O. Stacy, 1846; T. Osgood, 1848; Lydia Wood, Julia Fay and Maranda Fay, 1849.

In 1872, the newspapers agitated the question of a new cemetery, and the agitation was successful. Prior to April 23, 1888, a report to the council shows that nine bodies were removed from the old cemetery down to that date. The new burial ground is modern in its landscape gardening and its monuments. Many of the stone and bronze reminders of the dead are art works of which many an older and more populous community in Ohio might well be proud.

#### MISCELLANEOUS SOCIETIES.

Bowling Green of the "Forties" and "Fifties" had its quiet social as well as its quiet business character. The Masonic lodge, the Know-nothing council, the churches, the Lyceum, the Sunday-school and band were really social organizations, designed to gratify the social demands of the inhabitants. The first brass band organized was that of which Edward Gossett, the tavern-keeper, was leader and instructor, until Guido Marx, of the Neiblung settlement, was employed as instructor, late in the "forties." Nathan Moore, now of Toledo; J. D. Smith, Miles Deshler, E. Winchester and S. W. St. John were the first and principal musicians. In later years W. R. Peck was known as leader. Smith was the collector of airs, who would whistle what he heard for Ed. Gossett. Gossett would write it out, and give each performer his part. In 1855, when the cornetist, Nathan Moore, moved away, the organization fell to pieces. Since that time various brass bands have come and gone; orchestras, too, with singing societies, literary societies, choirs, etc., have appeared and disappeared; but amid all the changes, the progress of such associations has been like that of the city, so that to-day it is difficult to pick out an adult atom of the population who does not belong to a religious, secret, benevolent, musical or literary society.

*Wood County Lodge, No. 112, F. & A. M.*, may be said to date back to 1842, when Morris Brown, a teacher, farmer and man-of-all-work, called the Masons of this county to meet at the Mission farm, in Middleton township, for the purpose of organizing a lodge of Masons. A year later, on June 7, 1843, the lodge was organized under dispensation, granted April 29. In October following the charter was granted to Martin Warner, David Maginnis, Sr., Sylvanus



Hatch, Emilius Wood, Morris McMillen, Jairus Curtis, Morris Brown and Leonard Pierce, and the place of meeting fixed at Wood's log cabin, near the present village of Tontogany. In 1849, the lodge was moved to Selkirk's Corners, near the Klopfenstein residence in the S. E. corner of Bowling Green; but in 1854, a room was rented in the George H. Thomas, or old hotel building, on Main and Wooster streets, at \$10 a year. A few years later, meetings were held in the J. V. Owen building, where is now the Boston store, and in 1870 in the Rogers & Manville brick building. The membership in August, 1894, was 131. The worshipful masters of No. 112, from 1843 to 1895, are named as follows: Jairus Curtis, 1843; Emilius Wood, 1847, 1848, and 1855; Morrison McMillen, 1849; William R. Peck, 1850 to close of 1854; J. Ralston, 1856; M. B. Tracy, 1858; L. F. Dubbs, 1860 to December, 1862, and 1864 to December, 1866, and in 1871; James M. Lamb, 1863; S. L. Boughton, 1867 to December, 1873, and 1877 to December, 1878, and 1884 to December, 1885; John H. LeGalley, 1874 to December, 1876, and 1881 to December, 1882, and 1888; J. D. Bolles, 1879 to December, 1880, and 1886 to December, 1887; Guy C. Nearing, 1883; F. M. Young, 1891, and D. E. Niver, 1889 to December, 1890, and 1895; James M. Cuning, 1892-93; M. Munn, 1894. The secretaries were Sylvanus Hatch, 1843; Samuel Clark, Jr., 1848; A. J. Lamb, 1849; J. Bloom, 1851 to December, 1853, 1863, 1865 to December, 1870, and 1873; H. Shively, 1854; Isaiah W. Norton, 1856; S. L. Boughton, 1857; J. Taylor, 1858; W. R. Peck, 1859; William Carothers, 1861; G. Z. Avery, 1862; M. D. L. Buell, 1864; W. M. Leaming, 1871-72, and 1874-75 and '76; J. C. Lincoln, 1877; G. C. Nearing, 1878-79; A. D. Stewart, 1880; John R. Hankey, 1881; George W. Hill, 1882 to December, 1884; J. W. Sleppy, 1885 to July 15; C. Erskine, 1885 to December, 1887; B. F. James, 1888; A. M. Russell, 1889; W. R. Noyes, 1890; J. H. Watson, 1891 to December, 1894, and Alexander Williamson, 1895.

*Crystal Chapter, No. 157, R. A. M.*, was chartered September 12, 1889, with the following named members: J. W. Canary, A. M. Russell, Geo. M. Brown, 33d degree; J. M. Cuning, S. L. Boughton, B. R. Taber, N. R. Harrington, Thomas N. Bierly and Frank Powell. J. W. Canary, the first high-priest, was succeeded in January, 1891, by A. M. Russell, and he in January, 1892, by J. D. Bolles. J. M. Cuning, the first secretary, was succeeded in January, 1891, by Guy C. Nearing, who retired in January, 1892, when the present incumbent, Thomas F. Conley,

was installed. Dr. Taber, who died in 1891, was a 33d degree Mason; the other member of that degree received it at Columbus the night before he was to officiate at the hanging of a criminal from this county. The membership of the chapter, at the close of August, 1895, was sixty-six. The older chapter, referred to in the history of Perrysburg, was removed to Toledo in 1846, so that for about forty-three years the R. A. M. had no organization in this county, though it claimed a few members.

*Centennial Lodge, No. 626, I. O. O. F.*, was chartered June 6, 1876, with the following named members: George J. White (1), P. M. Ford (2), Geo. H. Houck (8 and A); William Goit (3), (treasurer, D. H. Richards, not a charter member), H. H. Callin, A. W. Rudolph (4 and B); (O. G. Samuel Slocum not a charter member), Chris. Lehman (13), R. S. Lease, A. E. Royce, C. P. Fox, M. (L.-S.-V.-G.), J. D. Pike, not a charter member), W. J. Campbell, W. R. Noyes (5) and R. M. Culver (C), officers in lodge rank from N. G. to chaplain, with E. H. Selkirk, S. P. Harrison, J. W. English, Joseph Buttneff, Fred. Wittmer, Charles Noyes, B. A. Williams, George Wolf and Edson Goit, Sr. The past grands in the order of election and in good standing are those after whose names the numerals stand above, with J. C. Lincoln (6); F. B. Roath (7 and D); Guy C. Nearing (9 and F); A. H. Boardman (10 and E.); J. R. Hankey (11 and J); J. S. McClelland (12 and K); F. A. Baldwin (14 and N); H. G. Hixon (15 and L); R. S. Parker (16 and P); D. J. Cargo (17 and R); Jay Simons (18 and S); J. P. Marshall (19 and T); Wilbur Simons (20 and U); M. L. Case (21 and V); G. S. J. Brown (22 and W); J. W. Underwood (23 and X); Ira C. Taber (24); C. G. McCauley (25 and Z); W. H. Smith (26); Geo. W. Fearnside (27); J. B. Miller (28); J. B. Newton (29 and G.); H. H. Reid (30); W. W. Hartman (31); R. B. Moore (32); C. T. Wallace (33); S. S. Hopkins (34); and J. G. Ralston (35). The past grands admitted by card are T. C. Reid, J. R. Lundy, George Cessna, E. W. Poe, D. E. Prosser, J. C. Monks, E. A. Bernard and M. A. McKendree. There have been thirty-five incumbents of the secretary's office down to September, 1895. The members named above, after whose names letters are placed, served in alphabetical order, J. P. Latshaw being the 8th, S. A. Brown the 9th, S. P. Harrison the 15th, J. A. Noble the 17th, and A. O. Saylor the 25th incumbent. Since the close of C. G. McCauley's term, as the 26th secretary, G. W. Fearnside, J. B. Miller, H. H. Reid, J. J. Devlin, R. B. Moore, J. W.



Underwood, C. T. Pope and W. B. Thomas have filled the office. In January, 1896, D. Pugh was installed as noble grand, and William Lehman, recording secretary. Robert Minear, W. B. Thomas, J. Simons and J. Underwood were elected officers of the lodge at that time.

*Green Encampment, I. O. O. F.*, instituted June 14, 1877, was named in honor of the spot so called by General Hull in his march toward Detroit. R. W. McMahan was C. P.; A. W. Rudolph, H. P.; A. J. Orme, S. W.; J. C. Lincoln, J. W.; T. C. Reid, scribe; and G. M. Brown, treasurer. The encampment, known in the charter as No. 210, is a powerful organization, recruited from Centennial Lodge.

*Rebekah Lodge, No. 382*, was chartered August 11, 1893, the following ladies being among the members: Sattie Hankey, Mary Hopkins, Allie Hartman, Anna Marshall, Flora Hopkins, Marie Wittmer and Hattie Parmenter. There were six male members. The office of noble grand was held by Sattie Hankey from August, 1893, to July, 1894; Hattie Parmenter to January, 1895; Altie De Riar, to July, 1895; and Hattie Cargo to January, 1896. The secretaryship was held by R. B. Moore, from organization to September 27, 1893. Altie De Riar, Hattie Cargo, Cora Avery, and Kate Bever, followed in the order given, Mrs. Bever being the secretary at the close of 1895. The financial secretaries have been Marie Wittmer and Mrs. G. C. Nearing. There were ninety-six members enrolled on September 18, 1896, and the lodge was altogether flourishing.

*Washington Camp, No. 19, P. O. S. of A.*, is in a measure a revival of the Council of 1854, with the same patriotic and personal motives, but wanting in the political influence of the old Council. It was organized April 11, 1892, and chartered June 13, that year. M. S. Davenport was the first president, W. M. Collier, the second, followed by Abel Comstock, C. C. Potter, N. R. Harrington, L. W. Coy and Henry I. Deel, the councillor-in-chief at the close of 1895; re-elected in January, 1896, and now presiding. H. B. Brooks, the financial secretary, and N. R. Barrackman, the recording secretary, were also re-elected, with A. M. Neifer, treasurer; W. A. Keys, vice president; H. A. Stacy, M. of F.; W. A. Moore, conductor; E. L. Kitchen, inspector; F. Beebe, guard; Otis Mollencup, Geo. Hannon, Ray Ketchum and Leroy Chase, sentinels. They, with about sixty-seven other patriots, were members on September 14, 1895.

*Royal Arcanum, Wood Council, No. 204*, was chartered November 13, 1879, with the following

named members: J. R. Swiggert (1), F. B. Roath, A. E. Royce, R. W. McMahan (2), R. S. Parker (7), F. H. Boughton (4), E. W. Merry, George W. Hill (6), H. C. Frederick, R. C. Kinney, George W. Gaghan, B. R. Taber, George J. White, Irvin A. Noble, I. L. Hankey, John R. Hankey (5), J. D. Bolles (3), W. Curry, Frank A. Baldwin, F. Von Kanel, G. H. Hanck and M. A. Faws. The members who served as regents are denoted by the numerals in the order of election, the regent in September, 1895, being John W. Canary. The office of secretary was held first by M. A. Faws, next by F. A. Baldwin, then by Nos. 7, 4, 5, 1 and 3, as given above, as well as by Ira C. Taber, C. E. Hunter and J. M. Cunning. F. B. Roath, the secretary in 1895, reported forty-two members on September 1, 1895. The deaths reported are J. R. Swiggert, 1890; F. Von Kanel, 1893; and Robert C. Kinney, 1895. To the heirs of each \$3,000 were paid, in all \$9,000 since 1879.

*Kress Commandery, No. 204, Knights of St. John*, is, as the title implies, a uniformed association. While giving it a place here, among secret societies, its work is not secret in any particular. The uniform resembles that of the Knights Templar, while its governing principle or constitution is based on that of the Portugal order, founded after the interdict on the older chivalrous orders of the Church.

*Wiley Post, No. 46, G. A. R.*, was named in honor of Enoch B. Wiley, a Pennsylvanian, who settled at Perrysburg in 1852, moved to Bowling Green in 1857, enlisted in Company C, 21st O. V. I., August 29, 1861, was wounded at Stone River, December 31, 1862, and died January 5, 1863. The charter was issued to this Post April 8, 1881. The members named in the charter of April 8, 1881, are: W. R. Noyes, J. D. Bolles (1), J. A. Shannon, E. W. Merry, J. R. Hankey, C. W. Evers, A. Comstock (2), R. C. Kinney, M. S. Davenport, Oliver Goodman, H. C. Oldroyd (6), George W. Callin (8), Daniel Collier, Milton Zimmerman, George W. Vail, F. E. Hammond, G. C. Nearing (4), T. J. Avery, W. Miller, A. K. Vail, A. T. Lathrop, J. Y. Pettys, D. L. Hixon, Henry G. Hixon, Lewis Wilbur, James Hughes, W. H. Wood, W. Callahan, John H. Reid, H. Goodenough, A. J. Orme, Reason Bates, E. G. Wetmore, John Parker, E. Constable, Charles Decker, John Russell, James Russell, T. P. Howard, D. W. H. Day (3), R. Wallace, J. B. Newton (5), H. Terry, J. C. Courtney, R. Van Tassel, James W. English and William Wakefield. There were only fifty-three members in December, 1884, the

post having lost three of its members by death and many by resignation of membership. Again, several soldiers whose names were on the petition were not mustered in, so that the majority of the fifty-three comrades of 1884, were really new members. The commanders elected from the charter members are denoted by numbers in the above list, except J. N. Baker, the seventh, and J. W. Canary, the ninth in order of service. The position of adjutant has been held by A. Comstock, I. A. Noble, Theo. Alexander, A. S. Rush, C. T. Pope, G. C. Nearing, C. Finkbeiner, John McLaughlin and James M. Cuning. There are seventy-two members.

*Camp Ordway, No. 3, S. of V.*, named after Hiram Ordway, of Company C, 21st O. V. I., who was killed at Jonesboro, Ga., August 31, 1864, was chartered November 19, 1882. The original members were E. W. Poe, E. E. Vail, C. W. Vail, John L. Yonker, L. L. Yonker, George Swigart, F. W. Strong, E. Barber, I. N. Burket, H. McCarty, William Bates, F. P. Andrews, D. Whetstone and George Rogers. E. W. Poe was captain until January, 1885, when L. L. Yonker was installed. There were thirty-five members at the close of December, 1884.

*The Wood County Soldiers' and Sailors' Association* was presided over in 1884 by F. M. Young, with L. Black, secretary; J. R. Hankey, treasurer; and J. W. Thompson, chaplain.

*The Ohio Division, Sons of Veterans*, though organized at Toledo, January 8, 1883, may be considered a Wood county institution, because, on July 9, 1884, the headquarters were transferred to Bowling Green, and a number of Wood county men elected State officers, E. W. Poe, W. B. Ayres, L. L. Yonker, I. N. Burket, H. L. Davis, G. A. Repass, C. E. Gregg and A. S. Muir, being among the number.

*The Woman's Relief Corps*, known as Wiley Relief Corps, No. 85, was organized May 26, 1885, and chartered two days later, with Malona Wiley (1), president; Josephine Wood and Rosa Comstock (4), vice-presidents; Georgia Black (A), secretary; Emma Hankey, treasurer; Harriet Rush (5), chaplain; Asenith Hixson, conductor; and Stella Vail, guard. The unofficial members were Margaret Vail, Cora Potter, Julia M. Haskins, Caroline Poe, Sarah C. Evers, Mary Case, Alice Gaghan, Martha Terry, Celestia Russell, Mary Leet, Alice L. Noble, Caroline W. Merry, Mary Kramer (D), Mary McCarty (2 and 7), Jennie Cramer, Letitia Sullivan, Fannie Biggs, Clara Clough, Rebecca Hughs, Eliza Boughton, Hattie B. Young (8 and B), Carrie Noyes, Alice Simons, Cleantha Walker, Mary Bordner, Rebecca

Alexander, Ada Thurstin, Emma Phelps, Jane Dupoy, Elsie Thomas, Martha Bates and Hannah McCarty. Of the eight presidents the names of six are denoted in the list of charter members by the number after the name. Lucinda Lathrop, the third president, and Elvira Sears, the sixth, were not charter members. The secretaries have been Georgia Black, Hattie B. Young, Mary E. Hopkins, Mary Kramer and Sattie Hankey, while the present secretary is Hattie N. Lenhart. The membership, on September 13, 1895, was forty-three.

*Kenneth Lodge, No. 158, K. of P.*, elected the following named officers in December, 1895: Master of work, C. C. Potter; chancellor, George Monroe; vice-chancellor, A. V. Powell; prelate, Milt L. Nelson; master at arms, W. B. Beach; master of finance, C. D. Yonker; master of exchequer, C. S. Rex; keeper of records and seals, Harry Fleishman; outside guard, Joe Strubble; trustees, C. J. Finney, C. S. Rex and E. G. Doane; and representative, J. G. Starn.

*Wood Camp, No. 16, Woodmen of the World*, was presided over in 1895 by M. A. Ireland as C. C., with C. M. Foster, secretary. While the Camp is the senior of the K. O. T. M., as an organization, the membership is much smaller.

*Tent No. 89, K. O. T. M.*, installed the following named officers in January, 1895: H. B. Brooks, W. W. Mann, C. M. Foster, D. C. VanVoorhis, Owen Krum, H. Martindale, M. A. McKendree, William Nailor, William Dennis, E. C. Bailey and E. Levine. The charter was issued March 2, 1893, to twenty-seven members, among whom were R. P. Morrison, P. C.; M. A. McKendree, C.; H. C. Brown, R. K., and John Crane, F. K.

*The Uniformed Rank, K. O. T. M.*, was organized October 11, 1895, as Lincoln Division No. 7, and took at once a leading place among the uniformed societies of the county. The original members were S. W. Bolles, L. J. Bowers, W. P. Cobley, L. W. Coy, W. B. Eastwood, C. M. Foster, John Gentelmen, E. J. Greenfield, A. Hill Lee, Ellis Levine, W. W. Mann, H. Neiman, S. Magill, Sam Reiss, N. A. McComb, H. M. Stacy, Paul Schneblin, F. Tibbits, W. Vanbuskirk, Jacob Wolf, P. Kendall, F. B. McClung, D. D. Binkley and Sam Epstein. C. M. Foster was elected captain.

*Hive, No. 10, L. O. T. M.*, was organized October 31, 1894, with the following named members: Cora E. Caldwell, Sarah Hankey, Florence Foster, Harriet Parmenter, Josephine R. Wood, Alice M. Crom, Lydia McKendree, Eva Martindale, Maggie Cramer, Minnie M. Degg and Lo-

rena Nailor, who were elected officers. The names are given in Hive rank from past commander to picket. The unofficial members were Cora Bailey, Almeda Beebe, Hattie Cargo, Alma Clark, W. Diffenbaugh, Marcia Dair, Almira Foster, Adele S. Hill, Rosa Klearer, Ida E. Little, Emma Mineer, Cora Monroe, Nettie Nieman, Fannie Reiss, Martha and Sarah Terry, Belle Biggs, Carrie Hughes, and one or two others. The present secretary, Josephine R. Wood, reported fifty-four members in September, 1895.

*Crystal Chapter, No. 140, National Union*, was chartered August 24, 1889, with the following named members: B. L. Abbott, C. E. Abbott, W. S. Catterman, A. M. Chapman, E. G. Doane, C. E. Hunter, A. B. Leonard, J. W. LeGalley, H. S. McBride, Charles Miller, J. P. Marshall, C. C. Potter, M. A. Repass, C. R. Cook and L. T. VanTassel. R. B. Moore, the first president, was succeeded by B. L. Abbott, who was serving in September, 1895. J. W. LeGalley, the first secretary, was succeeded by E. G. Doane. There were thirty-eight members reported in September, 1895.

*The Women's Christian Temperance Union* was organized May 7, 1881, by Josephine Marlett. Mrs. Mary McFarland, was elected president, and Mrs. Jennie Cramer, first secretary,

while the first members included the officers named, with Mesdames Austin Taft, A. Van Tassel, D. D. Ames, Lucy Shannon, Adeliza Kimberlin, Rebecca Kane, Julia Hogkins, M. Wiggins, Josephine R. Wood, and a few others. The recruits have been numerous, but to name all is out of the question. The union has worked with zeal in the temperance cause. At one time these women drove the council to adopt the local option clause of the Dow law. They labored well in the interest of the Clark School Suffrage bill, sending to the House a petition signed by 600 persons. A like number was signed to the petition for the Haskell bill. There are now fifty members who prosecute the work of the union vigorously. Mrs. A. M. Housel, the late secretary, was succeeded in 1896 by Mrs. M. George; Mrs. Rose Carothers was elected president, and Mrs. J. Y. Housel, treasurer.

*Bowling Green Division, No. 554, Sons of Temperance*, was organized January 22, 1849, with W. H. Seely, Thomas Jolly, L. C. Lock, James R. Tracy, Peter Klopfenstein, Lee Moore, James Lamb, Nathan Moore, H. L. Burr and E. D. Winchester, officers in division rank.

Other secret and benevolent societies were organized here, but, owing to their multiplicity, all could not survive.

## CHAPTER XXVIII.

### BLOOM TOWNSHIP.

INTRODUCTORY—TOPOGRAPHY—POPULATION—PIONEERS AND FIRST SETTLERS—THE STRAY CHILD—FIRST LAND BUYERS—MALE RESIDENTS, 1839—AN OLD CEMETERY—ORGANIZATION, NAMING OF TOWNSHIP, AND FIRST ELECTION—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—EARLY SCHOOLS—MILLS, ETC.—BLOOM TOWNSHIP THIRTY YEARS AGO—VILLAGES; BLOOMDALE—BAIRDSTOWN—CYGNET—JERRY CITY.

THE history of this township begins in 1831, when the first lands were purchased by Henry Copus and James Archer, while yet it formed a part of the Indian hunting-ground. Within two years the pioneers came into the wilderness, cleared a few small tracts in the forest, and made the nucleus round which Civilization made her rude beginnings here. The exterior lines were surveyed in 1819, by Alex. and Samuel Holmes, and the sections, in 1821, by S. Bourne.

The Portage river claims two, at least, of its

principal feeders in the western half of Bloom, while a third feeder flows north through Perry township, close to and almost parallel with the east township line. The ridge which crosses the southern half of the township, from east to west, though decidedly sandy in composition, forms a most pleasant feature in the landscape, and is to-day selected by many of the leading agriculturists as the site for their modern homes.

The population, in 1840, was 437, increased to 1,394 by 1870, and to 3,334 by 1890.

Bloom was among the last of the townships

of Wood county to receive its first contingent of pioneers. To-day it ranks among the first in agricultural wealth. The pioneers found it almost as uninviting as any portion of the Black Swamp, but many of them lived to see it one of the fairest parts of Ohio. Within the last forty years the drainage system has been extended to all its sections, the wild land has been tamed, and a township rich in predial wealth, and richer still in the industrial character of its inhabitants, has grown up to reward the laborers.

The story of the first settlers was written, in 1867 or 1868, by W. S. Richard, and from it the following paragraph is taken, with which to begin the township's history:

In the winter of the year 1833, Jacob Leathers, in company with his brother John, Jonathan Hay, John Kiser and George Swayne, left Wayne county, Ohio, to visit Bloom township for the purpose of selecting a location for future homes. They had one horse, which served as pack-horse for the conveyance of food for themselves and feed for the animal. They traveled west until they succeeded in reaching Fostoria, then called and known as Rome and Risdon, where they employed Dr. Gossage's father as a guide to conduct them on their way. They passed through Perry township, west into Bloom. On the first night after they left Rome and Risdon, they encamped on the east side of a stream in Perry township, near where Samuel Spittler resided, in 1868. They built up a large fire, preparatory to eating their supper, which consisted of corn bread, a little pork and some raw turnip. After the meal for the evening was dispatched, preparation for lodging was commenced. Their bed consisted of a large number of brush thrown down upon the ground, which served as their "chaff-tick." They continued prospecting for land until they reached Sections 32 and 33, Bloom, where they concluded to locate. The sun again approached the meridian, and their appetites again craved something to eat. Each now rifled his pockets for the cooked or roasted potatoes, when, to their astonishment, they found them so completely frozen as to render them unfit for use. They were now compelled to do without food until they again emerged from the thick forest into which they had wound themselves. The company now started for Rome, *en route* to Bucyrus, where the land office was then located, to enter the land which they had selected. They now began to arrange their matters to move to the township in the spring of 1833. They stored some wheat at the Sandusky mills, which was to supply their wants until the forest could be made to yield a crop. On April 3, 1833, Jacob Leathers and his wife, in company with his brother John and his wife and one child, landed on Section 33. They unloaded their goods under a large oak tree, which was standing in 1868, their teams consisting of three horses and two yoke of oxen, all attached to one wagon. They were the only white inhabitants in the township. Indians then infested the woods, who were in pursuit of game. Leathers and brother occupied a small shanty, built by the Indians, for several days, and until a hut could be constructed, similar in shape to the common sugar house, built in this country. William, son of Jacob and Polly Leathers, born March 6, 1834, is said to have been the first Caucasian child born here. On April 9, 1833, Jonathan Hay arrived and settled on the farm now owned by George Black, formerly John Baird's farm.

Soon after the arrival of these settlers, Leathers was considerably alarmed by a number of Indians calling on him one day to accompany them into the woods. The Indians were accustomed to pass through this section of country in

traveling from Upper Sandusky to the Maumee river, and on this occasion had lost the trail. They requested Leathers to assist them in again finding the path, but keeping him entirely ignorant of their design. The affair created considerable suspicion, and no small degree of uneasiness, in the mind of Mrs. Leathers. Yet she said nothing against her husband accompanying the red faces. Finally they succeeded in finding the path or trail, when a loud "whoop" from one of the number was given, which was answered by a general yell. They now began to collect together, until some fifty or more were grouped. They bade adieu to Leathers, thanking him, and again proceeded on their journey.

In October, 1833, Daniel and Matthias Robbins, with their families, appeared in the forest, and the advance guard of Bloom's pioneers began their work.

On May 4, 1834, when Mahlon Whitacre arrived, he found Henry Smart living one and one-half miles west of Bairdstown. Henry Copus, who bought on Sec. 31, and James Archer, who bought his land on Sec. 30, in 1831, settled here in January, 1834, together with the pioneers already named, and Samuel Heller, whose cabin was on Sec. 19. Swayne, it is said, selected land in Perry township, not coming here until about 1836. Shortly after that, Swayne was caught under a falling tree, and his leg so crushed that amputation was necessary. [*Vide History of Montgomery township.*] Kiser also settled in Perry, and one or two others who came into the township selected lands in other parts of the county.

On May 25, 1834, Frederick Frankfather, wife and seven children set out from Columbiana county to seek a home here. On June 11 the party arrived at Jonathan Hay's house, and the day after the male members began to cut a road from that point to Bloom Center. On the 13th the party moved forward two miles, where a hovel, fourteen feet square, was erected. On the 23d rain set in, and continued for fifteen days, converting the district into a lake.

Ora Baird, wife and two children arrived, in September, 1834, at a point one mile south of Eagleville. There he got out logs for a cabin, which, with the help of the Leathers and others, he raised shortly after.

*The Stray Child.*—The story of the loss of the Frankfather child is one which has retained its interest for over sixty years. On October 25, 1835, Frederick Frankfather and the older members of the family walked to Jonathan Hay's house to hear preaching, leaving the younger

children engaged in gathering and cracking hickory nuts near the cabin. One of the children, Mary, then four and a half years old, wandered to a shell-bark hickory in the woods. Toward evening her brother James, then fifteen years old, called the name of the little one, but an older sister answered. A search was at once instituted, which was continued throughout the night, and on the 26th. On the 27th thirty men from Van Buren joined the searchers. The hem of the child's dress was found a mile northwest of Bloom Center. On the eighth day between 500 and 600 searchers were out, marching in regular order. They camped six miles north of the center of Bloom, but the father returned to his home, to seek rest that night and prepare for the morrow. At 9 o'clock, the same evening, Samuel Heller brought the news of a child's track being discovered near Hull's encampment, by a man who was going into Hancock county. The searchers turned next morning in that direction, found the track, but dispersed that night. On the eleventh day a new company of searchers met the father at Ross' tavern, where he learned that Clark and two other men found the child in the woods of Milton Center. They thought she was a little Indian, gave her some cake and told her to go to camp; but she followed the men until she came to a trail, leading to John Dubbs' cabin. Following it she came to a clearing where an employe of Dubbs was chopping, and thinking it was her brother, Jacob, advanced toward him cautiously. Seeing that it was not her brother, she was about returning, when two little girls who were with the chopper perceived the stranger. The workman had heard of the lost child that morning, and told the finders not to give her much food. At 5 o'clock the same evening her father, with Mahlon and Edward Whitacre, arrived at the Dubbs cabin, found the child, and returned that night to Mahlon Whitacre's. On the morning of the twelfth day Frankfather brought the child home. "Tip," the dog which accompanied her, is supposed to have been killed by wolves on the night of the tenth day, when the child remembers seeing a burning log fall and the dog running away. Mary married George Hiser, of Sandusky county, with whom she moved to Texas, where she died in 1861, leaving five female children and her husband to tell the details of her life.

In September, 1885, two of the Swinehart boys left home at Eagleville to search for the cows. The children lost their way in the forest, but were found some days later, thirty miles away,

near the Hancock county infirmary. Within the last decade the agriculturist and oil operator have cleared the forest, so that to-day there is scarcely a possibility of even a child becoming lost in the territory traveled by the urchins in 1885.

*First Land Buyers.*—The pioneers of the township, who purchased their lands from the United States, are named in the following list. A few others bought lands from Ohio, while many old settlers purchased from speculators, who entered large tracts in this township. The buyer, description, number of section and date are given:

David Adams, pt. N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 3, July 15, 1836.  
Jonathan Stull, pt. of S. W., S. E. of S. W. and N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 4, June 16, 1834.  
John Soleleather, S. W. of S. W. Sec. 4, Sept. 28, 1840.  
Mahlon Whitacre, pt. of N. W. and W. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 5, Nov. 29, 1833.  
Lott Milbourn, E. of S. W. and W. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 5, May 3, 1834.  
Henry Zigler, N. E. and E. of N. W. and E. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 5, June 16, 1834.  
Mahlon Whitacre, E. of N. E. and S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6, Nov. 29, '33.  
Abraham Weldy, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6, Nov. 29, 1833.  
Edward Whitacre, N. E. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 7, Nov. 29, 1833.  
Edward Whitacre, N. W. of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 8, Nov. 29, 1833.  
John Flickinger, N. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 8, May 28, 1834.  
Jacob Flickinger, S. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 8, May 28, 1834.  
Samuel McCrory, W. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 9, May 3, 1834.  
Daniel Myers, W. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 9, June 16, 1834.  
Samuel A. Studebaker, W. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 10, July 25, 1836.  
Michael Musser, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 10, Sept. 6, 1836.  
Moses Hales, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12, May 19, 1834.  
Frederick Frankfather, W. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 15, June 14, 1834.  
Jacob Flickinger, N. E. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 17, May 29, 1834.  
Samuel Heller, S. E. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 18, and N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 19, May 1, 1833.  
John McWilly, pts. of S. W. and S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 19, April 9, '34.  
Peter Weaver, S. E. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 22, Feb. 7, 1840.  
Henry Warner, S. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 22, April 15, 1833.  
Moses A. Campbell, N. E. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23, Nov. 4, 1836.  
John Smith, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 23, April 15, 1833.  
William Fox, N. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 24, May 17, 1833.  
Julius Easton, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 24, May 10, 1833.  
Jonathan Hay, W. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 26, Jan. 18, 1833.  
Ora Baird, W. of S. E. and S. E. of S. W. Sec. 26, May 30, '34.  
Thomas Loman, S. E. of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 26, Sept. 23, 1835.  
Philip Helmer, W. N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 26, July 13, 1838.  
Francis East, S. W. of S. E. and S. E. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, and N. W. of S. E. of Sec. 34, March 22, 1839.  
Mahlon Whitacre, S. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 28, Nov. 29, 1833.  
Henry Smart, W. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 29 and S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30, April 24, 1833.  
Matthias Robbins, E. of S. W. and S. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 29, Nov. 5, 1833.  
James Archer, W. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30, Aug. 27, 1831.  
Peter Musgrave, W. pt. of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30, Aug. 30, 1833.  
Henry Copus, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 31, Aug. 27, 1831.  
John Johnston, E. pt. N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 31, Sept. 15, 1834.  
Robert and William Black, N. E. and S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 31, Sept. 15, 1834.  
Daniel Eagle, S. of S. E. and S. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 32, Oct. 23, '34.  
Jacob Leathers, Jr., S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 33, Jan. 18, 1833.  
John Leathers, S. W. and S. W. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 33, June 6, 1833, and 1834.  
Jonathan Hay, N. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 34, Feb. 25, 1834.  
Daniel Robbins, N. E. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 35, April 9, 1833.  
Francis Redfern, S. W. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 35, Jan. 21, 1836.  
George Defenbaugh, S. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 35, Dec. 4, 1838.  
Levi Simon, S. W. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 35, ret'd for taxes in 1853.  
Jonathan W. Myers, S. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 36, April 29, 1837.

*Male Residents, 1839.*—Within six years of the day on which the pioneers located here, there were over 150 inhabitants, including the following named males, who, in April, 1839, were 21 years of age or over: James Archer, Henry Archer, Christopher Apple, Ora Baird, Henry Copus, Alexander Stewart, Henry Smart, Charles C. Smart, Samuel Smart, Jabez House, Matthias Robbins, George A. Swain, James June, William June, Jonathan Hay, Peter Hay, John Leathers, Jacob Leathers, James Slater, Hiram Westcott, William Fox, Eli June, Thomas Loman, Jacob Zigler, Daniel Robbins, Thomas H. Phillips, Edwin Gorton, Joseph Roberts, John Mackerel, Joseph Redfern, Enoc G. England, Jacob Flickinger, Jacob Clevers, John Clevers, Christopher Ensberger, Lyman Enslinger, Henry Otto, Samuel Heller, James D. McWiley, Frederick Frankfather, John Ross, Reason Whitacre, Michael Shafer, John Snyder, Peter Painter, Harman Hockenberry, Henry Smith, Moses O. Jones, Israel Drake, William Drake, Phillip McManus, Jonathan Stull, Adam Stull, Phillip Wintermaker, Lot Milbourn, Andrew Milbourn, David Milbourn, Abiah Stackhouse, Mahlon Whitacre, Edward M. Whitacre, Isaac Whitacre, Edward T. Whitacre and John Fast, while a few others who came late in 1839 were not noticed by the assessor.

*An Old Cemetery.*—Among the soldiers buried in the Sugar Grove cemetery are: James McNealy, of the Revolutionary war; Marcus and Lyman Palmertor, and R. Lowe, of the war of 1812; W. Stull, A. Palmertor, T. J. Shinebarger, G. Hiser, J. Morks and T. H. Phillips, of the Civil war. These veterans lie in the old cemetery on the Reason Whitacre farm, east of Cygnet. The cemetery was opened in 1841, with the burial of Hannah Whitacre, the eldest child of the present owner of the land. In the newer cemeteries of the township many soldiers of the war of the Rebellion find a resting place beside the warriors who entered the forest in the "thirties," and gave battle to the obstacles which they encountered. The Bloom cemetery, referred to in other pages, was opened in 1842. The Weaver cemetery, one-half mile north of Bairdstown, was established about twenty years ago, while one or two other spots are dedicated to the dead.

*Organization.*—This township, as established March 2, 1835, embraced Congressional Township No. 3, Range 11. The first election was ordered to be held at Frederick Frankfather's dwelling on the first Monday of the following month. Squire Richard, in 1867, gathered the story of the municipal beginnings of Bloom, and

from it the following paragraphs are taken: "In the spring of 1835 the settlers concluded to effect an organization of the township. Daniel Robbins, Jonathan Hay and Samuel Heller, acted as a committee to carry out the resolution. They could not agree upon the name of the township, or rather what the name of the township should be. Heller proposed to call it Green; Hay proposed the name of Amanda, while Robbins proposed and preferred the name of Bloom. They agreed to write the name, proposed by each, on a slip of paper, and carry it to Perrysburg where the matter was to be determined. They also agreed that Hay carry the paper to Perrysburg and return on the third day after leaving home, when Robbins and Heller agreed to meet him and obtain the result of the decision. Hay performed his part of the programme. At the appointed time, Robbins and Heller were on hand, eager to ascertain the result of the mission. On the latter named gentleman's approach to the house, Hay shouted: 'The child is born, and its name is Bloom!' And from that day to this it continues to wear the name.

"The first election was held in April, 1836, at the residence of Frederick Frankfather, near the center of the township. The following named persons were in attendance on the day appointed for the selection of township officers: Daniel Robbins, Matthias Robbins, Mahlon Whitacre, Samuel Heller, Henry Smart, Ora Baird, Lot Milbourn, A. Stackhouse, Edward Whitacre, Frederick Frankfather, Jacob Leathers, John Leathers, and Jonathan Hay. Daniel Robbins, Matthias Robbins, and Mahlon Whitacre served as judges of the election. They elected the following officers: Trustees, Ora Baird, Mahlon Whitacre, and Henry Smart; treasurer, John Leathers; clerk, Lot Milbourn; constable, Ora Baird. Whether they elected an assessor or not, the writer has been unable to ascertain—the first records of the township having been lost or destroyed, and these old veterans' memory being unable to supply the information.

"In June of the same year, an election was held for justice of the peace. Daniel Robbins and Mahlon Whitacre were selected to fill the positions. The returns of this election were made by Ora Baird, who was compelled to swim his horse several times before reaching Perrysburg. On his return the same scene had to be enacted. The first assessor of the township was Daniel Robbins. He was obliged to pass through the western part of Perry township, in order to reach the inhabitants of the northern part of the township, the central and eastern part of Bloom being

completely inundated at the time. The fee, or pay for his labor, in making the assessment, and the returns to the county seat, amounted to nearly five dollars."

The action of Mr. Richard, a fifth of a century ago, in transferring to newspaper print this interesting story, must be appreciated by the people as it is by the writer, who, however fortunate in tracking old record books in this township and documents relating to them in the auditor's office, confesses that, without the effort of 1875, he could not obtain the names of trustees farther back than 1839.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

In giving the following list of trustees, clerks, treasurers, and justices of the peace, assurances are also given that the names and dates are taken from all the records which could be found in the township or in the auditor's office:

##### *Trustees.*—

- 1839—Hiram Westcott, Henry Smith.  
 1843—William Campbell, Henry W. Musser, John Weaver.  
 1844—Andrew Campbell, Henry W. Musser, John Weaver.  
 1845—Mahlon Whitacre, Jonathan Myers, George J. Lee.  
 1846—Edwin Gorton, Jonathan Myers, George J. Lee.  
 1847-49—Reason Whitacre, Jonathan Myers, George J. Lee.  
 1850—William Campbell, Ora Baird, Henry W. Musser.  
 1851—Andrew Campbell, J. M. Bronson, Henry W. Musser.  
 1852—Andrew Campbell, Jacob Zigler, Henry W. Musser.  
 1853—Israel Simon, Jacob Zigler, Henry W. Musser.  
 1854—Israel Simon, Asa Biglow, Henry W. Musser.  
 1855—Israel Simon, William Campbell, Joseph Redfern.  
 1856—Israel Simon, Reason Whitacre, H. W. Musser.  
 1857—Israel Simon, Reason Whitacre, G. J. Lee.  
 1858—Ora Baird, Reason Whitacre, G. J. Lee.  
 1859—Ora Baird, Andrew Klingersmith, G. J. Lee.  
 1860—Reason Whitacre, Jacob Richard, G. J. Lee.  
 1861—Reason Whitacre, Jacob Richard, David Adams.  
 1862—John Dunn, Solomon Gilbert, David Adams.  
 1863-64—John Dunn, Israel Simon, Solomon Gilbert.  
 1865—Anthony Frederick, Israel Simon, A. Klingersmith.  
 1866—Alva L. French, Joshua Yeaman, I. Weaver.  
 1867—Reason Whitacre, Wilber Brown, Martin G. Snyder.  
 1868-69—Charles Cotant, Joseph Stove, Wilber Brown.  
 1870—G. Ledyard, F. R. Sherman.  
 1871-72—Lawrence K. Soule, James W. White.  
 1873—William McMurray, John Solether, Alfred Simon.  
 1874—William McMurray, Samuel H. Raub, James W. White.  
 1875—William McMurray, Martin G. Snyder, James W. White.  
 1876—Levi Kistler, Martin G. Snyder, M. Milbourn.  
 1877—Philip Brubaker, Samuel Hamman, Hugh Campbell.  
 1878-79—Derastus Lee, William Crum, David H. Wirick.  
 1880—Isaac Feasel, Reason Whitacre, Wesley Leathers.  
 1881—John Heller, Derastus Lee, A. D. Loe.  
 1882—John Heller, William Kline, A. D. Loe.  
 1883—J. R. Redfern, Hugh Campbell, J. Calvin Solether.  
 1884—J. R. Redfern, Hugh Campbell, Solomon Simon.  
 1885—T. J. Campbell, J. R. Redfern, Solomon Simon.  
 1886—T. J. Campbell, C. W. Solether, E. J. Rosendale.  
 1887—T. J. Campbell, M. Milbourn, E. J. Rosendale.  
 1888—T. J. Campbell, M. Milbourn, E. J. Rosendale.  
 1889—E. H. Monasmith, John Russell, M. Milbourn.  
 1890—Benj. Sutherland, John Russell, E. H. Monasmith.  
 1891—James W. Smith, Benj. Sutherland, E. H. Monasmith.

- 1892—Daniel L. Kunkler, W. E. Fries, E. H. Monasmith.  
 1893—J. A. Bailey, D. L. Kunkler, E. H. Monasmith.  
 1894—J. A. Bailey, D. L. Kunkler, B. W. Leathers.  
 1895—J. A. Bailey, J. H. Simon, B. W. Leathers.  
 1896—James H. Whitacre was elected.

*Clerks.*—The office of clerk, commencing 1843, has been filled as follows: 1843, Edwin Gorton; 1844, Jacob Flickinger; 1847, Asa Bigelow; 1849, Levi Simon; 1850, John Weaver; 1853, Lewis Butler; 1854, John Weaver; 1856, J. A. Bonnell; 1859, John Whisler; 1860, John A. Bonnell; 1861, James M. Bronson; 1862, John A. Bonnell; 1863, W. S. Richard; 1864, Levi Simon; 1865, Levi Kistler; 1869, Wilber Brown; 1870, Levi Kistler; 1873, T. J. Campbell; 1880, W. H. Dennis; 1884, J. C. Solether; 1886, Nathan Frederick; 1887, W. H. Dennis; and R. B. Fast, 1896.

*Treasurers.*—The treasurers of the township, as far as records tell, are named as follows: 1844, John Leathers; 1845, E. Gorton; 1847, John Weaver; 1849, Edwin Gorton; 1850, Asa Bigelow; 1852, Jacob Bailey; 1853, Jacob Frankfather; 1857, R. Simon; 1860, John Weaver; 1861, Jacob Bailey; \* \* \* 1874, Isaac Feasel; 1878, Henry J. Smith; 1880, Anthony Frederick; 1881-95, W. H. Strock.

*Justices.*—On June 6, 1835, the first justices were elected, there being eleven voters present, including Adam Stull and Jacob Clever. The justices of Bloom township have been Daniel Robbins and Mahlon Whitacre, who qualified in December, 1835; 1838, John Beeson and Jacob Flickinger; 1838, Daniel Robbins; 1840 and 1843; Henry Smith; 1842, Edward T. Whitacre; 1847, Edwin Gorton; 1846 to 1870, John Russell; 1850, Lot Milbourn; 1855, Jacob Flickinger; 1856-59, Samuel Klingersmith; 1861, John Weaver; 1865, George E. Lee; 1868, Reason Whitacre; 1870 to 1892, William S. Richard; 1871, L. K. Soule; 1874, James Bronson; 1876 to 1885, Theodore Brown; 1879, Abraham Hampshire; 1885, C. A. Risser; 1888, G. C. Weaver, resigned in 1891; 1891, George W. Black; 1892, W. D. Campbell; 1894, A. B. Probert; 1895, H. V. McGivern.

*Assessors.*—In 1896, William Bishop, Joseph S. Enos, Lewis S. Whitacre and John F. Echelbarger were elected.

*School Board.*—In 1896, Joshua Weaver, Joshua Walden, T. A. Rosendale, A. M. Plotner, J. H. Whitacre and J. S. Simon were elected members of the school board.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Early Schools.*—The first school house at Eagleville was erected on the southeast corner



of Sec. 26. Round logs, a puncheon floor and large fireplace were the characteristics of the cabin. The house was burned the Sunday night prior to the day set for opening school. A year or two after a similar cabin was built on the same site, in which Hiram Westcott was the first teacher. In 1856 or 1857 the cabin was razed, and a frame building erected by the district.

The first school house remembered by Reason Whitacre stood on the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 5. It was built by Mahlon Whitacre, Lot and David Milbourn, Abiah Stackhouse and Edward Whitacre. That was a hewed-log structure, twenty-four feet square. John McCrory was the first teacher and Abraham Loe the second. The children of school age numbered fifteen, of whom Mandeville Milbourn appears to be the only one now living in the township. A new house was built north of the old one in 1861, which was moved a half mile north in 1889, and is now the dwelling of James Whitacre. The third house was built in 1889, one-half mile east of the first Whitacre school, and is now in use. Abigail Bisby was one of the early teachers.

*Mills, Etc.*—Joshua Yeaman's sawmill was established in the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 6 in the spring of 1841. He dammed Rocky Ford above the Samuel McCrory cabin, and constructed a race to the undershot wheel used in the mill. In 1850 or 1851 he added a gristmill, using two run of buhrs; but in after years he introduced steam power and new machinery. In 1871 Mr. Yeaman died, and the estate sold the buhrs, old machinery and frame to Henry Zody and John Rees, of Risingsun, before the survey of Cygnet. The Richards steam flouring-mill at Bloomdale may be called the first leading industry of that class in the township.

The ashery of John McCrory and Benjamin Sutherland was located in the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 6. The manufacture of potash was commenced by them in 1855, but when the cloud of war spread over the country the industry was abandoned. The stave factories and lumber mills at Jerry City, Bloomdale, Bairdstown, etc., and the great oil refinery works at Walker are modern industries.

The contrast between Bloom of thirty years ago and Bloom of the present time is a strong one, indeed. In the winter of 1866-7 there was the log school house of District No. 4 standing and in use. Five steam sawmills, owned by J. D. Bronson & Co., at Stulltown; John Weaver & Sons, northwest of the Center; Hammond & Shoemaker's, at the Center (where a circular saw was used); E. Raub & Co.'s, at Eagleville, and

French & Rosendale's, one-fourth mile north of Eagleville, with which a shingle machine was used. Joshua Yeaman's gristmill, in the northwest corner of the township, was then in operation; moved to Cygnet, converted into a planing-mill and burned. At Eagleville were E. P. Emerson's store, S. H. Raub's grocery, S. Johnson and William Cook's shoe shops, Mork & Richard's carriage shop, Johnson & Fry's tannery, and C. Richard's blacksmith shop. E. P. Emerson was then postmaster. The Methodist Episcopal Society had a building on John Baird's farm, the Protestant Methodists at the Lee meeting house, on the Layard farm, and the Universalists, Disciples and other bodies at the Union church, at Eagleville.

To-day there are four incorporated villages in the township, each with its officials, merchants, tradesmen, physicians, teachers and preachers, while outside their limits are the agriculturalists, a wealthy, intelligent people, possessing large homes as well as the wealth of cattle and fertile lands.

#### VILLAGES.

*Eagleville* was surveyed for J. M. Bronson February 18, 1852. The first post office in that part of the township was located about the year 1858 or 1859, with Dr. Ozias Baird postmaster, on what is known as the "Cornelius Simon" farm, in Section 29. About the year 1860 Mr. Baird abandoned the office, and John Weaver, his surety, took charge. In 1861 the office was moved about four miles to the village of Eagleville, with James M. Bronson deputy postmaster. From the first it bore the name of "Bloom," and retained that name until changed to "Bloomdale" in 1878. James M. Bronson acted as deputy postmaster until his death, when Dr. S. B. Emerson was appointed, who served some three years, when James D. Bronson was appointed and served until his removal to Bowling Green, about the year 1868. E. P. Emerson succeeded Bronson by appointment, and he acted as postmaster until the office was transferred to the village of Bloomdale, having been changed from "Bloom" to "Bloomdale," and the office known as "Bloom" was discontinued. In February, 1885, an office was re-established named "Ted," and E. J. Rosendale confirmed as master. He served until T. A. Rosendale was appointed.

The Union church of Eagleville was built over forty years ago, James Bronson, a Universalist preacher, being the leading spirit in the enterprise. It was dedicated by him and used for worship by the Universalists, United Brethren



and Christians. The trustees of the last named denomination purchased the building in 1883, refitted the interior, abolished its union character, and made it a meeting-house for the members of their society.

The Christian Church was organized in 1854, with the following members: Asa Baird, Rebecca, Lydia A. and Sarah Baird, John, David, Sarah, Eliza and Nancy Fast, Asa Bigelow, and Lydia and Irial Coon. The pastors, in order of service, were William Dowling, L. Randall, G. W. Cline, F. B. Morris, W. F. Morrison and G. M. Kemp; and the clerks, W. S. Richard, E. L. Stove and T. A. Rosendale. There were ninety members reported in 1895.

*Bloom Center* and neighborhood is a rich pastoral district, north of the Eagleville ridge. South of it is Bloom cemetery, where Daniel, son of F. and C. Frankfather, was buried April 12, 1842, and where many pioneers of the township have since found a resting place. The church and school are found in the neighborhood. Northward is the town hall, where the township fathers meet at regular intervals, and all round are the fertile farms and comfortable homes of the farmers. On April 1, 1876, a literary society was organized here with N. Frederick, president, and J. D. Halsey, secretary. Its membership embraced twenty males and twenty-two females, who organized with the object of improving their knowledge of history, letters and the sciences. Twenty years have made many changes, not the least being in the personnel of that society.

*Welker* on the N. W. part of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 30, R. 11, was surveyed October 7, 1886, for Henry Byal. In 1887, Stillwell's addition was surveyed. The great oil refinery at that point represents the investment of large capital, while the employment of a number of workmen insures to the district a weekly income. North of the refinery, the company owns fifteen cottages, which are rented to their employes at a nominal sum. The hamlet, at the junction of the B. & O. and T. & O. C. shows very few evidences of advancement.

*Trombley, or Blake*, on the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 6, was surveyed in 1885. Trombley's sawmill (built in 1885) was the only industry of the place. The name was subsequently changed to Trombley. Edwin Gorton was the first postmaster; William Downing, the second postmaster, is also the general merchant of the place.

*Incorporated Villages.*—The villages of Bairdstown, Bloomdale and Cygnet are entirely within the township, while Jerry City is partly in Bloom and partly in Portage township, the divis-

ion being very nearly equal in the matter of population, for in 1890 there were 251 inhabitants on the Bloom side, and 279 on the Portage side. As the early settlement of the village was more closely identified with Bloom than with Portage, the history finds a place as a part of this chapter.

#### BLOOMDALE.

This well ordered little capital of Bloom township deserves the pretty and euphonious name it bears. Like her western neighbor, North Baltimore, the construction of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad suggested the building of a town at this point, but the building of the town must be primarily credited to the men of enterprise who settled there, knowing that, if they failed to make it a manufacturing town, they could depend on the rich farming country around it for trade and commerce. The transfer of the old post office, named "Bloom," to the new town, in 1877 or 1878, was a testimonial to its advancement which the people of the flourishing country round it realized, and the local merchants and tradesmen made the most of it. During the ensuing decade inducements were offered to manufacturers to locate works here, and to home seekers to build town houses; but not until the close of the decade did this policy bear fruit. Then Bloomdale entered on her new life, which gave her a compact business center and a few well-built residence streets. The population, in 1880, was 130; in 1890 increased to 519; and in April, 1895, estimated at between 800 and 900.

*Municipal Affairs.*—The petition for the incorporation of Bloomdale was presented to the commissioners July 30, 1887, signed by fifty-eight inhabitants. A remonstrance followed; but on December 7, 1887, the petition was granted, and the people ordered to organize their village in April following. The officers elected, April 2, 1888, were A. B. Probert, mayor; M. G. Snyder, clerk; D. N. Easley, treasurer; Jackson Loman, marshal; J. L. McKee, sealer; and J. B. Linhart, D. Wineland, E. D. Beam, A. B. Goodyear and F. K. Stacy, councilmen. They qualified on April 4, 1888, before Squire Richard, and the beginnings of municipal life were made.

The mayors have been A. B. Probert, 1888-90; Thomas J. Campbell, 1890-91; F. K. Stacy, 1891 (to fill a vacancy, and re-elected in 1892). In April, 1894, Dr. H. H. McClaran was elected; in 1896, Justin L. Easley.

M. G. Snyder served as clerk from April, 1888, to April, 1892, when Charles F. Simon,

was elected and qualified. In 1896, W. E. Van-Eman was elected.

In May, 1888, a calaboose was authorized to be built at a cost of \$87.00 (sold in January, 1895, for \$12). In July an attempt to make a fire department of Edison Fire Extinguishers, and a few similar acts, showed the precocious ideas of the young council. The town hall was begun and finished in 1892, by J. L. Easley, contractor. The total cost, \$1,800, was appropriated from the general tax, and a large two-story brick house given for this small sum. The debt of the town is a little over \$700, and the income \$1,859.33, for the year ending April 1, 1894. There were 108 votes cast in April, 1888, and 164 in April, 1895, but the number of voters, on the latter date, was 210.

The municipal election of 1895 resulted in the choice of J. F. Smith (D.), J. L. Van Eman (R.) and R. A. McKee (R.) for councilmen. The first received 99 votes, the second 91, and the third 75. W. E. Sadler was elected street commissioner, and W. W. Emerson, marshal. The election of 1896 resulted in the choice for councilmen of J. W. Simon, M. T. Urie, and F. R. Stacy, the other members of the council being John L. Van Eman, R. A. McKee, and J. F. Smith; S. A. Linhart was elected treasurer; Joseph Enos, marshal; E. D. Bloom, corporation solicitor. Thomas G. Campbell and Jeremiah Loman were elected members of the school board, the other members being Mrs. Almeda Stouffer, J. W. Smith, S. A. Linhart, and C. F. Simon.

*School Affairs.*—A petition signed by fifty-eight residents of the newly incorporated town was presented to the township board of education, March 2, 1889, by J. S. Enos, J. H. Simon and T. J. Campbell, asking that certain territory embracing the village be set off as a special school district. The petition was granted, and on March 16, that year, T. J. Campbell, J. H. Simon and J. S. Enos, were elected directors. Old District No. 7 now became the Bloomdale District, with its school house, a two-story brick building, which is now the residence of W. S. Richard. In 1890, R. A. Emerson, C. F. Simon, D. N. Easley and A. B. Probert were chosen directors, Campbell and Enos holding over. J. E. Todd was re-employed in May, with his wife, as teacher of the primary schools, and Emma Ridgley of the intermediate department. J. W. Smith appears to have been a director at this time, while in April, 1891, S. A. Linhart was a member *vice* Campbell. In June, J. W. Simon was appointed teacher of the grammar school,

in April, 1892, A. M. Fasig took Enos' place as director, and in April, 1893, W. E. Sadler took Probert's place. The issue of bonds for \$12,000 was authorized in 1893, S. A. Linhart, A. M. Fassig and J. W. Smith were appointed a building committee, while the contract was awarded to George Brake, of Findlay, for \$11,400. T. J. Campbell and Jerry Loman became directors in the spring of 1893, *vice* Sadler (retired) and Easley (killed accidentally). The school affairs were transacted by the old board until April, 1895, when Mrs. Stouffer was elected *vice* Capt. Fasig, C. F. Simon, J. W. Smith, S. A. Linhart, Jerry Loman and T. J. Campbell. The numeration is nearly 200.

*The Post Office* was established September 31, 1877, with R. A. Emerson, master. His successors were: John Kelly, appointed in July, 1885; J. T. Bushong, in October, 1886, and Jeremiah Miller, in August, 1889. J. T. Bushong, the present master, was appointed August 14, 1893. The history of the beginnings of this office is given under the heading "Eagleville," in this chapter.

*The Exchange Bank* was established in July, 1891, by T. J. and O. E. Campbell. The bank building was erected in 1893 (on the corner of Main and Walnut streets), being the first modern business block erected in the town, and the largest brick building erected specially for banking and commercial purposes, south of Bowling Green and east of North Baltimore.

*The Merchants' Protective Association* was organized in May, 1895, to guard against that class of customers who transfer their patronage, when it is inconvenient to pay the bills presented by the trader with whom they formerly dealt. The original signers of the constitution were Ullery & Shue, Pisel & McKenna, R. A. Emerson, J. A. Cramer and Miller & Purkey.

*Industries.*—The steam flouring-mill and lumber-mills are the principal manufacturing industries. The Baltimore & Ohio railroad, completed to this point in 1874, with the north and south lines crossing at Welker and Fostoria, offers complete transportation facilities.

*A Famous Militia Company.*—The Bloomdale Rifles, or Company H, 2d O. N. G., was organized on May 7, 1885, with A. B. Probert, captain; W. W. Emerson and J. J. Ullery, lieutenants; J. Loman, first sergeant; Joseph Enos, J. B. Frey, Stephen Davis and Joseph Linhart, sergeants; G. W. Elliott, Samuel Linhart, Charles Overholt, James Smith, Joseph Cramer, C. G. Bronson, J. Strawbridge and F. Slaughterback, corporals; and M. Probert

and Charles Shafer, musicians. The privates of the command at that time were Willard Baird, James Beam, John Beam, Warren O. Bryant, J. D. Baldwin, W. H. Cramer, D. L. Cramer, J. M. Davis, C. W. Eckman, R. A. Emerson, M. H. Elliott, H. M. Hasler, John Kelly, H. M. Krieger, Jackson Loman, O. McMurray, James Mason, Robert McKee, Jonathan Myers, A. Overholt, Landis Robbins, Edward Robbins, Allen Robbins, George Rice, James Rosendale, Wilson Richard, Oscar Sheats, Willis Simon, Charles Simon, John Simon, Delton Simon, Moses Simon, D. Strawbridge, W. Sadler, A. J. Shue, Ed. Stillwell, W. Slotterback, Samuel Singer, F. Swinehart, Henry Shell, Charles Shirk, M. C. Thompson, John Taylor, George Urie, Ed. Vickers, Emar Wineland, Frank Wineland, John Wineland, W. Wineland and W. S. Wagner. Capt. Probert was promoted to lieutenant-colonel of the 2d Regiment, March 17, 1887, and E. S. Bryant was elected captain in April following, and served until April 24, 1893, when he was promoted to lieutenant-colonel, *vice* Probert, retired, and A. M. Fasig, who was elected captain May 2, 1893, had been an honorary member before that time. In June, 1894, the scattered members were called together within two hours and *en route* to Wheeling Creek to join other commands in protecting property.

The armory was built in 1887-88 at a cost of \$1,500, and dedicated in May of that year.

In 1893 the company won the first prize offered by the regiment. The score of the company in the sharp-shooting competition of 1894 was 385 out of a possible score of 500 at 200 and 300 yards. Four of this company are members of the regimental team. The silver trophy is an elaborate one.

**Churches.**—The Methodist Episcopal Church was established October 3, 1885, when E. D. Beam was chosen leader of the class. The members were: C. E. Beam, D. N. Easley, R. Easley, Dr. W. A. Dickey, Josephine Dickey, Ellinda Urie, J. W. Myers, Elmira Myers, J. A. Myers, Matilda Myers, Thomas Campell, Susan Campell, Catherine Wineland, L. S. Hamilton, Joseph Enos, M. Enos, B. Z. Cotant, S. E. Cotant, N. Cotant, Samuel Hyter, R. Hyter, Prudence Fisher and Maria Shue. The presiding elders of the district, since 1885, have been L. C. Webster and A. C. Barnes. L. A. Belt is the present elder. The preachers-in-charge have been: Rev. Isaac N. Kalb, Peter Biggs and Jason Young, who preceded Rev. Frank E. Higbie, the present pastor. The office of secretary has been filled by William Werner, J. N. Jamison and J.

R. Purkey; G. W. Hill being the present secretary. The church of this denomination, begun in 1887, was completed early in 1888, at a cost of \$3,300 for land and building, and dedicated March 4, 1888, by the late Rev. William H. Gibson, of Tiffin.

The Lutheran Church, of which Rev. A. C. Martin is the present pastor, is also a new organization at this point.

The United Brethren Church, presided over by Rev. J. E. Hill, is also a modern organization, claiming a small membership.

The Radical United Brethren Church was organized March 27, 1892, with the following members: A. S. and Maggie Brown, Elizabeth Duffield, Cora Brewer, J. F. Smith, David George, J. N., R. A. and Ellen Emerson, E. and Hattie Wineland. The church was built in 1893, at a cost, for land and house, of \$2,000. Rev. H. C. De Rodes was the first pastor, Rev. J. A. Ferguson the second, while Rev. J. A. Witham and Rev. Anna Witham are now enjoying a joint pastorate.

**Societies.**—Urie Post, 110, G. A. R., was chartered September 9, 1881, with the following named members: J. Loman, M. G. Snyder, D. Wineland, W. S. Richard, J. R. Deihl, R. R. Strawbridge, M. Shafer, F. Bley, G. Browneller, Charles Richard, A. A. Fulmer, A. J. Collins, E. P. Emerson, G. Brandeberry, W. W. Emerson, J. Andress, J. C. Brandeberry, G. W. Slotterback, J. F. Linhart and J. Hiller. The commanders for the fifteen years ending December 31, 1895, were M. Shafer (1881), John Hiller, 1882, 1884 and 1890; A. B. Probert, 1883, 1885; Jerry Loman, 1886; Joseph Eckles, 1887 and 1888; W. S. Richard, 1889; J. P. Redfern, 1891; T. J. Campbell, 1892; R. Strawbridge, 1893; John Wagner, 1894; and A. B. Probert, 1895. The adjutant's office has been filled by Jerry Loman, 1881, to January, 1885, 1893 and 1895; J. Enos, 1885; M. G. Snyder, 1886; C. E. Simon, 1887; A. B. Probert, 1888, 1892 and 1894; T. J. Campbell, 1889 and 1891; R. Strawbridge, 1890.

Urie Women's Relief Corps, No. 168, was instituted by Sarah Schuyler. It was chartered November 11, 1887, with Chastine Probert (1), president; Fannie J. Redfern (5), S. V. P.; Debbie Eckles, J. V. P.; Elvira Barnes, chaplain; Rosa Loman (2), treasurer; Frankie Bennett, secretary; Harriet Miller, conductor; and Ann Kelly, guard. The other members were Elinda Urie, Catherine, Amanda, Mary and Hettie Wineland, Eva E. (6), and Effie Bryant, Amanda Campbell, Eliza and Mary Pisel, Ruth

Chilcote, Elsie Beam, Christina Snyder, Belle McKee, Loraine Horn (4), and Jennie Swinehart. The presidents in order of service are numbered above, except Nettie L. Redfern, who was the third incumbent. The office of secretary has been filled by Frankie Bennett, Nettie Redfern, Chastine Probert, Ella McKenna, and the present secretary, Mrs. Nettie L. Redfern.

T. J. Campbell Camp was chartered November 13, 1889, with thirteen members.

General Steedman Council No. 66, O. U. A. M., was chartered October 12, 1892, with thirty members. As organized on June 24, that year, it claimed the following named officers: J. E. Wineland, C.; D. C. Strawbridge, V. C.; J. C. Easley, recorder; and W. A. Hurrell, assistant secretary. The councillors elected since the beginning of 1893 are: J. L. McLachan and L. A. Chilcote, 1893; W. E. Sadler and T. J. Loman, 1894; S. M. Cramer, 1895. In June, 1893, W. A. Hurrell was elected recording secretary; J. D. Alexander, in January, 1894; and J. H. Bushong, in January, 1895. The membership showed an increase of four, or a total of thirty-four in June, 1895.

Bloomdale Lodge, No. 278, K. of P., was chartered February 22, 1888, with the following named members: I. F. Hartsell, N. E. Davis, F. K. Stacy, Z. T. Housman, Daniel Wineland, Jerry Loman, J. R. Redfern, A. M. Fasig, E. R. Bryant, A. B. Goodyear, W. T. Thomas, S. A. Linhart, J. S. Viers, Frank Swinehart, J. P. Beam, J. E. Wineland, Dan McKinna, C. S. Shafer, W. P. Miller, Charles Ullery, George W. Fries, C. G. Bronson, Wm. Wineland, J. S. Schoonover, R. A. McKee, L. V. Robbins, Silas Swindler, H. S. McKee, A. J. Shue, A. W. Adams, W. H. Mork, E. B. Rosendale and G. E. Rice. The past chancellors are named as follows: I. T. Hartsell, E. R. Bryant, N. E. Davis, A. M. Fasig, W. P. Miller, J. P. Beam, D. T. McKinna, J. E. Wineland, S. A. Linhart, J. M. McLochen, W. G. Elliott, W. B. Sweet and H. H. McClaran, while the office of keeper of records and seal has been filled by S. A. Linhart, C. S. Shafer, H. S. McKee and R. A. McKee. There were seventy members reported June, 1895.

Bloom Lodge, No. 406, I. O. O. F., was chartered May 15, 1868, with S. B. Emerson, E. J. Rosendale, R. B. Robins, J. J. Ullery, William McMurray, Israel Simon, William Leathers, Joel Weaver and Chancey Beach. The old lodge building at Eagleville, two miles north of Bloomdale, is now owned by Rolla Keeran.

Bloomdale Lodge, No. 309, D. of R., was chartered May 23, 1890, with the following mem-

bers: E. S. Bryant, Effie Bryant, Andrew Shue, Maria Shue, H. G. Horn, Loraine Horn, W. C. Bryant, Ella Bryant, Frank and Amanda Wineland, Ed S. Beam, Elsie Beam, Daniel and Maria Wineland, T. J. Campbell, Emeline Campbell and George H. Riley.

Bloomdale Lodge, 46, I. O. G. T., was chartered December 9, 1893, with Dr. G. H. Riley and twenty-seven other members.

#### BAIRDSTOWN.

This place was platted for Josiah Baird, and the plat recorded in October, 1874. From April, 1876, to February, 1877, thirty-eight frame and two brick houses were erected in the village. O. H. Gibson's sawmill, hardware and measure factory, Dr. Colter's drug store, G. W. Ogden's general store and gristmill (leased from Baird), John Baird's hotel Wm. Koon's blacksmith shop, Fay Bros.' carriage and wagon shop, Lewis Heaton's saloon, George Mureatz's shoe shop, M. Limbar's tinshop, Myers & Co., and E. Simon's sawmills, W. H. Gibson & Co. (Rev. Gen. Gibson who died in 1895 at Tiffin), shingle, heading, and stave mills, grain warehouse, stone quarry and limekiln, and smaller works. In 1877, Dewey, Lane & Co's heading, hoop and stave factory, brick kilns, and kindred industries were established. The Simon mill was opened in 1872.

The village was incorporated August 16, 1881, on petition of sixty-one inhabitants filed on June 8, that year. The officers elected to serve until April, 1882, were Levi Kistler, mayor; E. A. Ogden, treasurer; A. B. Frankfather, marshal; M. C. Briggs, clerk; Z. T. Housman, M. A. Culver, William Kline, James Thompson, W. A. Herst and John Wagner, councilmen. The first meeting was held December 29, 1881. At that time, it was resolved that Dr. Housman, M. A. Culver and William Kline be appointed a committee to "investigate the Blazing Stump, and report in regard to its being a suitable place for a mayor's office." The mayors subsequently elected are named as follows: Levi Kistler, 1881-84; Z. T. Housman, 1884-86; George G. Grimes, 1886-90; David Nusbaum, 1890; R. M. Frey, 1891; Levi Kistler, 1894; and Frank H. Crawford, 1896. The clerks have been G. G. Grimes, who succeeded to the office of clerk in 1883; in May, 1884, A. Hampshire; in 1886, D. A. Bowman; in 1887, G. G. Crawford; in 1888, W. H. Bonnell; in 1891, Harry M. Snyder; in 1894, E. Knodle; and in 1896, J. W. Pennell, Jr. The

election of April, 1895, for members of council resulted as follows: C. W. August, Leander Eckman, Christ Beckley, and Ed. Briggs; the election of spring of 1896 returned John Gooderham, George Houser, and John Haley, for councilmen. Treasurer, Harry M. Snyder; marshal, George Wagner. The members of the school board elected in 1895 were: Delton Simon, J. H. Wagner, R. M. Frey, Mrs. J. J. Baird, Mrs. Dr. Bell, and Mrs. Bloomfield; in 1896 election: Frank H. Crawford (clerk), M. C. Briggs (president), and R. M. Frey.

*The Post Office* was established in 1873, with M. G. Heaton, or Benton Leathers, master. M. C. Briggs was appointed in 1881, Abraham Hampshire in 1885, Capt. Adams in 1887, George G. Grimes in 1889, Edgar Knodle in 1890, when it was created a money-order office, and Frank H. Crawford in 1893. The receipts from stamps, money orders and registered letters amount to about \$300 annually. In the Press chapter, the newspaper enterprises of George G. Grimes are noticed.

*Fires.*—The first fire occurred on July 8, 1890, and destroyed Herst's saloon and dwelling, and the Briggs & Jones store, which occupied the site of their present buildings. The next took place July 17, 1890, destroying Hearson & Grimes' drug store, where E. Knodle's store now stands. On July 26, the Ogden brick block was destroyed, the postmaster saving the papers, etc., of his office. On July 28, four barns were burned, and the last of the series of fires was recorded. The ruins of the Ogden Block are yet to be seen.

*Railroad Incidents.*—The wreck on the Baltimore & Ohio road, at Bairdstown, February 14, 1890, resulted in the death of a few human beings and the destruction of much property. The Baltimore & Ohio railroad "hold-up" of December 7, 1894, resulted in the instant death of Arthur Brown and Henry Rees, and the serious wounding of Henry Harris, all of Auburn, Ind., who were traveling eastward in search of work. Harris stated that, just as the train left Deshler, four men entered the car, demanded their money and then opened fire with the result described.

*Churches.*—United Brethren Sharon Church adopted articles of association November 17, 1877, and elected Elias Simon, Elias Monasmith and Isaac Crouse, trustees. The society's church was then completed and offered for use, as a union building, to sister societies, who would bear a proportion of the building expenses. The church was dedicated July 22, 1877. The subscription paper was drafted by Elias Simon, John

Kline and J. F. Harper, in June, 1875, Elias Simon and John Rhoad giving \$200 each. Building cost \$3,500. Elias and Margaret Simon, John and Catherine Rhoad, Benjamin and Mary Wiley, David Elliott and wife, Joseph C. and Mary Beck, Mr. Black and wife, Elizabeth Long, Thomas Lumbar, and William Kline. There are thirty-five members. Pastors: Revs. Beaver, Isaac Crouse (1877), G. French (1880), A. B. Leonard, L. Sharp, N. S. Long, J. W. Powell, J. G. Hofacre, R. French, G. E. Hill, S. H. Roudebaugh, H. L. Snyder, and W. Barbour, the present pastor.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in January, 1889, and Rev. A. C. Barnes, presiding elder, sent Rev. W. D. Thomas hither as preacher-in-charge. The members were Alexander Long, W. J. McIntire, William Archer, Etta Archer, A. G. Baird, Estella Rhinehart, George and Mrs. Swinehart, Mary Walker, Amanda Briggs and Jane Koons. A. R. Long was appointed leader, and W. Leathers, M. C. Briggs, A. R. Long, A. G. Baird and W. H. Archer, trustees. Eliphas and Alice Ellinwood were subsequently admitted. Rev. F. M. Houser came in September, 1889. In February, 1890, the Sunday-school was organized with F. H. Crawford, superintendent. In July, 1890, Ogden's Hall, in which services were held, was burned, and in September the erection of the church building was commenced. It was dedicated March 8, 1891. The society embraces sixty-five members, who own a clear church property. F. E. Higby is pastor and Mr. Crawford, superintendent.

Bloom Church. The sale, on August 17, 1857, of a small parcel of land in Section 27 was made by John Baird to the Methodist Episcopal Church trustees—Jacob Leathers, Alexander Albright, Robert Smith, Solomon Whisler, John Whisler, William Leathers and John Baird.

#### CYGNET.

This village was surveyed on the northeast corner of the west half of northwest quarter of Sec. 7, T. 3, R. 11, for Ephraim and Sarah J. Shinabarger, in February, 1883, by D. D. Ames, and named Pleasant View. In May and June, 1885, J. Winans surveyed for Horace S. Walbridge, on the old Joshua Yeaman tract, an addition to the village, which he named "Cygnnet." Prior to the incorporation of the village it was a busy oil town.

The bursting of an oil tank, one of the first accidents, took place in September, 1888. It resulted in the death of Wyrick and Mulnix, as well as in the loss of \$10,000 worth of property. This was the first case of the kind in the Ohio oil field, and the second in America.

*Fires.*—In 1887 or thereabouts, the old Yeaman mill, which was moved to Cygnet and converted into a planing-mill two years before, was burned, and with it two men. The destruction of the railroad depot was another serious loss. A few destructive fires occurred since. That of January 30, 1891, swept away all the buildings, on the north side of Front street to the T. & O. C. railroad, including the Buckeye Supply Co.'s store, Belknap's confectionery, Myers' drug store, J. A. McCrory's livery, Fenberg's clothing store, and V. Hahn's grocery. The total damage was estimated at \$50,000, but the lives of Mr. Maloney, his boy and Francis Slattery, more valuable than the village, were sacrificed. The fire of March 10, 1894, destroyed the business part of the village, east of the T. & O. C., entailing a loss estimated at over \$25,000. This tract was soon rebuilt, in some cases, brick taking the place of wood in the construction of the houses. The Fenberg brick block, 40x50 feet, erected in 1894, is one of the improvements; James Walsh's boiler and repair shop, and other manufacturing and mercantile buildings were also erected. The Hughes brick block was erected simultaneously with the Fenberg building.

The *First Post Office* was established, with Reuben Carey, postmaster, in 1885. G. A. Southwick was succeeded in April, 1893, by S. A. Smith, who is now the incumbent.

The *Cygnet School District* was established April 15, 1895, when the school board of Bloom township set off Sections 6 and 7, in the N.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the township, as a special district.

The first house on the town plat was built by Reuben Carey, who established a sawmill there in 1883, while James Kelly built on Lot 17, now owned by Reuben Messenger. The first building was sold to George A. Southwick, who, like the first owner, rents it. Judson Thompson built on Lot 18, but the house was moved and an oil well drilled on its site; George R. Goodwin built a house on Lot 1, which is yet standing; Jacob Hendricks built on Lot 2; Edward Bennett purchased Lots 3, 4 and 5; Martin Collins built on Lot 5, while the old opera house on Lot 4 was cut into two parts, and one part placed on Lot 3. To-day the main street of Cygnet extends from a point a few blocks west of the railroad to the Whitacre farm. It shows two lines of business

and dwelling houses, while the parallel and lateral streets are not wanting in manufacturing and dwelling houses.

During the year 1895, many residence buildings were added to the village, and necessary public improvements made, the most important of which is the main sewer in Main street. Sanitary laws suggested this long ago, but not until April, 1895, did the friends of progress prove strong enough to elect a council and a set of officers who would carry out such improvements.

*The Corporation Officials.*—The first officials of Cygnet were: E. A. Guy, mayor; Martin Moran, clerk and treasurer; and A. L. Mercer, a trustee. Jacob Deckman was appointed marshal, and authority was given to build a calaboose. The first meeting was held July 29, 1889. In April, 1890, the hamlet government was changed to a village government. Arthur Campbell was chosen mayor, A. L. Mercer, L. Bowser, Louis Martin, James R. Craun, M. E. O'Connor, and Hugh B. McGivern, councilmen, Charles Struble, clerk, M. J. Grogan, treasurer. A. A. Heltman succeeded Struble as clerk, in May, 1890; E. N. McCoy was appointed street commissioner in May, and B. M. Van Der Veer, clerk in November, 1890. In April, 1891, Hugh B. McGivern was elected mayor, W. H. Hawkins and J. F. June, councilmen, and D. S. Vandersall, marshal. L. Bowser, councilman, and the marshal resigned in February, 1892, and Geo. A. Southwick was appointed *vice* Bowser. At that time a fire department was organized and a fire engine purchased. The election of April, 1892, resulted in the choice of D. W. Sultz for mayor; C. B. Miller, clerk; M. J. Grogan, treasurer; S. A. Smith, marshal; M. E. O'Connor and L. J. Hart, councilmen, with Messrs. Hartigan, Mackey, Mercer, and June, associates. In 1893, D. W. Sultz was elected mayor; W. M. Haley, clerk; and D. C. Tobin, marshal; while the councilmen were Messrs. O'Connor, Hart, Mercer, Hughes and Hartigan. D. C. Tobin was appointed, *vice* Grant, in August. In January, 1894, E. Swazey was appointed marshal, *vice* C. L. Wiley; and, in April, H. V. McGivern was elected mayor; F. W. Hollopeter, marshal; Alva Raymond and A. L. Mercer, councilmen; W. M. Haley, clerk; and M. J. Grogan, treasurer. Messrs. Hughes, Falls, Bowman and Hartigan, with the councilmen-elect, formed the board, while, in 1895, James Carmack, James Curtin and S. A. Smith were elected members. Mr. Haley resigned the office of clerk in August, 1895, when Joseph Martin was appointed. On his resignation in December, 1895, John D. Tennant was appointed.

The public improvements for 1895 included a main sewer, built at a cost of \$2,160. The proposition to macadamize this street has been well received. The elections of 1896 resulted as follows: Hugh McGivern, mayor; J. D. Tennant, clerk; J. H. Ferguson, marshal; Geo. R. Goodwin, treasurer; D. Bowman, J. S. Curtin, J. S. Carmack, M. J. Walsh, Geo. Grant, and J. A. McCrory, councilmen; J. H. Ferguson, Abe Loe, Joseph Curtin (clerk), and L. S. Whitacre (treasurer), while the old members are H. V. McGivern and I. F. June.

*Churches.*—The Catholic church, dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, was completed in 1892, as a mission building of the parish of St. Aloysius, or Bowling Green. The congregation embraces about 200 Catholics. The Church is attended by Father Schreiner, of St. Aloysius parish.

The Methodist Episcopal Society was organized, in 1889, by Rev. Charles Hoag, of Toledo. It claims a fair membership. In 1894 or 1895, Mrs. Brands was elected superintendent of the Sunday-school, and Rev. W. W. Winters appointed preacher-in-charge.

The Radical United Brethren Society was organized, in 1891, by Rev. De Rhodes. In March, 1892, Mrs. Millie Williams began collecting a building fund. Madames Ella Henning, Ferney, Surverson and Williams, were appointed trustees. A building was purchased from Reuben Carey, which was fitted up as a house of worship, and is still used for that purpose. Mr. Ferguson, of Six Points, was the pastor until September, 1895, when Mr. De Rhodes came. Mrs. C. Henning is the Sunday-school superintendent, and Mrs. M. A. Thomas is secretary. The membership in September, 1895, was limited to a few persons.

The Christian Church was established here in 1840, or about the time that the class at Rudolph was organized. After the village was platted, a meeting-house was built on the east side of the Reason Whitacre farm, which stood until the fall of 1894, when the building was moved to Jerry City.

*Societies.*—White Swan Lodge, No. 384, K. of P., was instituted, with eighteen members, in 1888. Chancellor Commander Kerr presided in 1895, with C. E. Wolf, K. of R. S.

Cygnets Tent, No. 94, K. O. T. M., was organized in 1890. In 1895, J. A. Raymond was commander, and James White, record-keeper. The tent has a large membership, made up of the male members of the families represented in

Evergreen Hive, whose names are given in the sketch of the hive.

Evergreen Hive, No. 48, L. O. T. M., was instituted October 30, 1893, with twenty-five members, namely: Ollie D. Miller, Cora V. Snyder, M. S. O'Connor, M. K. Foster, M. B. Murphy, M. C. Fields, Annie L. Miller, Etta Campbell, Mamettie Whitacre, Jennie Hart, Sarah M. Jackson, Alice L. Kidd, Mary Fitzgerald, Mary T. Donley, Ellen G. Titus, Amelia Hodson, Nora M. Owens, Lenora Shuey, Della Magill, Lina E. Newton, Isadore E. Miller, Ella Donohoe, Henrietta Goodwin, Mary E. Parmalee, and Mary A. Brown. In 1895, Cora V. Snyder was lady commander, and Annie L. Miller, lady record-keeper.

Base Ball and Race Track Association is presided over by D. C. Tobin, with Fred. Roe, sec.; M. J. Grogan, treas.; R. A. Hughes, Dr. A. L. Mercer, M. J. Walsh and T. D. Tighe, directors.

*Railroad Agency.*—The first agent was Reuben Carey. George A. Southwick came next, during whose administration the sign board with the word CYGNET was raised; Reuben Carey was again appointed, then W. M. Haley, next J. R. Craun, and then the present agent, J. W. Shaffer, who was appointed in January, 1891.

#### JERRY CITY.

This lively and pretty village, which lies partly in Bloom township, and partly in Portage, was not always the busy, thriving place which the visitor of to-day finds it. Amos Dewese, of Weston township, who was there during the hard winter of 1842-43, gives his reminiscences and introduces Jonathan Stull, who was the pioneer of this particular spot in the wilderness. His statement is valuable as a reference to that terrible winter in this county, and the "Jerry City" of fifty-three years ago.

I began work for one Solether April 1, 1843, snow and ice on the ground and sleighing. He gave me a watch. While working there a Jonathan Stull came in the clearing. He had a bag on his shoulder with a peck of ears of corn, that he got from Daniel Milbourn. Stull was much depressed and discouraged on account of the terrible hard winter. We talked of Adventism, as the Millerites said the end of the world was at hand. Mr. Stull said he prayed for it every day, as he had seen all the trouble he wanted to see. He said he had eight head of horses, and all had died; twenty-eight head of cattle and 260 head of hogs, and all were dead. I had to pass Mr. Stull's cabin often. He told me that he had been married twelve years; they had ten children, all of whom were almost nude. Not one of them had a full suit. They hadn't a bed nor a window in the house. He was the owner of a three-quarter section of good land. "There," said Stull, "I have one peck of ears of corn in this sack, and when I take it home and grind it in the hand-mill, and mix



it with water, bake and eat it with my wife and ten children, God knows where the next will come from. They must starve." He wept like a child. During my stay with Buisey I had to go to and from Shelia's. I had to pass a number of cabins, forsaken and uninhabited. They looked gloomy enough, surrounded by ice and water and the dismal swamp. One of which had belonged to a John Ford, was new. A number of wild hogs had taken possession. They had piled in on top of each other, and there perished with cold and hunger. When out hunting for coon and mink, whenever we found hogs they were invariably dead. Taylor lost about forty-five head of cattle; Mr. Keeler seventy-five head, while the Sargents, Ellsworth, Salsbury and Green lost about the same proportion, during that terrible winter, never to be forgotten by the old settlers. Many had to move out of the Black Swamp before spring.

Jerry City was surveyed November 6, 1861, by J. Hastings for John Smith. The location was formerly called "Stulltown," in honor of Stull, who was one of the first and best of pioneers; next "Shiloh," and ultimately given its present name, in honor of Jerry Nestlerode, of Fostoria, who had been in business here and left his impress on the locality. On January 18, 1872, a new plat of the village was recorded.

Jerry City was incorporated September 8, 1875, on a petition presented by forty-three residents on June 8, of that year. The proposal was fought at every point, but the majority won, and the villagers of Jerry City became a municipal body.

The mayors of the village have been as follows: 1876—T. C. McEwen; 1877—Theodore Brown; 1878—T. C. McEwen; 1879—S. S. Bronson; 1881—84—C. C. Soule; 1884—Theo. Brown; 1887—Nicholas Holt; 1887—W. S. Solether; 1888—F. W. Heald, resigned; 1888—J. F. Wilsey; 1889—Benjamin Sutherland; 1891—Volney Jones; 1895—96—C. E. Thompson.

The clerks have been as follows: 1876—L. D. Milbourn; 1877—A. W. Lefler; 1878—O. N. Bryant; 1879—A. D. Newcomb; 1881—A. W. Lefler; 1883—C. A. Risser; 1885—L. J. Lefler; 1887—H. H. McClelland; 1889—Luther Girton; 1890—Harry L. Spencer; 1892—C. E. Thompson; 1894—96—A. T. Hickerson.

The office of treasurer has been filled by S. S. Gobbel, W. B. Bryant, and C. W. Solether, the present incumbent. A. Swartz is the present marshal (1896).

The trustees or councilmen are named in the following list:

1876—D. S. Boyd, Theo. Brown, G. Hampshire, J. Gobbel, A. Stevens, S. S. Bronson.  
1877—J. Gobbel, Peter Gobbel, W. B. Bryant, L. J. Lefler, J. Eyrlle, A. Stevens.  
1878—George Hampshire, W. B. Bryant, B. Sutherland, A. D. Newcomb.  
1879—C. C. Nestlerode, George Baker, Theodore Brown.  
1880—Benj. Sutherland, J. Eyrlle, J. A. Haight, Henry Myers.  
1881—G. Baker, I. Hunsicker, L. J. Lefler, C. C. Nestlerode.  
1882—F. Vosburg, S. S. Gobbel, W. B. Bryant.

1883—John Eyrlle, M. J. Turner, L. J. Lefler, A. B. Miller.

1884—W. B. Bryant, J. Wilsey, Peter Gobbel, Jacob Gobbel, resigned in 1885 or 1886.

1885—W. B. Bryant, C. C. Nestlerode, L. Loe, S. S. Gobbel, J. Wilsey.

1886—C. Frey, L. Loe, Solomon S. Gobbel, W. E. Frankfather, G. Hampshire.

1887—G. Rearick, George W. Cupp, F. Vosburg, J. H. Hampshire.

1888—J. H. Hampshire, Wm. Frankfather, Amos Frederick.

1889—J. H. Thompson, L. J. Lefler, James Teatsworth.

1890—Perry Heald, J. H. Hampshire, Amos M. Frederick.

1891—G. C. Weaver, S. S. Dilley, A. Brand, A. T. Hickerson, A. VanBlarcum, C. W. Solether.

1892—W. V. Redman, Aaron H. Brand, Benjamin Sutherland, James Teatsworth, J. C. Thompson.

1893—Geo. N. Shatzel, D. C. Whitehead, H. H. McClelland, A. VanBlarcum.

1894—E. E. Redman, H. H. McClelland, James Teatsworth, A. VanBlarcum, D. C. Whitehead.

1895—James Teatsworth, A. A. Brand, H. H. McClelland, A. VanBlarcum, W. H. Frederick, and U. Shasteen, appointed with E. E. Redman and D. C. Whitehead.

1896—Aaron Brand, B. Odell, Perry Heald, S. Mullen, Jas. Teatsworth, Francis Weirick.

*The Post Office* may be said to date back a quarter of a century, when I. W. Nestlerode was given a key by the department and permitted to open the mail sack for Mungen. In 1878 R. M. Cellars was appointed postmaster, but for many reasons a commission was issued to A. Van Blarcum that year. He did not serve, however, as a new petition, asking for the appointment of O. N. Bryant, was presented and granted. Mr. Bryant served until 1885, when W. B. Bryant took his place, and held the position until September, 1889. J. F. Wollam served from that time until July, 1892, when G. W. Fries, the present postmaster, took charge.

*Churches.*—The German Evangelical Lutheran Church is the senior religious society of the village. Jacob Gobbel, Elizabeth Gobbel, Peter Gobbel, George Weaver and wife, John and Caroline Apple and J. H. Hampshire were among the first members. The society was organized in 1882 by Rev. John Snyder, and worshiped in the old McEwen store, which the Methodists had refitted as a house of worship. In 1883 a \$1,400 building was erected on a lot donated by Jacob Gobbel.

The Methodist Episcopal Society, now claiming forty members and a Sunday-school attendance of seventy-five, is presided over by Rev. W. A. Winters.

The Radical United Brethren Society, of which Rev. John Ferguson is pastor, dedicated a house of worship on January 13, 1895, the cost of the building being \$1,400.

The Christian Church Society was established here in 1894, most of the seventy members being formerly members of the Sugar Grove society. The house of worship was erected shortly after,



during the pastorate of Mr. Wolfley. The first trustees were A. Van Blarcum, F. Sutton and John W. Bolts, who were also members of the building committee; A. Van Blarcum, James and Rezin Whitacre and M. L. Milbourn, elders; F. Sutton, Ed. Whitacre and Benjamin McLaughlin, deacons. There are thirty-two members, who own the building on Bronson street, which cost \$1,600.

*Secret Societies.*—Vitus Lodge, No. 602, I. O. O. F., was instituted November 6, 1874, with S. S. Bronson, G. B. Gorton, H. J. Smith, R. M. Cellars, George Hampshire, W. S. Baker, Edwin Miller, Daniel Kunkler and John Eyrle. The original name was Boyd Lodge, named in honor of D. S. Boyd, one of the original members and first noble grand. His successors have been S. S. Bronson, 1875; G. B. Gorton and R. M. Cellars, 1876; Theo. Brown and G. B. Gorton, 1877; A. D. Newcomb and Philip Spackey, 1878; D. L. Kunkler and O. N. Bryant, 1879; W. B. Bryant and John Eyrle, 1880; J. W. Coy and John Otterbacher, 1881; W. Robison and M. Weiland, 1882; W. Weiland and J. F. Wolman, 1883; James Teatsworth, 1884; H. Smith and W. B. Bryant, 1885; A. Frederick and W. B. Bryant, 1886; A. Frederick and H. D. Hahn, 1887; F. W. Heald and J. H. Chapman, 1888; J. F. Wilsey and James Thompson, 1889; John Bailey and C. A. Patterson, 1890; H. L. Spencer and S. C. Rearick, 1891; N. Whistler and B. Frederick, 1892; George Shatzel and J. M. Church, 1893; Charles Weirick and S. K. Derier, 1894; M. J. Turner and Henry Hiser, 1895. The secretaries have been G. B. Gorton and R. M. Cellars, 1875; Thomas Brown and D. Kunkler, 1876; W. D. Newcomb and William Spackey, 1877; J. W. Coy and O. N. Bryant, 1878; W. B. Bryant and John Eyrle, 1879; J. Otterbacher, 1880; W. Robison and Michael Weiland, 1881; D. L. Kunkler and J. F. Wolman, 1882; John Eyrle and Theodore Brown, 1883; E. A. Hubbard, 1884; Amos Frederick and W. S. Loe, 1885; James Teatsworth, 1886; J. Barnhart and J. H. Chapman, 1887; L. Loe and J. H. Thompson, 1888; J. A. Bailey and C. A. Patterson, 1889; H. L. Spencer and S. C. Rearick, 1890; N. Whistler and B. Frederick, 1891; J. H. Thomp-

son, 1892-95; and S. C. Rearick, 1895-96. There were seventy-four members in July, 1895.

Rescue Lodge, Knights of Pythias, was instituted May 29, 1889, with the following named members: George W. Fries, W. B. Bryant, George W. Cupp, Jr., C. A. McGill, Levi Whitman, Aaron Weaver, Gus McCrory, Sylvester Collins, John Rubar, Henry McKenna, A. L. Mercer, Lewis Milbourn, Marcus Stackhouse, E. W. Heltman, W. D. Baker, Alex. Vincent, A. G. Carter, F. J. Smith, Henry Myers, Jacob B. Apple, Thomas Milbourn, William Russell, L. D. Shafer, Samuel Dennis, Robert McLaughlin, George Wollam and Jacob Miller.

Jerry City Tent, No. 104, K. O. T. M., was organized August 29, 1891.

The Daughters of Rebekah, chartered here a few years ago, surrendered the charter in 1892.

Bronson Post, G. A. R., No. 85, was chartered June 6, 1881, and named in honor of Dr. Samuel Bronson, of the 57th O. V. I., who died at Jerry City, May 8, 1881. The original members of this Post were Theo. Brown, E. Rice, Samuel Hebron, Samuel Stackhouse, William A. Russell, James Frederick, John Whitacre, E. A. Hubbard, Daniel McCrory, W. H. Frederick, H. Myers, A. A. Phillips, B. F. Palmerton, C. Soleather, Nicholas Ireland, Barney Poorman, Morris Sweet, John Otterbacher, E. M. De Wolf and W. E. Nudels. The commanders, in order of service, are named as follows: Theo. Brown, 1881 and 1882; E. A. Hubbard, 1883; J. J. Whitacre, 1884; A. T. Hickerson, 1885, 1890, 1891, 1893 and 1894; James Teatsworth, 1886; A. A. Phillips, 1887; Uriah Shasteen, 1888; J. C. Thompson, 1889; H. H. McClelland, 1892, and E. W. Mullen, 1895-96. The adjutants were: Nat. Frederick, 1881; John Otterbacher, 1882; W. M. Yates, 1883; A. T. Hickerson, 1884, 1887, 1888, 1892; A. A. Phillips, 1885; Uriah Shasteen, 1886, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1894 and 1895, and H. H. McClelland, 1893.

The societies and churches embrace in their membership residents of Bloom and Portage townships. The members take a lively interest in the work of their churches and lodges, and, as a result, both are advancing steadily.

## CHAPTER XXIX.

### CENTER TOWNSHIP.

FIRST WHITE SETTLER—FIRST LAND ENTRY—WRESTED FROM SAVAGES—BUILT A CABIN—THE FIRST WAGON—THE COX, PHILLIPS AND OTHER PIONEER FAMILIES AND LAND BUYERS—THE END OF THE WORLD—RANDOM NOTES—SURVEY AND ORGANIZATION—TRAILS CONVERTED INTO ROADS—GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY—WILD HOGS—MEN OF 1830—POPULATION, ETC.—JOSEPH WADE—OPPOSING A CONSTABLE—A BEAR STORY—THE WILLIAMS FARM—FIRST ELECTION—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

**B**ENJAMIN COX was the first white settler in Center township. He built a cabin near the Portage on the northeast quarter of Section 32, now the Infirmary farm, in the latter part of 1827 or early part of 1828. Collister Haskins was under the impression that Cox did not bring his family in until 1828. Benjamin did not enter the land; still, we must not grudge him the honor of being the first settler, since he located and made his improvements with that intention, and brought the first handmill into the township; but after four years sold out and moved off.

*The First Land Entry.*—His son Joseph Cox, however, made the first land entry in Center, January 13, 1831, the east half of the southeast quarter of Section 28, which, in April, 1835, he sold to Joseph Russell; the land, lying on the Portage three miles east of Main street, was for years known as the William Underwood place. A daughter of Benjamin Cox, Elizabeth, married Jacob Eberly, and was among the most respected of that galaxy of noble pioneer women, who with their husbands braved the deprivations of bygone days in the Black Swamp. Another daughter, Lydia, born at Findlay in 1817, was, according to Beardsley's history, the first white child to see the light of day in Hancock county, where the same authority credits Cox with being the first white settler. Cox, who had performed useful military service in the war of 1812, was a native of Virginia, and seems to have possessed that restless spirit of most of the old border men of that day, who were never contented unless fully abreast of or a little ahead of the westward advance of white settlements. That class usually led the van and blazed the way. Robust and fearless, those restless, adventurous fellows were, in a sense, scouts for the more timid multitude,

then hastening over the Alleghanies, and like the ocean spray scattering itself in the valleys of the Muskingum, Scioto and the two Miamis, until, in its northward and westward march, it had swept away the Greenville Treaty line, advanced to and passed the Maumee. Much of the early history of this township is related in that of Bowling Green, where a small, honored band of pioneers resides to-day, a remnant of the adventurous spirits of 1833, 1834 and 1835.

*Wrested From Savages.*—That hardy class of men, the coarser, stronger fiber of civilization, was not only useful, but absolutely indispensable. Their like never was before, nor can be again. The conditions, which required the hard, dangerous service they performed, have passed, never to return. The smoother grooves and easier lines on which we move to-day demand qualifications so varied and changed, that, in our haste to keep up with the march, we almost forget that there ever was a race of pioneers, our forefathers who lived in cabins, and, with flint-lock guns, freed this land from the bondage of kings, and wrested the wilderness from the dominion of barbarous savages—all honor to them—their manhood and sterling virtues in life can never suffer, by comparison, with their successors. Uncrowned heroes and heroines they were. Though most of them sleep in graves unmarked with stone or bronze, we can do them the more enduring honor of passing their names and deeds down to future generations on the brightest pages of our annals. Benjamin Cox moved to Indiana, where he closed his life at an advanced age.

*Built a Cabin.*—The next entry in Center, after Joseph Cox's, was the northwest corner, 48 acres, of Section 31, by Joseph A. Sargent, October 31, 1832, lying on Main street next south of the Bender road. For some years this tract was

owned by Nancy Flickinger. Sargent built his cabin on the west side of the street, in Plain, where he also owned land. Twelve days later, November 1, 1832, Adam Phillips entered the Infirmary tract, the improvements of which he had previously bought of Ben. Cox.

*The First Wagon.*—In the following spring, April, 1833, Phillips brought his family, wife and six children, out from Stark county, coming by way of Fremont (then Lower Sandusky). When he got as far west as Woodville with his outfit, consisting of a wagon covered with boards, and drawn by two horses and four oxen, Phillips left the road and followed the Indian trail up the Portage through the wilderness to the Cox cabin, being the first man to bring a wagon through on that route, now one of the best and most traveled roads in the county; he had taken the precaution to bring two good axemen—Jacob Phillips and George Heminger—with him. The Phillipses were so well pleased with the location that Adam soon after bought more land. Few persons who came into Wood county at that early day were better suited to withstand the deprivations of life here than Adam and Catharine Phillips; both were rugged and determined; they were ambitious to have a prosperous home; their courage and hopes were boundless. Everything in those first days looked bright; the bow of promise was great. Alas, how often that bow was to be overcast with clouds of discouragement—of sickness, of destitution—almost despair; yet theirs was almost the identical experience, at one time or another, of all who came. Still there were few obstacles so great that Phillips would not find some way to overcome them. He was a medium-sized, dark-complexioned man, with keen black eyes, long, dark hair, usually parted in the middle; he had a loud, clarion voice, and, though of limited education, he had a ready flow of language, and when a bit excited would get off some startling figures of speech, especially on religious subjects, which were always favorite themes with Adam.

*The End of the World.*—He had a striking resemblance to some of the published pictures of Lorenzo Dow. Phillips was in many ways as eccentric as Dow, and his peculiar appearance and voice would attract attention in any crowd of men. Pages might be filled with incidents, both laughable and pathetic, told about him by his neighbors. One incident related, whether true or not, suggests how completely religious emotions took hold of him at times. It was at a period when the "Millerite" craze was being boldly promulgated, and a day had been fixed upon, not far ahead, when the world was to be

burned. Some of the zealous Millerites had been dinning the doctrine in Phillips' ears pretty industriously until it had, to some extent, become a subject of serious thought to him. One dark night about that time, as the story goes, the smoke-house in the yard, where were stored the hams and bacon, took fire, and the lurid glare of the rising flames soon flashed with blinding effect on Adams' bedroom window. With a piteous, deep groan he sprang out of bed, shouting: "My God, Catherine, the Judgment Day's upon-us, and my soul is unprepared; call the boys;" and immediately he fell upon his knees, half asleep yet, and began praying so loud that no further fire alarm was needed. This story, enjoyed by none more than Adams' best friends, was told so often on him that it had, doubtless, like most stories, gained a little by the telling, but is given here in rather an abridged form. Phillips at once took a leading part in all the improvements in the settlement; at every cabin-raising or road-chopping he was on hand, and did his part well. When the great meeting was held at Ft. Meigs, in 1840, he, with his neighbors, cut and hauled a buckeye log as Center township's contribution for the log cabin at the Fort. Of dame Phillips, his wife, it may truthfully be said that she was a good second to Adam in all his worthy efforts. Besides the cares of a large family of children, whom she had often to feed from meal ground by her own hands in the mill sold them by Cox, she found time to do many generous deeds for her sick or otherwise needy neighbors. None went from her door unaided if it was in her power to afford relief. With this very inadequate sketch of the Coxes and Phillipses, the two pioneer families of Center, it will now be in order to briefly notice some others who came early. Joseph Ralston entered 97 acres in the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 6, Center, March 17, 1834; Joseph Wade, 80 acres in the N. W. and S. W. of Sec. 18, April 2, 1834; John M. Jaques, W. part of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, April, 1834; Joseph Russell, 80 acres in the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 34, October 9, 1834; George Stacy, 40 acres S. W. corner of Sec. 27, December 28, 1833; Henry Shively, N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  80 acres N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30, April 26, 1834; Thomas Cox, E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, April 27, 1833; D. L. Hixon, 55 acres in the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 18, April 14, 1835; William Dewitt, 80 acres in the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 29, December 10, 1833; Thomas Slight, Jr., 40 acres in N. W. of S. E., Sec. 30, August 17, 1833; Samuel Snyder, N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 7, October 29, 1833; John Muir, N. W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 24, April 7, 1831; William Munn, W. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 32, February 3, 1836; William Zimmerman,

S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 13, June 17, 1834; Adam Housholder, N. part of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 13, June 17, 1834. The latter two entries are now within the limits of Webster township.

Other early land buyers were: Joseph A. Sargent, S. 31, October 31, 1832; Fred Zephernick, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, November 10, 1832; Samuel Myers, S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sec. 14, November 12, 1832; George Wickham, N. W. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30, July 9, 1833; Henry Walker, W. N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 19, August 5, 1833; Lee Moore, S. W. S. E. and S. part S. W. Sec. 30, September 16, 1833; Lee Moore, W. part N. W. Sec. 30 and S. W. of S. W. Sec. 31, September 16, 1833; Jonathan Fay, part S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 18, October 13, 1833; Alfred Thurstin, W. part S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 19, November 2, 1833; George Booth, S. E. N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 30, November 27, 1833; Orange Strong, part S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, December 28, 1833; Daniel Crom, W. part N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 27, January 27, 1834; Robert Moore, parts N. E. and S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12, May 3, 1834; James Watson, W. part S. W. and S. W. N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 29, May 19, 1834; Robert Barr, part N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 19, June 9, 1834; Horatio N. Ward, E. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 7, January 25, 1836; Thomas R. Tracy, part S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 10, December 15, 1836.

*Random Notes.*—These few random notes from the land books, comprising but the small fractional part of the original entries and of the names of the purchasers, are given here as showing who the first comers were. Most of those buyers named became actual residents on their land. Other early settlers, such as the Lundys, Klopfenstines, Andersons, and others, not enumerated in the list, no doubt bought their lands of second hands. The chief purpose here is to show who the actual beginners were—a task not so easy after the lapse of three-score years, when nearly all the actors have faded away in the coroding mists of time.

*Survey and Organization.*—Center township, originally six miles square, was surveyed by Samuel Holmes, Deputy U. S. Surveyor, in 1819; that is, the exterior lines were made. In 1821 the subdivisional lines were run by S. Bourne. The designation in the survey is Town 5, North; Range 11, East. The county commissioners, at their March session, 1835, on petition of the residents of Town 5, granted the request for a township organization, under the name of Center, and ordered an election of township officers to be held on the first Monday of April following, at the house of Adam Phillips. At the time of this action, Center was a part of Portage, and had been since June, 1833, prior to which time it had

been a part of Middleton, since that township was cut off from Perrysburg. When, in 1846, Webster was created, six sections, 1, 2, 11, 12, 14 and 15, were set off to that township. In 1844, on petition of the residents thereon, the south half of Section 31, Middleton, was given to Center. It lies at the northwest corner, on the Perrysburg road, so, that, as now constructed, the township comprises thirty and one-half sections.

*Converted Into Roads.*—The trails between the settlements, at first mere footpaths indicated by blazed trees, were gradually converted into wagon trails, barely passable, by voluntary labor among those interested. Some of these trails eventually became permanent highways, since they were usually located on the most favorable ground for the purpose. The first object of the newcomer, after his cabin was built, was to get into road communication with the nearest market, which in this case was Perrysburg. There lake boats landed regularly, in the open season. The first wagon trail in Center, after Hull's Trail, was from Cox's cabin up the Portage to Haskin's trading place. The next was the Phillips wagon trail, along the Portage, from Woodville.

*Geology and Topography of Center.*—The geological formation of Center differs but little from the rest of the county, except in the matter of gas and oil production, in which she has not, up to date, taken high rank. The oil pool, as now developed, approaches close to the southwest corner of the township, then diverges a little, passing in a narrow but productive pool just beyond the west line. The discovery of gas at the infirmery, in 1884, and the completion of the pioneer deep well of Wood county, at Bowling Green, in the early days of 1885, are mentioned in the chapter on oil and gas. Since that date, experimental wells have been sunk in various parts of Center, but only light flows of gas, with now and then slight showings of oil, have been found so far. The watershed is to the northeast, the fall being a little more perceptible, because of the irregular limestone ridge which enters from the southwest, and with frequent surface outcroppings continues to the north line, near Sugar Ridge; this stone, used extensively in rough masonry work, makes excellent lime also. On, and about this jagged ridge, sand and boulders from some distant place have found lodgment, forming, near Bowling Green, scattering ridges and low hills of yellow sand, overgrown with scrubby oak. The southeast part of Center had, through the two branches of the Portage, very fair natural drainage, though the obstructed waters of these streams, if such they

might be named, frequently overflowed their banks; they gave very uncertain protection to the farmer, until vast sums of money had been expended in clearing their channels, and the forests a little distance back were, most years, sodden with water till long after the seed-time had passed. South of Bowling Green, about two miles, a little stretch of prairie and swale, covered mostly with coarse grass, willows and pin-oak bushes, crossed Main street and spread out in shape of a tree-leaf nearly in the direction of the infirmary. It had no outlet, and was very wet; it is now drained, and a garden spot of productiveness; east of Bowling Green lay a similar stretch, in irregular shape, and more than two thousand acres in extent, with plenty of fall for the water, but an obstructed outlet. This was called Williams' prairie in later years, after the man by whose foresight and energy its unsightly acres were converted into gardens of golden grain.

In the east and north of the township were corners, once hopelessly wet, and a dismal waste of woods, thicket, prairie and marsh, named by some of the disgusted settlers—no doubt when in an unguarded blasphemous mood—"the devil's hole." Under the present thorough drainage system this land is fast becoming the garden spot of northern Ohio; its convenience to the markets of Toledo gives it an additional value. The soil of Center differs but little from black land in general in the county; it is either a deep vegetable mold or a sandy loam resting on either yellow or blue clay; the clay strata lie on the lime rock, in thickness varying from nothing to a depth of forty feet, and even more. The varieties of timber and plant growth are those common to the county; the cottonwood, burr-oak, elm and sycamore predominate in the low ground. The fine growth of valuable timber that once covered nine-tenths of the surface has, since the advent of a railroad in the township, melted away so rapidly that, approximately, there is now only about one acre in ten of timber left.

In the way of coverts for game and birds, Center has, like the rest of the county, only her beech, hickory and sugar-maple ridges, especially along the Portage, and also the oak groves, affording as they did vast supplies of acorns and nuts, an unusually attractive place for deer, bear and coon. These in turn attracted the Indians as well as the wolves. The ridges along the Portage, outside the sickly season of the year, were a favorite resort of the Indian trapper and hunter, and the sugar groves were the animated camps of the squaws and children making maple sugar each spring. The Indian paths were dis-

tinct along the Portage, and from that through the chains of sand ridges in Plain township to Tontogany creek, for many years after the Indians had removed to the Far West.

*Wild Hogs.*—A variety of game the Indians did not like so well, began to grow numerous here soon after the war of 1812—wild hogs. They were noticed when the first settlers came, though not frequently. Later, however, in the profusion of nuts and acorns they grew and multiplied until their numbers at times seemed almost legion; these droves doubtless got accessions from the settlers' hogs which hunted their living in the woods, and soon mingled with their wilder brethren, and led the free life of the range without fear of ear-marks or the butcher's block. These hogs, supposed to have at first been strays from the quartermaster's droves, brought out for the troops in 1812, had become as wild as any of the forest denizens, and were more ferocious and dangerous when molested, or one of their young attacked, than either wolf or bear; a frantic old sow, or an enraged boar with murderous tusks, could make short work of the stoutest dog, and when the drove came, neither man nor beast could escape except by hasty flight, or climbing a tree. The Indian with his half-starved cowardly dog, hatchet and arrows, stood but a poor show with this new kind of game, and seldom hunted or molested it. The whites, in the fall season sometimes formed hunting parties, when the hogs were fat, and frequently in this way helped out a scanty home supply of winter's meat. Some exciting stories were related by some of the early settlers of adventures and narrow escapes from bands, whose peace they had disturbed, accidentally or on purpose. As the settlements grew, the wild hogs, like the other wild animals, gradually disappeared, and the settlers were not sorry to be rid of them.

*Men of 1839.*—In 1839, the number of male inhabitants, aged twenty-one years and over, was thirty-nine, namely: Robert Barr, James Anderson, Joseph Ralston, Samuel Snyder, Daniel Snyder, Jacob Snyder, Jonathan Fay, Jacob Stauffer, Theron Pike, John Walker, Abraham Walker, Daniel Jolly, Alfred Thurstin, Jacob Smith, Adam Phillips, David Hixon, Lee Moore, Jacob Hartman, John Brown, Peter Klopfenstein, Joseph Arbuckle, Peter Richards, Henry Shively, Mark Lowell, William Munn, Henry Lundy, Thomas Reigle, George Winklepleck, Matthias Shoup, George W. Underwood, Joseph Russel, John Tracy, Daniel Crom, John Carter, William Zimmerman, John Muir.

The annexation of the south-half of Sec. 31,

Tp. 6, R. 11, in 1844, brought in the original entries of John P. and Henry Pifer, purchased May 2, 1834, and the lands credited to George Ferciot, Joseph R. Tracy and Jeremiah Ward in the tax roll of 1850; while in the sections set off to Webster were the Muirs, Housholders and others who purchased in the "thirties."

The population of the township in 1840 was 97; in 1850, increased to 357; in 1860, to 892; in 1870, to 1,331; in 1880, to 2,023, including 792 in the eastern part of Bowling Green; and in 1890, to 3,370.

*Joseph Wade.*—In the early settlement of Center township, there lived on the farm later owned by A. S. Nims, one mile northeast of the court house, a bustling, bluff little man, named Joseph Wade, a United Brethren preacher, who was formerly a sailor. His partiality for a berth on the forecastle, and a snuff of the salt sea breeze, seemed never to have left him, and he often declared that Wood county would be a good place only for the surplus fresh water. While denouncing the locality, he built his little cabin here, and, after some years, gathered logs to construct a large house. Then inviting ten or a dozen neighbors to the raising, he told each that they must come without hope of whiskey, as drinking the "vile stuff" was opposed to his principles. The men came, but, finding no whiskey, retired immediately. Wade started for Perysburg, bought ropes and pulleys, and, with the aid of these and his pony, constructed the cabin.

*Opposing a Constable.*—Wade's strength of character, as shown among the whiskey-drinkers, was not able to cope with other troubles. His pulpit and farm were insufficient producers of revenue, and he was compelled to borrow a small sum from Rev. Isaac Van Tassel. That sum he was unable to pay, and the reverend lender sued him, got judgment, and D. L. Hixon, then constable, was sent to levy upon the property. Hixon levied upon a pony, a little wagon, two tons of hay, a fanning mill, a rifle and a clock. Hixon had all save the gun and clock, for which he now approached the house. He rapped at the door. It was slightly opened so that he could see a woman with a large tin dipper in her hand. "What is wanted?" she asked. "The clock and rifle," said the officer. "Not if I can help it," said she. "But I must have the property," said he. "Not unless you are a better man than I," said the preacher's wife. Arguments and threats were of no avail, only during the confab she mildly called his attention to a pot of hot water on the fire, also that she held a dipper full of the same in her hand ready for any sudden emer-

gency, and that she would most surely scald the first man who crossed her threshold. The constable and his assistant drew off, and, by a close calculation, thought possibly that they could satisfy the debt from what property they had, and that the old rifle and clock were not worth much "no how," and that the water in the kettle was very hot, and that it was a disgrace to fight with a woman, &c.

*A Bear Story.*—The story of this township without the Ferciot bear story, would be like that of the county with its hunters omitted. For this reason the following paragraph is taken from the *Sentinel*, and made a part of this chapter. Peter Ferciot, Jesse Wood and Miles, Deshler were out coon hunting. In the Devil's hole, near where the new railroad crosses the center ditch, Ferciot noticed a big sycamore with the bark badly scratched. They felled the tree, and it had no more than struck the ground when out rushed a she bear. Ferciot's two dogs attacked old bruin, but one of them was almost instantly disabled. The other dog and the bear soon locked jaws, while old bruin was embracing the poor dog to death at the same time. The men, meanwhile, had kept shy of the ferocious beast, but when Peter saw his dog in this uneven death struggle, he ran up and split the bear's head with his axe. They found in the tree three cubs, not much larger than kittens, and each hunter took one. One of the cubs created much disturbance later in the homes of Mrs. Ferciot and Mrs. Bloom. G. Z. Avery got possession of the animal July 4, 1853, and in the following winter received \$44 for the untameable beast.

*The Williams Farm.*—The Williams farm may be said to have been established in 1852, when George Williams moved his family from Columbiana county to Wood county, where he had purchased 700 acres at an average price of \$3.25 an acre, the year before. In 1851, he constructed three and a half miles of ditches, made a large clearing, fenced the cleared tract and made ready for beginning agricultural life on a large scale in 1852. In that year he planted 140 acres under corn, and seventeen acres under buckwheat, sold 4,000 bushels of corn at sixty-one cents a bushel, with 700 bushels of buckwheat at thirty-one cents. This was the first extensive venture in corn raising in the beautiful, highly-cultivated and extensive scope of land east of town, now cut into many nice farms, but which still goes by the name of the Williams Prairie. The land had, from the advent of the first settlers, grown prairie grass, rosin weed and dock, and would so have continued to do for years had

not Mr. Williams accidentally come along. No one thought it susceptible of cultivation, at least no one dared to make the venture, and many were the forebodings of disaster on the part of the old settlers on the rash, venturesome foolish man from the East. The third year his corn crop yielded him between \$6,000 and \$7,000. In 1853, his brother purchased lands adjoining, but in 1855 he left the county, selling his property to George Williams, who then had 1,700 acres, of which 900 acres were under cultivation. He was not only the first great farmer but also the first great ditch builder, proving that agricultural success, in the Black Swamp, must always depend largely on the perfection of the artificial drainage systems. Prior to 1869, he amassed considerable wealth, and established himself as a manufacturer at Columbus, Ohio. The acres he once owned have passed into other hands, but the memory of him who reclaimed them from the wilderness lives in the county.

*First Election.*—The records of the first election cannot be found, but it has been learned that Adam Phillips, Daniel Crom and James Watson were chosen trustees, and Jacob Smith, clerk. At the special election, held in June, 1835, there were twenty-six votes cast, Henry Shively receiving eighteen, and Joseph Russell, ten, for justices, but the poll-book gives only twenty-two names, viz.: John M. Hannon, Adam Phillips, Daniel Crom, Jacob Smith, William Munn, Joseph Russell, Orange Strong, David L. Hixon, Robert Barr, Henry Lundy, John M. Jaquis, George Winklepleck, Joseph Ralston and Henry Shively—all of whom voted at that time and at the October election following; and in addition to the voters present in June, were James Ayres, John Bowman, John Foreman, Joseph Wade, George Hemminger, Samuel Snyder, Samuel Barr and Thomas Slight.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Trustees.*—The electors of 1835 supplied officials from their number for some years. So much is known. There are no records prior to 1842, dealing with trustees; but the township records (1842–1894) enabled Mr. Marron to compile a list which was supplemented as a result of research in the auditor's office.

1842—Daniel Newton, Peter Klopfenstein, James Anderson.  
1843—Lee Moore, Samuel Snyder, Geo. W. Underwood.  
1844—Lee Moore, Joseph Ralston, Geo. W. Underwood.  
1845—Lee Moore, Joseph Ralston, John Tracy.  
1846—Lee Moore, Henry Lundy, William Zimmerman.  
1847—Lee Moore, Henry Lundy, Geo. W. Underwood.  
1848—Geo. W. Underwood, Henry Lundy, David L. Hixon.  
1849—Joseph Stokeley, Henry Lundy, David L. Hixon.

1850—Hollis Fay, Henry Lundy, Horatio S. Meeker.  
1851—Peter Klopfenstein, John McMillen, Horatio S. Meeker.  
1852—Peter Klopfenstein, Daniel Eldridge, Horatio S. Meeker.  
1853—Peter Klopfenstein, William Truesdale, Horatio S. Meeker.  
1854—Theron Pike, Oriel B. Bradley, Jacob Flickinger.  
1855—Joseph A. Sargent, James F. Smith, James McMillen.  
1856—W. G. Avery, Joseph A. Sargent, Geo. W. Underwood.  
1857—W. G. Avery, Horatio S. Meeker, Reuben Keck.  
1858–59—Isaac Ward, James F. Smith, David L. Hixon.  
1860—Isaac Ward, Nathan A. Noble, Peter Richard.  
1861–62—Wm. Underwood, Nathan A. Noble, Peter Richard.  
1863—A. J. Manville, Henry Lundy, Peter Richard.  
1864—Wm. Underwood, Daniel Eldridge, Peter Richard.  
1865–66—Henry Lundy, Daniel Eldridge, Peter Richard.  
1867—Milton Fuller, Isaac Ward, Peter Richard.  
1868—Milton Fuller, Joseph Anderson, Peter Richard.  
1869—N. A. Noble, William Underwood, Wm. Perrin.  
1870—Isaac Ward, F. D. Noble, Wm. Underwood.  
1871—Peter Richard, John P. Shinew, H. Terry.  
1872—Peter Richard, Isaac Ward, John Shinew.  
1873—Peter Richard, Isaac Ward, H. H. Van Camp.  
1874—Peter Richard, Calvin Nelson, H. H. Van Camp.  
1875—Charles W. Evers, J. J. Shinew, H. H. Van Camp.  
1876—W. Underwood, Peter Richard, H. H. Van Camp.  
1877—W. Underwood, Peter Richard, F. D. Noble.  
1878—Martin Klotz, John Russell, Horatio S. Meeker.  
1879—Martin Klotz, John Elliott, Horatio S. Meeker.  
1880—John Russell, Charles E. Matthews, George Thomas.  
1881—Joseph Russell, Charles E. Matthews, John R. Lundy.  
1882—Wm. Underwood, Charles E. Matthews, John R. Lundy.  
1883—Robert Eldridge, Charles E. Matthews, John R. Lundy.  
1884–85—Robert Eldridge, Frank Van Camp, Wm. Bandeen.  
1886—Charles S. Stacy, Robert Eldridge, John R. Lundy.

In 1887 John R. Lundy was elected; 1888, Robert Eldridge; 1889, Charles S. Stacy; 1890, John Lundy; 1891, Robert Eldridge; 1892, William Klotz (died in 1893); 1893, John R. Lundy; 1894, Robert Eldridge; 1894, to fill vacancy, James M. Forrester, and 1895 he was elected for three years. In 1896 Henry Olds was elected trustee, the full list being Robert Eldridge, James M. Forrester and Henry Olds.

*Justices.*—The names of the justices of the peace, who qualified from 1835 to 1895, were found recorded in the clerk of court's office, in the following order: Henry Shively and Joseph Russell, who qualified in November, 1835; Joseph Ralston, 1838; Henry Shively, 1839; James Anderson, 1840; John Carter, 1840; Theron Pike, 1840–46; Levi C. Locke, 1847; George J. Poe, 1850; J. D. Smith, 1851; Fuller Ballard, a botanical doctor, 1850; Thomas E. Jackman, 1855 and '64; Peleg G. Thomas, 1848–55 [It is stated that W. R. Peck was a justice of the peace in 1846, but the name is not given on this record.]; Nathan A. Noble, 1856–68; Daniel Noyes, 1858–71; Isaac Clay, 1867; Edson Goit, 1868–77; Earl W. Merry, 1874, resigned in 1876; Simon P. Harrison, 1876; George C. Phelps, 1879; B. L. Abbott, 1880 to '92; George W. Hill, 1882; Milton Zimmerman, 1884 to '91;



Thomas S. Forrest, 1894; Charles R. Nearing was elected in 1895; C. R. Nearing and Thomas S. Forrest in 1896.

*Clerks.*—The office of township clerk has been filled by the following named citizens since 1843: Henry Lundy, 1843; Henry Shively, 1845; L. C. Locke, 1847; George J. Poe, 1848; Henry Lundy, 1852; S. L. Boughton, 1859; N. A. Noble, 1864; E. H. Hull, 1866; Samuel Case, 1869; A. R. Patterson, 1870; S. H. Fairchild, 1871; W. A. Whitacre, 1872; George W. Gaghan, 1873; W. H. Rudolph, 1875; John H. Crane, 1877; Guy C. Nearing, 1878–79, 1881–83, 1885 and 1887; Frank Boughton, 1880; David J. Cargo, 1884; Frank W. Dunn, 1886; and Rufus B. Moore, 1888 to 1896.

*Treasurers.*—The treasurers have been Peter Klopfenstein, 1839–41; Henry Shively, 1842; W. R. Peck, 1843; Peter Klopfenstein, 1845; W. R. Peck, 1846; Lee Moore, 1847 to 1856; Jacob Hartman, 1856; Albert Selkirk, 1858; S. L. Boughton, 1864, and 1873–74; A. A. Thurston, 1871; George W. Gaghan, 1875 to 1880; W. R. Noyes, 1880 to 1886; and George W. Gaghan, 1886 to 1895. The present (1896) treasurer, B. J. Froney, was elected in April, 1895.

*Assessors.*—The assessors, in order of service, are named as follows: James Smith, 1842, 1843, 1845 and 1846; Henry Shively, 1844 and 1847 to 1851; William Phillips, 1851; Lee Moore, 1852; Jacob Hartman, 1854; Daniel Shoffstall, 1855 to 1858; Joseph Alcorn, 1858; William G. Lamb, 1859 to 1862; Irvin Walker, 1862; Thomas J. Avery, 1863–64, and 1866–69, and 1870–73, and 1874; F. D. Noble, 1875; William R. Noyes, 1873, and 1875 to 1878; Milton Zimmerman, 1878, 1879, 1881; A. M. Wyckoff, 1880; Hiram Boardner, 1882–83; Henry G. Hixon, 1884 and 1889; Samuel M. Eaton, 1885; William Zimmerman, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1890; George Walker, 1891–92; William Tansey, 1894; Leslie Stacy, 1895; and Chauncey Underwood, 1896.

*Board of Education.*—1896: H. A. Elder, John Walker, A. R. Buck, Andrew Bandeen, Mrs. Wight, Joseph Russell, George Walker, George Foos, N. Buchman, James Zimmerman, and George Gallier.

#### CHURCHES.

The township is singularly well endowed with churches and religious societies. Not content with the numerous societies at Bowling Green and New Rochester, new organizations were effected throughout the township, and near its southern, eastern and northern lines, as well as

its center, houses for worship were erected. In early days the Millerites were known here, and continued in existence until 1843, when the prophecy of their chief failed to be realized. Seeing that the world was to continue, the followers of Miller became quite worldly. The Mormons created some enthusiasm here in later years, but failed to win a large number of recruits. In the chapters devoted to Middleton, Plain, Freedom, Webster, Portage and Bowling Green, sketches of neighboring religious associations are given, while here a history of each society owning a house of worship, or having a part interest in one, built within the township, is related.

*The United Brethren Church (Liberal)*, near the Center school house, was known in 1833 as Joseph Cox's class. It was reorganized in 1834, and again reorganized about thirty years ago. In 1873, when the Klotz family became members, there were William Phillips, who became a member in 1849, John Taft, Daniel and Jacob Long, James McMillan and a few others. The church was erected in 1861 or 1862, on land donated by James Brown, to revert to the estate if not used for religious purposes. Among the members in 1885, were William Klotz, trustee and leader; Ellen, Obed, Lilly, Martin, Sarah, Ollie and Nathan Klotz; Lafayette Canfield, trustee, with three members of his family; three Walkers; three of the Bates family; A. R. Buck and wife; the Carters, Leggetts, Burketts, Bandeens, George C. Houskeeper, Wesley Long and wife, and a few others. Rev. Mr. Naylor was pastor in the "seventies." From that time to 1894 the pastors of the Church at Portage attended the Center Church. There were thirty-seven members named in September, 1892, George C. Houskeeper being then clerk, as he was in 1885 and 1894, when the Church was attached to the Dowling Circuit, with Dr. Pope, circuit steward. In 1891, the church-house was repaired at a cost of between \$1,400 and \$1,500.

*The United Brethren Church (Radical)* was organized a few years after the division in the Center church. Rev. H. L. Downing presided. Rev. G. W. Coss was pastor down to 1894; Rev. M. H. Tussing came in 1895, and is now pastor of the Underwood, the Union Hill, the New Rochester and the Providence classes. Elijah Leggett, Henry Hairy, Henry Long and Daniel Barr are the leaders of the respective classes. The church of the Underwood class was an old school house, which is used jointly with the Methodist society.

*Portage River Seventh Day Adventists* organ-



ized December 18, 1883, and signed articles of association January 20, 1884, when Peter Klopfenstein, John E. Freeman, Austin Cary, George Klopfenstein and C. S. Clarke were chosen trustees. A house for worship was erected the same year, at a cost of \$600, which was dedicated by Revs. R. A. Underwood and E. H. Gates (the latter is a missionary in the Pitcairn Islands). Messrs. Lindsay and Thompson were the successive pastors after Mr. Gates. The first members were Peter, Ann, George and James Klopfenstein; Caleb S., Sarah M., Aura and Olive Clarke; John E., Hannah, Dora and Emma Freeman; Eva and Artie Underwood, David M., James N., Mary A. and Maggie L. Francis, and Harriet Hurst. B. C. Perciot succeeded George Klopfenstein as trustee in 1888; Dora Freeman was elected in 1889, and George Klopfenstein in 1892. In 1894, Coy B. Van Gorder was chosen trustee, and John Freeman, Jr., took the place of C. S. Clarke, deceased. Mr. Clarke was the first resident elder, George Klopfenstein the second, W. T. Weeks the third, in 1891, and George Klopfenstein again in 1893. Miss Mary Heron is secretary of the Sabbath-school.

*The Union Church* of Cloverdale was built by James F. Long, Frank Ledyard and George Mell, the committee, and Michael Amos, representing the subscribers, for the use of all evangelical societies. It was completed in 1891, and the United Brethren applied for it as a place of worship. Mr. McNutt, of the Methodist Protestant Society, preached the dedicatory service September 13, 1892. Meetings of that society were held in 1892, but its existence was very short. The Christian Union was organized by Charles Paine with nine members, who were George Mell, Frank and Matilda Abbott, William and Clara Hall, Lemuel and Mary Ward and Jason and Agnes Koons. The membership in June, 1895, was thirty-five. The United Brethren organized a class of seventeen members in 1892, among them being Albert and Ettie Buck, Mrs. Hall, James F. and Susannah Long, Cyrus and Julia Johnson, Finley and Mary Oberdorf, Frank and Susie Dorman, Fred and Mamie Jamieson, Albert and Lottie Waring, Albert Berry and Mrs. Sanders. Rev. Peter Tussing, the pastor, has charge of this society, of that at Portage, of that at Wingston, in Liberty township, and of Mt. Zion, at Cass' Corners. Mr. B. Lanker organized the class, he being then pastor of the Center United Brethren Church, as well as of the other churches in the circuit. The membership in June, 1895, was forty-four.

*The Dunkards*, or German Baptists, hold

meetings once every four weeks in the Union church, Messrs. Jonathan Whitmore, John Kraybill and John W. Rees being preachers. David Monroe and Jacob Kiser and their wives, Christopher and Benjamin Reeves and wives, Viola and Cora Rees, Elsworth Rutter, Ezra Hemminger and wife, and a few others, formed this class.

The first trustees of the Union building were Henry Sawyer, George C. Houskeeper, Jacob and Monroe Kiser and George Mell.

*United Brethren Church*, Maple Grove, was organized in 1890, on a liberal platform, and in March, 1891, the site for the present building was selected on lands donated by Mr. Cook in the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 9. The first trustees were Charles W. Cox (secretary), William Dennis, Andrew Glenn, whose place was subsequently filled by Daniel Barr, J. H. Bush, whose place is now filled by Charles Barr, and Henry Nixon. In June, 1891, Charles Barr and Thomas Cross were elected additional trustees. The bid of C. Stacy, agreeing to erect a house of worship for \$975.87, was accepted, and the building was completed in October, 1891. The sum of \$1,912.81 collected for all purposes from organization to August 20, 1891, of which \$1,744.26 was expended. The society made remarkable progress until 1893, when Mrs. Ross came to preach the doctrine of the Radical wing at the Union Hill church. A number of the members joined the new society.

*Underwood Methodist Episcopal Class* was organized in 1891, by Rev. Scoles, with Henry Mincks, leader. He, with his wife and daughter, Hester, Jacob and Lizzie Mincks, James Mincks, who died October 28, 1893, Jane Mincks, John Walker, William and Emma Bonnell, Gideon Underwood, deceased, Margaret Underwood, John and Amanda Russell, John Shanks and William, Carrie and Nellie Stacy formed the class. Like the United Brethren Society of Center, this one was part of the Portage circuit until 1894, when it was attached to Dowling. Some two years before the United Brethren and Methodist classes were organized the Underwood school house was fitted up for religious purposes, and ultimately purchased by the two societies. The class in July, 1895, had fourteen members.

#### SOCIETIES.

*Sugar Ridge Grange*, No. 745, was chartered June 1, 1874, with F. D. Noble, H. H. VanCamp, C. E. Matthews, O. M. Grover, John Simonds, Reuben Abbott, H. S. Meeker, G. S. Meeker (secretary), William Grover, Mrs. Angeline Grover, Martha Grover, Alice Ashley, Mrs.

Laura Matthews, officers in grange rank, and twenty-five unofficial members. Joseph Hampton was elected master, *vice* Noble resigned. In August, 1874, the charter members built the present hall (William Grover hauling the first lumber), on land donated by H. S. Meeker and Robert McKenzie. C. E. Matthews was elected secretary in 1876; George W. Brown in December, 1878; J. D. Smith, 1879; while C. E. Matthews succeeded Master Hampton in December, 1880. G. E. Cessna was master in 1883, with H. V. Meeker, secretary; G. C. Stevenson

served as master in 1884, with Seth F. Gregory, secretary; John Current was master in 1885, with C. K. Stevenson, secretary. Gilbert S. Meeker served as master for some years; Wilber Simons also held the chair, and other members were honored with the position, until the grange ceased working. At one time, this association had sixty active members, and was undoubtedly the banner grange of this county. The Center Grange, with place of meeting near Houskeeper's, was also an important association of agriculturalists.

## CHAPTER XXX.

### FREEDOM TOWNSHIP.

HOW NAMED—POPULATION, SURVEY, ETC.—FIRST LAND BUYERS—FIRST SETTLEMENT—EARLY TRAILS AND ROADS—GAME AND HUNTERS—NEW ROCHESTER SETTLEMENT—AN OLD MILL—MEN OF 1889—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION, AND OFFICIALS—NEW ROCHESTER—WOODSIDE—THE REES SETTLEMENT—PEMBERVILLE VILLAGE—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—CEMETERIES—SOCIETIES—INDUSTRIES, ETC.

THE name of this township was suggested to the pioneers by the comparative liberty they enjoyed here, rather than by any exemption from the necessity of finding a home in the wilderness. "Made captive, yet deserving freedom more," they gave the title, which was then, as it is now, appropriate. The soil is unquestionably rich in the mineral constituents necessary to produce good crops. Year after year the land has produced abundantly without exhausting its fertility. Modern developments changed, in a measure, the agricultural character of the township, transforming sections of it into an oilman's camp, and showing the liquid wealth, hidden from the pioneers. The population in 1840, was 238; in 1860, 971; in 1880, 1,667; and in 1890 (including the 843 inhabitants credited to Pemberville), 1,945. In April, 1895, there were 204 votes cast in Pemberville village, a fact which goes to show the certain increase of the urban population. The exterior lines of the township were surveyed in 1819, and the section lines in 1821, but not until 1833 did the pioneers arrive.

*First Land Buyers.*—The first land entry recorded in Freedom is credited to Asahel Hannan Powers, who purchased the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the

N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10, August 27, 1833. Horace Rice entered the W. part of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of that section, and Samuel Mardis the S.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 8 on the same day; but Powers was the only one of the trio to become a permanent settler. On November 6, 1833, Joseph Strong purchased the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, Francis Smith the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 32, and John Hettel the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of that section. On November 7, 1833, Francis Kelley entered the W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and James Kelley the east half of the same quarter of Sec. 22. They were the first buyers of United States land in the township.

The deed of Ohio to Jacob Cable was made December 25, 1833, when the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Fr. Sec. 28, a little over sixty-five acres, was conveyed to him for \$81.33 $\frac{1}{3}$ , and the S. part of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21, embracing sixty-four acres, for \$80. This formed a part of the canal lands, as did also the Benjamin Waite entry, at the Forks.

About the same time the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10, also canal land, was conveyed to Asahel H. Powers, but the tract was not returned for taxation until 1840.

Powers purchased from the United States, August 18, 1834, the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of

Sec. 3; Jacob Cable bought the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and W. part of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 23, May 8, 1834; John Yocum purchased the E. part of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of that section on the same day, and Silas Cabel the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 24, while on May 30, 1834, Samuel Scothorn bought the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 28, and on June 19, Darius Brewster the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 28. The other purchasers of U. S. lands, in 1834, were W. A. Potter, Roswell Wade, Joel R. Wade and John W. Whitman, on Sec. 2; Lewis Snyder, Ezbon Sanford and Ethan Pember, Sec. 3; William Preston and Martin Kesler, Sec. 4; Thomas Forrester, Sec. 6; Levi Loomis and Adam Housholder, Sec. 7; John Dixon, Sec. 10; James Cresswell and R. Bratton, Sec. 11; Peter and Joseph Krotzer, Sec. 12; John Depuy, Sec. 13; Abraham Keefer, Sec. 14; Ludwig Kramer, Sec. 18; David Fisher, Sec. 19; Robert Roberts and Daniel Schell, Sec. 20; John Ganning, Sec. 23; Solomon Hoffart, Thomas Miner and John Farming, Sec. 30; George Spencer, Henry Sapp, John Steel and C. Wilhelm, Sec. 31; Richard Wright and Timothy Wilkinson, Sec. 32. Section 29 was included in the canal lands of 1834, and was then owned by Michael Myers, Michael Miller, Thomas E. Harding, Henry Sapp and Fred Karper. In May, 1835, Jacob Cable purchased the N. part of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 28, and Peter Donohue the W. part of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 11.

*First Settlement.*—With one or two exceptions, all located on their lands, making two distinct settlements—one in and round the present town of Pemberville, and one in and round the older village of New Rochester, Asahel H. Powers being the pioneer of one, and Jacob Cable of the other. After locating his land Powers returned to his home in eastern Lorain county, and in the following November started for this county with two two-horse wagons, and accompanied by his wife, sons Herman and Hiram, sons-in-law James Pember and Benjamin Waite, the latter's wife, and daughters Lucina and Almira. They were five days and four nights traveling a distance of about eighty miles. The first night of their journey they spent at Amherst, Lorain county, the second at a private house near Milan, the third at Fremont, the fourth at Seager's tavern about five miles east of Woodville, and the evening of the fifth day they arrived at Benedict's, two miles from Woodville, where the women of the party stayed for the night, the men stopping a little this side of Benedict's, with their teams at Ferdig's. The journey through mud brought on by November rains,

was almost horrible, and many times they were obliged to take both teams, pull one wagon through a mud hole, and then hitch to the other wagon and bring that through. One traveler who passed over the road a day in advance, gave a man \$12 to pull him through a mud hole about twenty rods long. The next morning after the arrival of the above party at Benedict's and Ferdig's, the men set forth along the banks of the Portage, and arrived on what they supposed to be the land of Powers before noon, and soon selected a site for the cabin, on the southeast corner of Sec. 3, later owned by H. C. & J. Herman. They immediately set to work, and ere the sun went down they had cut the logs, put together a snug house 18x30 feet, and covered the same with shakes and bark.

In the winter of 1833-34 Henry Hahn, his wife and one child, found shelter in an addition to Powers' cabin. There a second child was born to them, who was the first native of Freedom.

Soon after the first house was built, Powers discovered he had located on land he did not own. Consequently he made no more improvements there, but with his two sons occupied his time in the winter of 1833-34 in clearing the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10. In the following spring they plowed up about five acres of the land, and put in the first crop of potatoes, corn and vegetables. The corn they raised was never excelled in that vicinity. It surprised the settlers, and filled them with astonishment. They sent samples of it back to their old home, and to different settlements in this county, and from that time on the Forks have been noted for corn-producing qualities. There was on Powers' farm a fine maple sugar camp, from which he derived much benefit. Maple sugar was about the only cash article besides fur they could then produce, and Perrysburg was their market.

Benjamin Waite, a son-in-law of Powers, who bought thirty-seven acres upon which a large portion of Pemberville is located, in the fall of 1833, made a little opening on his land, and the next summer built a house near where the residence of Henry Bowlus now stands, and moved in with his wife. Returning to Lorain county that fall, he died by his own hand.

James Pember, wife and child came from Lorain county in the fall of 1834, bought thirty-seven acres, owned by Waite, for \$600, and shortly after became a lumber and sawmill man, owning two or three sawmills above the confluence of the Portage branches.

*Early Trails and Roads.*—The first trail or, rather, wagon road, in the township, was made

by Gen. Harrison's troops in 1813. Where is Henry Hoodlebrink's farm, the soldiers camped, until the river would freeze over, when they hoped to move forward the artillery and baggage. Many mementoes of their camp are found there yet. Twenty-eight years after the soldiers passed that way, one of the Pembers found a musket-barrel. Taking it to the blacksmith shop, to remove the breach-pin, and placing it in the vise, the onlookers reminded him to turn the muzzle away from them, as an old army gun was dangerous in any condition. Accepting the advice, he began hammering, when the charge did go off, making a large hole in a two-inch plank.

The first regular road through the township was the McCutchenville turnpike, established by the Act of February 15, 1831. It runs from Perysburg southeast through New Rochester, to the county's southeast corner; thence to Bucyrus. Its length in Wood county is thirty miles and thirty-five chains; in Seneca, fourteen miles and forty-two chains, and in Crawford county, twenty miles and thirty-one chains. The commissioners appointed to locate the same were Ambrose Rice, of Wood, James Burk, of Seneca, and James McCracken, of Crawford, and the route was surveyed by Q. C. Sweeney. Eight chainmen were employed, not all at the same time, however, and two "packers," with their horses. The commissioners and surveyors each received \$1.25 per day for their services, and the chainmen and packers 75 cents. The cost of location was divided among the three counties as follows: Wood, \$113.35; Seneca, \$55.56; Crawford, \$78.47. Surveyor Sweeney's bill was for forty days' work, amounting to \$60, this amount including plat and profile of survey. The report of survey and location is dated April 13, 1835. Road 46, running through the township along the north bank of the Portage river, was the next, established March 15, 1836. The viewers were David Phenicee, Stilwell Truax, and Thomas M. Brown. Surveyor, Daniel H. Cobb; chainmen, Hiram Powers, James Pember, and marker, Carlisle Pember. It took the above force four days to complete their work of location and survey.

*Game and Hunters.*—From facts related in 1884, by Mrs. Ann Forest and Frank Cowden, of New Rochester, to C. S. VanTassel, it is learned that the last wild bear seen in Freedom, was in 1851. Mrs. Eli Colvin, a neighbor of Mrs. Joseph Myers, called at the latter's home one day in the fall of that year, and while they were in the house talking, their attention was arrested by the squealing of a pig near by. Being curious to apprise themselves of the difficulty,

they started in search of the apparently discomfited porker. They had gone but a few rods from the house when they perceived it in the woods a short distance outside of a fence by which they stopped where the poor fellow was being unmercifully hugged by a bear! Mrs. Colvin was the taller of the two ladies, and saw the bear first, when she made for the house. Mrs. Myers was a brave lady, and proposed to see it, too; so she advanced a little farther, and sure enough there was bruin hugging the pig and biting at its throat; but on perceiving Mrs. Myers he immediately dropped the object of his affections and made tracks for the wilderness. They also related the following story:

Isaac Clay was out turkey hunting one day with a rifle, and coming across a flock, shot one turkey, and on going to pick it up he found another, and near by still a third, and all three were shot through the head. Three turkeys shot through the head with one rifle ball! A favorite way of hunting deer on the Portage, was what old hunters call "candling" in canoes, and shooting the deer as they came to the river to drink.

*New Rochester Settlement.*—The Cables are mentioned in the deed from the State of Ohio as Virginians. No doubt they came in 1833, but left to others the task of establishing the first town in Freedom. Michael N. Myers came from Columbiana county in 1834, and purchased lands from the State, on the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 29. His wife, son and four daughters accompanied him into the wilderness, and aided him in building a hewed-log house, on the east side of the McCutchenville road, on the north or right bank of the Portage. Soon after, Michael Miller came from Stark county, entered the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 29, and in 1835 had the town of New Rochester surveyed. John Cope entered the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21, but being a tradesman gave his time to building the first sawmill at New Rochester, and one or two mills at Pemberville, rather than to agriculture. The original Cables, who located in the New Rochester neighborhood, resided here only a short time, when they resolved to leave the wilderness. Loading their goods on canoes and embarking with their women and children, they paddled down the Portage; but, one mile below the Powers settlement, one canoe capsized, and the disappointed passengers were thankful that they lost only their clothing and provisions.

*An Old Mill.*—The Joseph Fuller gristmill was introduced as early as 1835, where H. Schermeyer resided fifty years later. One barrel of flour or corn meal—or, rather, crushed wheat

and corn—was its capacity per day. It contained one run of stone made of a large "hard head" halved, which Mr. Fuller himself dressed. It was run by "muscle power" that operated two wooden cranks, which turned two belts that were so geared by wood work that they ran the stone. It was used by settlers for many miles around, and those who used it were compelled to grind their own grist, and pay toll in the bargain.

*Men of 1839.*—In 1839, there were sixty male citizens, aged twenty-one years and over, in this township, the names of whom are as follows: George Scothorn, Michael Myers, Isaac Clay, Henry Housholder, Adam Housholder, Zopher Francis, Thomas Francis, Asahel Pember, Henry Pember, Russel, Thomas Miner, Joseph Myers, John Fought, John Hoot, John Kelley, Daniel Sage, Peter Eisenhaur, Peter Eisenhaur, Jr., John Eisenhaur, Thomas Eisenhaur, Jacob Hyser, Jacob Phillips, A. E. Calkins, Henry Eyster, Frederick Hahn, David A. Carpenter, Asahel Powers, Harman Powers, Nelson Alexander, John Cope, James Pember, James Waugh, Thomas Thompson, Lyman Lewis, Thomas Moseby, Robert Forrester, William Forrester, Harvey Allen, Jacob Eddleman, Nicholas Kesler, Martin Kesler, Joseph Kesler, Robert Dunapace, William Dunapace, William Muir, James Muir, Wm. Schniedebarger, Carlisle C. Pember, Harman Pember, Hiram Pember, Joseph Fuller, Joseph Fuller, Jr., Ira Pember, Sampson Calkins, Manassa Calkins, Asa Fair, Peter Krotzer, John Krotzer, Joseph Krotzer, Jacob Vanettin.

*Township Organization, and Officials.*—The township was established December 1, 1834, on petition of the inhabitants, who, in the fall of that year, assembled at the forks of the Portage to raise a log school house, and there heard Hiram Pember suggest the name "Freedom" for a new township. The election was ordered to be held at the cabin of Michael N. Myers, on the first Monday of April, 1835. On June 6, that year, Michael Myers and John W. Whitman received the entire vote for justices of the peace, the electors being the same as in April, namely: Silas, Jonathan, Benjamin and Isaac Cable, Michael N., Michael and Joseph Myers, Asahel H. and H. H. Powers, George Spencer, John Cope, Samuel Ridinger, Henry Nailor, Christian Schell, Thomas Miner, John W. Whitman, Henry Sapp and Michael Miller. The October election of 1836 shows sixteen votes for Joseph Vance for Governor; sixteen for Patrick Goode, Congress, seventeen for John Hollister, Representative in the Legislature; eighteen for John A. Kelley, Commissioner; and seventeen for Hiram Davis, Surveyor. There

were eighteen votes cast, however, Hiram, Carlisle and Harman Pember, Adam and David Housholder, John Wilson, Luman C. Lewis, Henry Eyster and Archibald Burnett, new voters, taking the places of so many of the older voters of 1835. C. W. Evers, writing in June, 1875, on this subject, notices the absence of the name of James Pember, and seems inclined to credit it to the fact that his right to vote was questioned by his fellow pioneers, who considered him a Canadian.

*The Trustees of Freedom* are named in the following list, which is based on tax-levy certificates and other documents found in auditor's office, down to 1878, and on the township records, in possession of the clerk, from 1879 to 1895:

- 1839—D. A. Carpenter, Carlisle Pember, T. D. Moseby.
- 1840—D. A. Carpenter, Manassah Calkins, Peter Eisenhaur.
- 1841—Carlisle Pember, John Cope, Peter Eisenhaur.
- 1842—John Cope, Sampson Calkins, Peter Eisenhaur.
- 1843—44—(Documents not in auditor's office.)
- 1845—46—Hiram Pember, Peter Eisenhaur, Isaac Clay.
- 1847—48—Jonas G. Wicker, Isaac Clay.
- 1849—F. N. Pember, H. W. Bain, Jacob Hieser.
- 1850—51—James Pember, Elias Lay, H. H. Powell.
- 1852—53—(Documents not in auditor's office.)
- 1858—John Reed, Henry Harmeyer, Evan Rees.
- 1859—George M. Bell, Henry Harmeyer, Charles Eisenhaur.
- 1860—Abel T. Norris, Levi Wetmore, J. H. Schroder.
- 1861—S. Johnson, Levi Wetmore, J. H. Schroder.
- 1863—64—Daniel Clay, James M. Peoples, Henry Harmeyer.
- 1865—H. H. Shaberg, W. P. Eisenhaur, Henry Baker.
- 1866—Daniel Clay, Charles Eisenhaur, Henry Baker.
- 1867—H. H. Shaberg, Charles Eisenhaur, Henry Menter.
- 1868—G. Hebler, David Peoples, Henry Menter.
- 1869—Henry Rickett, David Peoples, Edward Dusing.
- 1870—John Hiser, David Peoples, Edward Dusing.
- 1871—Henry Baker, David Peoples, Edward Dusing.
- 1872—J. M. Peoples, H. Harmeyer, John Hockman.
- 1873—H. H. Shaberg, H. Harmeyer, John Hockman.
- 1874—H. H. Shaberg, H. Harmeyer, John Krofer.
- 1876—H. H. Shaberg, L. H. Forest, William Brocksicker.
- 1877—78—F. Talker, H. Hoodlebrink, William Brocksicker.
- 1879—J. Bowers, J. H. Baker, Charles Eisenhaur.
- 1880—82—(Records not in possession of clerk.)
- 1883—T. M. Peoples, H. Westerhaus, W. Scherman.
- 1884—Henry Heckman, Casper Ernesthausen, W. Scherman.
- Henry Heckman, Ed. H. Dusing, Henry Schermeyer.
- 1885—Frank Schwane, Ed. H. Dusing, Henry Schermeyer.
- 1886—Harman Heckman, Frank Schwane, William Brocksicker.
- 1887—90—William Brocksicker, Frank Schwane, William Brocksicker.
- 1890—Charles Stahler, Frank Schwane, Fred Menter.
- 1891—Henry Moorman, C. Stahler, Fred Menter.
- 1892—94—Charles Stahler, Henry Moorman, Fred Menter.
- 1895—Henry Sieck, Henry Moorman, Fred Menter.
- 1896—Dan Schaberg and William Brocksicker were elected.

*Justices.*—The justices of the peace, who qualified, are named as follows: John W. Whitman and Michael Myers, who qualified in December, 1835; Hiram Pember and Michael Myers, 1838; Thomas D. Moseby, 1839; Hiram Pember, 1841; Thomas Eisenhaur, 1842; Thomas Thompson, 1843; H. W. Bain, 1848; A. E. Calkins, 1849–52; Isaac Clay, 1850–52; Hiram Pember,

did not qualify in 1851; James Waugh, 1852; Hiram Pember, 1855 to 1863; F. N. Pember, 1856-59; Robert Barber, 1858; John Reed, 1861; Philip Smith, 1863; Isaac Clay, 1864; James Pember, 1865; Henry Rickett, 1867; J. H. Schroeder, 1868 to 1880; John Bernard, 1870; H. H. Shaberge, 1872; Henry Bruning, 1873; Henry Menter, 1875-78; Thomas N. Bierly, 1880; J. H. Menter, 1881 to 1888; H. B. Knoff, 1883, 1886 (resigned in 1888), and J. H. Schröder, 1887 to 1896, re-elected 1896.

*Clerks.*—The clerk's office has been occupied by the following named citizens since 1839: Thomas Thompson, 1839; S. H. Bell, 1845; H. A. Karns, 1848; S. H. Bell, 1849; J. P. Martin, 1852; H. N. Alexander, 1853; G. M. Bell, 1860; B. A. Pember, 1861; George McCreary, 1863; Robert Barber, 1864; Henry Van Camp, 1865; J. H. Schroeder, 1866; (records wanting); Henry Bruning, 1869; W. Klostermyer, 1873; N. B. Holdsworth, 1874; C. Gerding, 1876; (records wanting); H. B. Knoff, —; Fred Gerding, 1883; Fred Eschedor, 1884; John K. Powell, 1887; Fred Eschedor, 1891; J. F. Sherman, 1892; C. Gerding, 1893, and Charles Nieman, appointed September 1, 1894, elected 1896.

*Treasurers.*—Among the early treasurers were: A. E. Calkins, 1840; John Cope, 1843; D. A. Carpenter, 1850; John Y. Fish, 1851; James Waugh, 1853; John Cope, 1854; Hiram Pember, 1856, and Ira B. Banks, 1857-59. The office has been variously filled for the last thirty-five years, H. H. Bruning being elected to same in 1896.

*Assessor.*—David Henline was elected assessor in 1896.

#### NEW ROCHESTER.

The pioneer village of Freedom was surveyed into seventy-five lots in May, 1835, by Hiram Steel, for Michael Miller, on the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 29. The owner had located there in 1834, but Michael N. Myers, his senior in settlement, built the first house, as related in the history of the township. It was a larger cabin than was usually found in the wilderness, and this fact, taken together with the genial character of Myers, made it at once the mecca of immigrants. Within a decade, he thought it expedient to build a larger concern to entertain his guests, and in 1844 began the construction of the two-story frame building, known to this day as "Myers' Hotel." For years, John Zepernick has used it as a dwelling and store. It was not completed until 1848 or 1849. In 1835, a log-cabin was erected by Miller, in which the grocery business was carried

on, until the structure was moved and dedicated to school purposes. During the first year of President Jackson's second term, Myers was appointed postmaster at New Rochester, a position he held for about thirty years. John Bair was then the mail-carrier, on the route from Perrysburg to Bucyrus, as he was until 1839. In 1842, Henry Bain opened a tavern at this point, and, within it, kept a small stock of groceries, dry goods and hardware. About the same time, Thomas Bain erected a house, opposite that of Henry, which was rented by Elias Whipple, who established himself as a tavern-keeper and merchant. Some years later, Whipple purchased Henry Bain's stock, and, for a time, was the sole merchant of the locality. Shafftstal and T. Alexander occupied the house until it was torn down. In 1883, R. W. Davidson built the present store. The first sawmill was built by John Cope, one and one-half miles below the village, in 1848 or 1849. He cut a canal across the little peninsula at that point, which to-day is the only evidence of the mill-power of the past.

*Old Cemetery.*—Below the village, in sight of Davidson's store, on the high bank of the river is the grave of Silas Myers, who died September 11, 1835. There also lie Catherine Myers, (whose death occurred in July, 1841), Silas M. Myers (who died in May, 1851), and Frances M. Clay (who died in June, 1848).

*First School.*—The first school house in that vicinity stood about ten rods below where the big hotel was, on the south side of the road. It was moved from near where the hotel stood; was a frame building sided up with clap-boards, and originally intended for a grocery. The first teacher was Sally McMillen, who taught the first term in the summer of 1841 or '42. When she was examined the questions in arithmetic propounded by the township examiner, Myers, were as follows:  $7+4$  are how many? What does  $3 \times 9$  equal? Four units from eleven units leave how many units? Jane Gould was the second teacher.

*Early Preachers.*—The first sermon preached in New Rochester neighborhood, was by a Baptist minister named Babcock, some time in 1838. The services were held at the house of Michael Myers. Among other ministers there, were Rev. H. Norton, of Bowling Green, a Methodist, who preached several sermons in Jeremiah Knoll's house, and a revivalist named Hager, who stirred up the community about 1848. The first Sabbath-school, organized and superintended by Jeremiah Knoll, in 1844, was held at his house.

*The Post Office.*—The office was held by Michael Myers from the early "thirties" until

the close of the Civil war. John Zeppernick was the incumbent in 1868, when John Adams arrived. Theodore Alexander followed, and served until August, 1877, when Miss Emma Adams took charge. At one time, R. W. Davidson was commissioned postmaster, and qualified; but resigned in favor of Miss Adams.

*Churches.*—On July 23, 1858, Michael Myers sold to himself, Jeremiah Thrall, Grafton Bernard and George Bower, trustees of the Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Protestant Societies, a half acre in Sec. 39, Freedom township. In that year they erected a house of worship, for joint use. Sometime after, the United Brethren purchased a third interest in the building, and furnishings, when it became known as the "Union Church." The Methodist Protestant organization disbanded years ago, so that in 1884 the Episcopal Methodists and United Brethren were the owners of the property. In 1893, the United Brethren purchased the building, the remnant of the Methodist organization going into the Presbyterian Society.

The Presbyterian Church is one of the modern organizations of this old village. About four years ago their present church was erected.

Evangelical Lutheran, St. Paul's Society, was incorporated August 4, 1881, and elected H. Beimdick, Frank Schwane and H. Schwarte, trustees. This society erected a church house in 1882, and a school house and parsonage in 1883. Mr. Kornbaum was the first pastor, and served until Rev. Mr. Hohls, the present pastor, came in July, 1890. The first members included the trustees named, with Henry Eschedor, Matthias Frobose, David Hummel, F. Evers, Henry Lachmiller, Johann Bellenkamp and two others. The present number of members is fifty-one.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Woodside* was surveyed by D. D. Ames, in April, 1883, for Seymour W. Owen. In this vicinity, immediately after the war, or rather about the date of its official close, in 1866, the farmers of the district in Wood, Sandusky and Ottawa, organized a Mutual Benefit Fire Insurance Association, which, twenty years later, carried risks valued at \$150,000. In 1852 the little village lost the pioneer merchant, who moved to Pemberville and opened his stock of goods in the more promising town.

In 1892 the oilmen recognized in the vicinity a safe place for the investment of money, and soon Woodside became more than a mere stopping place for trains or a post-office hamlet.

The Woodside fire of May 19, 1891, destroyed

Henry Alexander's sawmill, the Reinburger and Hamlin dwellings, and the Alexander barn. The explosion at the Ohio Oil Co.'s well, on the Fuhr & Villwock lease, on July 20, 1893, resulted in the death of Lemuel Lockhart, and Jacob Turk; David Arner, Jacob Perkins and David Ramsey were fearfully burned, while the engine house, derrick and two horses were reduced to cinders. On July 29, S. G. Redman, a pumper on the Hoodlebrink farm, was killed, while within the last few years many minor accidents have been chronicled.

*The Rees Settlement.*—Among the early settlers along the east line of the county were a number of Welsh immigrants, who sought a home far away from the exactions of landlords and manufacturers in their own land. They found suitable locations here, which they reclaimed from the wilderness, and left as a rich heritage to their children. Of their two institutions—the Harvest Home and the Baptist Church—let a brief account be given.

The Harvest Home originated here in 1857, in Sunday-school and pioneer meetings. For years the annual August meeting was held in Rees' Grove, Morris Rees being the most active spirit and president of the association since its formation. The meetings were well attended for a number of years.

The Madison Baptist Church may be said to have been organized, March 9, 1857, when David Campbell, Elias Lloyd, David Rees, John Peoples, Evan Rees, Ann Rees, Elizabeth Peoples, Sarah Rees, Hannah Peoples, Eliza Ladd, Susan Chamblin and Hannah Jones signed articles of association. Rev. David Campbell was chosen moderator, Elias Lloyd, clerk, and David Rees, deacon. In May, following, Thomas and Margaret Griffith, Esther Hayden, Hannah Burns and Sarah Ann Ladd, were admitted, while, on May 30, Elizabeth Ladd was baptized, and Evan Rees appointed clerk. In June, Morris Rees and Caroline Peoples were received, and on October 7, 1857, the society was constituted as a Regular Baptist Church, with delegates from Amanda, Findlay, Jackson, Liberty and West Millgrove societies composing the council. There were nineteen members then known as the Freedom and Madison Baptist Church. Mr. Campbell preached for two and a half years when Rev. B. J. Powell came, and in March, 1860, received four members of Thomas Brown's family, and nominated Mr. Brown as deacon. On July 21, 1860, the name "Madison" was adopted. Rev. James C. Karns was received in December, 1860. Messrs. Barber and Price filled the office



of clerk successively, while one or other of the Rees brothers has attended to the record work for many years. In August, 1868, Rev. Horace Hall succeeded Mr. Karns, and continued the practice of preaching in school and private houses, until November 10, 1874, when the first house of worship was finished, being in the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 24, Freedom. There is still a working membership here. Rev. J. B. Schaff was pastor for some time prior to his death, October 13, 1895. [Morris Rees, named above, furnished the data on which this sketch is based.]

*Gas and Oil.*—In the chapter on Gas and Oil a reference is made to the Freedom field. The Fralick well, three miles south of Pemberville, drilled in about the middle of September, 1889, drew attention to this extension of the oil field, while the Standard gas well, on the Peters farm, completed July 4, 1890, was another advertisement. In that year, on the S. W. Owens farm, Sec. 27, a well was drilled-in, which was left idle for many months, when it was pumped and found to be a fifteen-barrel producer. Another well, on the northwest corner of the same farm, did better, but not until the 125-barrel well on the D. L. Thomas farm, and the 175-barrel one on the Fowler & Thompson land came in, was there much faith placed in the Freedom oil field. In February, 1872, the developments on the Stein, Karns, Barnes, Menter, Hoodlebrink, Diehl and Alexander farms showed that the faith of the oil men in the field was fortified. In March, 1892, accounts of the wells on these farms were published, the Hobart, Bowlus & Co.'s 210-barrel well, on the Hoodlebrink farm, receiving special attention. In August, 1892, the Woodville, or, rather, Pemberville field, was producing 8,000 barrels a day. The Pemberville Oil Co.'s well, on the Henry Helle farm, came in in August, 1892, as a great gasser, its production being at first estimated to be 5,000,000 feet a day. At the close of 1892 oil was produced on the William Kimmel, John Kenner, John Fish, Casper Beeker, Daniel Fish, John Seving, Edward Seving, Fred Rahe and H. Westerhouse farms, as well as on those formerly named. Three pumping stations were in operation in January, 1893, and the Paragon Co. was building a fourth station. Oil was then 42 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents. In January, 1893, it was reported that Hobart, Bowlus & Co. transferred their leases on the Hoodlebrink lands to the Manhattan Co. for \$44,000. Other large deals were reported at that time. Then came a period of depression, which was not relieved until the busy summer of 1895 filled the land again with operators.

## PEMBERVILLE VILLAGE.

The survey of the original town was completed on the 24th day of May, 1854, by S. H. Bell for James Pember. Selecting a part of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 10, as the most eligible site, he divided it into 26 lots, and named the place after the owner of that particular tract of land. The original owners were Asahel Powers, Philip Kripler, John McQuilling and Samuel McQuilling, to whom it may be said to have been conveyed by the United States and State in 1833. Asahel Powers was the Caucasian pioneer, as already stated; but an Indian or Half-breed trader is said to have been the first developer of the commercial field. Almost six years after, Powers erected his cabin, below the present "Rossinger House" (in 1838), which in recent years was occupied by C. Lahman down to his removal in 1894. James Pember built the first frame house. A sawmill existed there as early as 1836, built by Calkins and Banks for themselves, or for one of the Pembers, for, in that year, Alfred Thurstin, of Bowling Green, hauled boards from a mill at the Forks, to be used in flooring the north school house in his settlement. It was an upright mill and stood on the south side of the south branch of the Portage, just above its junction with the north branch. This mill, after the death of Banks, was bought by James Pember. The next sawmill was built by John Cope, about 1838, and stood above where the "Rossinger House" is, and the next James Pember built on the north side of the south branch of the river, opposite the first. A gristmill was built by Pember at the junction of the two branches in 1841, and soon after another sawmill was erected.

In 1850, Charles Stahler established a general store near the mills, but moved his goods to Woodville, in 1851. Returning in June, 1852, he continued in business here until 1881. Ira Banks, who was the second merchant, continued in business until his removal to Weston. "The Forks," within a few years after the first settlers appeared there, became the center of trade, bearing almost the same relation to the eastern townships that Perrysburg did to the western townships. The development was slow, but sure, until the close of the Civil war, when the village entered on a new era of progress.

The business circle, in 1877, embraced Froney & Brunning, Schroeder & Blasey, and Frederick Rossinger, dealers in dry goods and groceries; Cable & Hagameyer and Hobart, Bowlus & Co. (established in 1872), dealers in



agricultural implements; Leroy Moore, operator of the flouring-mill; one wagon and blacksmith shop, one furniture store, one boot and shoe store, two saloons, one bakery and one harness shop. The population at that time was estimated at 500, or thereabouts; 10,000 bushels of wheat were shipped during the winter ending April 9, 1877; a village council guarded the municipal interests and a newspaper was printed and issued there. That was fully a decade before the inhabitants knew anything of petroleum, oilmen, derricks, "go-devils," and all the familiar names of the present day. It was a hamlet carved out of the wilderness, inhabited by a thrifty people, depending for trade on the rich country around it, content with itself and at peace with its neighboring villages, not excepting the precocious Bowling Green of that period. The Toledo & Hocking Valley railroad, completed in 1875, aided the town materially; for, in 1871, when the report of building such a road gained credence, a few enterprising residents and a few more outside men invested moneys here, which investments the period of depression, beginning in 1873, would have rendered useless, had not the railroad building revived trade in 1875. In 1881, the second railroad was completed, giving additional facilities for trade; in 1887, the oil-field was opened, and a new era introduced which robbed the village of its quietness, and transformed it into a bustling hive of trade and manufactures. In 1882, there were 150 cars of staves, or 3,000,000 staves, shipped from the old Dewey works. In 1883, the shipment was duplicated.

*Manufacturing Industries.*—The Dewey stave factory may be said to have been the first great wood-working industry at Pemberville. In September, 1883, fire swept away machinery, stock and buildings, but a new home for the industry was constructed. Another fire, another rebuilding, next a fire, and then the end. To-day the pail-stave factory of G. F. Otten is the sole reminder of the once big industry; while the saw-mill operated by H. Bankey is the modern form of the old mills of 1835 and 1837. Such concerns as the old sawmills, Herman's shingle-mill and the gristmill preceded it. The Pemberville gristmill, established in 1874, was purchased by a stock company in 1887; in January, 1891, was purchased by Bierly, Schroeder, Herman & Cowden, but nothing was done with it. The Bushman flouring-mill was constructed in 1890, and the machinery installed the same year. The Pemberville Box Co. began business in August, 1890. In 1885 or 1886 the Bushman tile factory

was established, to succeed Sabin & Co.'s tile and brick works, which were opened in 1883 and closed a year or so later. Stiffen & Menter, who were in the furniture business for many years, established a planing-mill here a few years ago, while a few smaller industries were introduced. The Pemberville Creamery Co. was organized in July, 1892, with J. H. Menter, president; Ira Witte, secretary; E. H. Smith, treasurer; Fred. Kohring, John Rex, Charles Muir, Harman Smearsole and J. H. Menter, directors; and S. V. Sheffner, superintendent.

*Banks.*—The Pemberville Banking Co. was incorporated in July, 1890, with a capital stock of \$50,000. A. J. Munn was chosen president; C. L. Haskin, vice-president; J. V. Beverstock, cashier; and they, with E. W. Merry and F. A. Baldwin, were directors. On June 16, 1893, after many changes had been made in the directory, the bank assigned to J. H. Menter, who paid 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ % *per centum* of its total liabilities.

The Strong & Spitzer bank was established in 1894.

*Railroad Shipments.*—The railroad advantages of Pemberville were not fully realized by the farmers living in the neighborhood, until 1882, when M. O. Ladd and another dealer shipped 100 car-loads of hogs to the Eastern markets, for which \$150,000 was received. From June, 1882, to June, 1883, A. Froney shipped fifty-one cars of wheat, containing 25,714 bushels, worth so many dollars. No less than 1,500 bushels of clover seed, and immense cargoes of other farm products were shipped by the farmers and merchants of this locality in 1883. The last twelve years witnessed extraordinary activity in shipments. The records kept by A. Hebling, J. K. Powell and F. H. Schroeder, of the C. H. V. & T. railroad, as well as those of the T. & O. C. Railroad Company, stand in testimony to Pemberville's trade.

*Fires.*—The Pemberville fire of July 2, 1884, originated in Bahrenburg's place, and extended east and west until it destroyed all the buildings fronting on Main street, from Mrs. Sprague's millinery store to Grote's saloon. Soon after, the rebuilding of the town was entered upon. The next large fire removed the old frame block, where the Loomis, Harns and Pember brick block now stands. The fire of May 6, 1891, destroyed Haskins & Co.'s stock, and damaged the building.

*The Post Office.*—Strange as it may seem, Woodville was the post office to which the people of Pemberville had to go for mail. From the "fifties" until Hiram Pember was appointed postmaster, 1867, the letters and papers would

be taken to Pemberville from Woodville, and left at Stahler's or Bank's store for distribution. A. Froney succeeded Hiram Pember in charge of the office. L. C. Sprague was the next incumbent, John H. Schroeder was appointed in 1885, and served until John Muir was appointed in August, 1889; C. R. Gerding was appointed July 1, 1893.

*Taverns and Hotels.*—There were taverns here in early years, but the first hotel was kept by Charles Stahler. Dennis Pember and Joshua Henninger were bonifaces later; then came the "Rossinger House," and still later the "Central," built by A. Froney, and variously managed.

*Organization and Officials.*—The petition for the incorporation of Pemberville was presented March 18, 1876, and on June 1 an equally strong remonstrance was submitted to the commissioners. On June 8, 1876, the village was ordered to be organized. The first officers elected were George M. Bell, mayor; O. E. Hyde, clerk; J. H. Schroeder, A. Froney, Charles Stahler, Sr., J. Hathaway, Charles Gerding and Silas Ralston, councilmen; and Silas Ralston, marshal. The last named held the office of marshal only, and Dr. W. D. Stewart was appointed councilman. The mayors of the village since that time are named as follows: 1876, George M. Bell (killed by a falling building at Tacoma, Wash., May 13, 1889); 1877, J. H. Schroeder, resigned in September, and Thomas N. Bierly appointed, elected 1878; Theodore Alexander, elected in October, 1881; J. A. Smith, appointed September 6, 1882; T. N. Bierly, 1883; H. F. Bowlus, 1885; H. L. Davis, 1887; C. R. Gerding, 1889; J. K. Powell, 1891; John S. Hoyman, 1893, resigned October 9, 1893, and J. H. Schroeder appointed; A. Keil, 1894; J. L. Williams, elected 1895; John E. Hoyman, elected 1896.

The office of clerk has been filled by the following named citizens: O. E. Hyde (died November 6, 1876); H. B. Knoff, appointed November 6, 1876; J. O. Cable, 1881; Geo. H. Withey, 1883; H. Lee Davis, 1885; A. Keil, 1887; Jesse Stephens, 1889; C. H. Hammond, 1891; J. M. Isbell, 1895, resigned and G. H. Speck was appointed, but he also resigned, and C. H. Hammond was appointed; E. A. Saxby, elected 1896.

The office of treasurer has been occupied by: A. Froney, 1877; John Baker, 1879; John Lohmeyer, 1881; C. L. Haskins, 1883; J. C. Scott, 1887; F. W. Steffen, 1889; M. Hobart, 1891; J. F. Bruning, 1895-96. The office of corporation solicitor was established in 1892, when T. N. Bierly was elected. E. B. Morse was elected marshal in 1896.

The councilmen named in the record of first election served until April 9, 1877. The members elected since that time are as follows:

- 1877—Charles Stahler, Thomas Mackey, H. H. Menter, H. F. Steffens, C. H. Scherman, E. Myers.
- 1878—Henry Hoodlebrink, J. H. Schroeder, Fred. Smith, T. Mackey, E. Myers, C. Stahler.
- 1879—J. Hoiles, C. Bruning, C. L. Haskins, with Hoodlebrink, Schroeder and Smith.
- 1880—Thomas Mackey, Henry Hoodlebrink, J. H. Schroeder, with Haskins, Bruning and Hoiles.
- 1881—Harmon Blasey, Fred. Gerding, C. H. Scherman, John Hathaway, John Steidle, H. Hoodlebrink, and, in October, 1881, Henry Bowlus.
- 1882—C. L. Haskins, T. J. Lake, E. W. Pember, with Bowlus, Gerding and Scherman.
- 1883—C. H. Scherman, Edward Hartman, John Bushman, with T. J. Lake, H. Hoodlebrink and E. W. Pember.
- 1884—H. Hoodlebrink, F. Gerding, J. C. Scott, with Scherman, Bushman and Hartman.
- 1885—J. H. Schroeder, F. W. Steffen, E. W. Pember, with J. C. Scott, H. Hoodlebrink and F. Gerding.
- 1886—John K. Powell, H. Steinmeyer, Edward Hartman, with Steffen, Schroeder and F. M. Boyer.
- 1887—F. W. Steffen, H. H. Bruning, John Bushman, H. Steinmeyer, J. K. Powell and E. Hartman.
- 1888—J. K. Powell, Ed. Hartman, Henry Steinmeyer, with Steffen, Bruning and Bushman.
- 1889—Hiram Isbell, Henry C. Beinke, Charles Aebersold, with H. H. Bruning, H. Steinmeyer, E. Hartman.
- 1890—H. C. Beinke, R. J. Simon, J. H. Bahrenburg, with Aebersold, Bruning and Pember.
- 1891—J. C. Seiler, H. H. Bruning, J. H. Schroeder, with Beinke, Simon and Bahrenburg; R. Black, appointed.
- 1892—J. H. Bahrenburg, R. J. Simon, H. W. Hoodlebrink, J. H. Shermeyer, J. H. Schroeder, H. H. Bruning.
- 1893—J. F. Brandeberry, J. F. Bruning, A. J. Shontz, R. J. Simon, H. W. Hoodlebrink, J. H. Bahrenburg.
- 1894—E. H. Mason, Aaron Vanetten, J. C. Bruning, J. F. Brandeberry, A. J. Shontz, J. F. Bruning.
- 1895—Henry Hickman, Hiram Isbell, H. C. Schwane, A. Vanetten, E. H. Mason, J. C. Bruning.
- 1896—C. H. Hammond, G. F. Otten, H. Hickman, H. Isbell, H. C. Schwane and F. H. Schroeder were elected.

In 1896, E. H. Smith, D. B. Brown, J. S. Hoyman, H. Hickman, H. H. Bruning and J. Hagemeyer were elected members of the Pemberville school board.

*Transactions of the Council.*—In December, 1876, the contract for building the jail was awarded to L. H. Forrest, on his bid of \$217, and a part of In-lot No. 11 was leased as a building lot. In 1877, the "Stock Restraining Ordinance" was published in the *Independent*, and in May of that year a bill of \$14.70 was paid Evers & Rudolph for publishing a notice of the organization of the village in the *Sentinel*.

In January, 1890, the proposition to build a town hall was adopted by the council, but the vote in April following was not considered favorable to the project. In April, 1891, there were 120 votes cast for the proposition, and thirty-four *contra*. The council lost no time in carrying out the wish of the people. Under the Ordinance of July 13, 1891, ten \$500 six-per-cent. bonds were authorized, the proceeds to be invested in the

purchase of ground and the construction of a town hall, and, on the same day, the contract for building was awarded to Alex. Dawson, on his bid of \$6,083.75. The building, as is usual, cost something more than the mere contract price; but the council was pleased to take possession of it on July 5, 1892.

In October, 1890, the council authorized the construction of the Maple street sewer, an improvement long considered a necessity.

In February, 1893, the privilege of piping the village for gas was given to I. R. Patterson, who agreed to the following schedule of prices: A 3-32 mixer, \$3.35; a 4-32 mixer, \$4.50; and a 5-32 mixer, \$7.00 a month. The franchise was granted for six years, and as much longer as "he would comply with this or any other ordinance on the same subject." In April mains were placed from the Helle farm well, and on April 8 a battery of ten stand-pipes was lighted. The gas supply ceased within a month or so, since which time oil has been used for street lamps.

In March, 1893, R. W. Brown and G. B. Kerper asked certain rights for "The Lake Erie and Northwestern Ohio Electric Street Railroad Company," but the panic of that year drove the company away and the negotiations fell through.

In July, 1884, the report of Councilmen Scott, Hoodlebrink and Hartman, appointed previously to report on the price of fire department apparatus, was received; a petition from the villagers asking for means of protection against fire was received, and a resolution to purchase a fire engine adopted. On November 17 a fire engine, sent on trial, was accepted, and three orders—one for \$450, and two for \$425, each, payable within three years, were issued to the manufacturers. At the same time John C. Scott was appointed fire commissioner. A volunteer fire company was organized the same year. In April, 1888, the equipment of the fire department was turned over to that company, and the members made employes of the village under certain conditions.

In 1894 and 1895 the question of the construction of stone sidewalks on Front street was a serious one for the frontage owners. The majority favored the improvement, and in the fall of 1895 large Berea flags took the place of the unsightly wooden walks.

*Board of Health.*—In February, 1878, John Lohmeyer, A. Bressler and Henry Bruning were appointed additional members of the board of health, and in March the board organized with Dr. Stewart and Joshua Hoiles, members for three years, John Lohmeyer and Henry Bruning for two

years, and E. W. Pember and A. Bressler for one year.

*Cemetery.*—On March 4, 1878, the council and township trustees in joint session agreed to take charge of the village cemetery. On April 13, a committee of four was appointed by the mayor to purchase additional ground for cemetery purposes, and, on May 6, the purchase of five acres in Sec. 16, at \$135 an acre, from Wm. Hagemeyer, for which 7 per cent. bonds were issued to the grantor. In June, Henry Hoodlebrink, F. Smith and Thomas Mackey were appointed a committee on cemetery affairs. In April, 1879, H. Hoodlebrink was elected a trustee of the cemetery, and in 1880 H. H. Menter and John Lohmeyer were elected, while Eisenhaur, Westerhaus and Baker represented the township as cemetery trustees, with J. H. Schroeder and H. Bruning members of the village division of the board. In April, 1895, Isaac Fair was elected trustee.

*Schools.*—The first school building was "raised at the Forks," in 1835, by the residents, on land donated by Albert Keyes, twenty rods east of the C. & T. railroad crossing of the Portage. Almira Webster taught the first class there in the summer of that year, the "directors" paying her one dollar a week and giving her a permit to "board round." Among her students were Hiram, Almira and Lucina Powers, Orissa, Emily and David Calkins, Orlando and Lyman Webster, Asa and Albert Fuller, Betsy Pember and a boy named Eyster. When J. H. Schroeder arrived in the "fifties," Peter Bell taught school on the N. E. corner of Sec. 10. He was then an old teacher. Dr. Palmer taught here for many terms in the second house built across the road, which was moved to the present school house lot in 1875. A special school district was organized in 1876, and in April, 1877, J. H. Schroeder, A. G. Thornton, George Buttorf, Henry Menter and R. J. Simon were elected directors. The principals were B. R. Hubbard, H. B. Knoff, I. N. Van Tassel and W. R. Barton, prior to 1881, when George H. Withey was appointed superintendent, with Ida Williams and Alice Burney, teachers in the lower grades. John S. Hoyman succeeded Withey, and held the position for five years, or until June, 1891. D. R. Jones, his successor, also became a lawyer when R. F. Beausay, who was admitted to the bar in March, 1895, was appointed superintendent. S. S. Simpson is now the superintendent. The present \$12,000 school house was erected in 1880-81 to supercede the old two-story frame structure of the old district. In April,

1895, J. S. Hoyman and D. B. Brown, both Democrats, received 261 votes, against eighty-eight cast for Mrs. Bowlus and Mrs. Haskins, the Republican candidates for the school board.

The German Lutheran school, supported by members of that society, had 112 pupils enrolled in 1884, but were willing to pay the double school tax rather than send their children to the common school.

*Churches.*—The first Methodist sermon was delivered at A. H. Powers' house in 1834, and there, the same year, Rev. J. Wells, of Frenont, organized a Methodist class of forty-five members. For many years, this denomination had scarcely a representation here. In 1881 a class was re-organized by Rev. J. Stewart. In 1888 a church building was erected, which was dedicated October 7, 1888, by Elder Rutledge. In 1887 George A. Criger was pastor; in 1888, Rev. E. D. Winfield; in 1890, G. M. Hunter; in 1892, L. C. McBride, and B. L. Rowand, 1893. The permanent organization of the society took place March 19, 1893, when Thomas N. Bierly, S. V. Sheffner, J. F. Bruning, A. Bressler and Henry Basor were chosen trustees; J. L. Wilkins, J. C. Stewart, J. F. Bruning, Mrs. George H. Speck and Mrs. Lee Williams, stewards, and R. F. Beausay, superintendent.

The Seventh Day Adventists organized a class of a few members, and in December, 1891, held baptismal services.

There was a time in the history of Freedom township in the early "forties" when the excitement over Spiritualism ran very high, many strange and interesting stories of their meetings as they were held night after night in that vicinity, might be related. One of the principal mediums was a bright young school teacher, a lady of more than ordinary intelligence, who is still living, but not in this State. She was also a somnambulist, and it is stated that at one time she boarded with a family living on the bank of the Portage while teaching, and on several occasions was found wandering about in a comatose state. She consulted the most noted mediums and read all their leading books. She wrote her own biography and a large number of poems. The latter she would write in the night. After waking from a short sleep she would call for a light, and write sitting in bed. Like other religious organizations of the township, the Spiritualist had many followers for a season, again only few, and again a large class.

There was no regular church building erected in the vicinity of the Forks until 1862, when the German Lutheran denomination built a frame

house which they now use. The Bethlehem Lutheran Society is the oldest local organization, dating back to 1861. An addition was made to the building in recent years, and, since Rev. C. J. L. Benzine became pastor, thirteen years ago, the membership has increased to 400. The brick school house, to accommodate 100 pupils, and the brick parsonage, built in 1894 at a cost of \$4,000, have been erected. In 1880, the old church building was enlarged at a cost of \$1,800. There are now about 200 members. The pipe organ cost \$1,100 in 1881 or 1882. Prior to 1861, the Pemberville Lutherans formed a part of the Switzer Church in Troy township.

The German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Freedom township was incorporated December 20, 1861, with William Heckman, Henry Schroeder, Henry Hagemeyer, trustees, and Caspar H. Scherman, clerk. Rev. George Cronewett was their pastor.

The United Brethren Society of Pemberville signed articles of association December 10, 1877, and elected J. Conser, Geo. M. Bell, Albert Froney, M. Hobart and H. Long, trustees. They built a house of worship, which ultimately was purchased by the Presbyterians for \$1,500.

A Presbyterian Society was organized in 1863; but there was nothing accomplished by the members toward employing a preacher or building a house of worship. On April 21, 1878, Rev. P. C. Baldwin succeeded in re-establishing a Presbyterian organization and in acquiring a church house. In 1882 a parsonage was erected. The first members were Marcene Hobart, Lewis Forrest, Dr. R. J. Simons, Henry Bruning and their wives, with Mrs. Scott, while Dr. Simons was the first ruling elder. Rev. James Quick, pastor from 1882 to December 1, 1884, died in 1889; Rev. John R. Tercy, 1889; G. C. Gerlach, in 1890; Rev. J. A. Bartlett in 1893-95, when he removed to Celina, Ohio. In February, 1894, A. J. Shontz was elected secretary, H. H. Bruning, treasurer, and J. H. Bahrenburg, trustee. The first trustees were Messrs. Hobart, Forrest, Bruning, named above, with J. Conser, George Bell, John Wight and Albert Froney, and the first clerk was W. D. Stewart. In September and October, 1881, a number of members were received. In 1883 F. M. Boyer, H. F. Bowlus, G. Hebling and Dr. Simon were elders. In March, 1882, Rev. J. Quick was appointed clerk, and he signed the records until December, 1884. H. F. Bowlus was appointed clerk in February, 1885, and continued as such until February, 1889, when Rev. G. C. Gerlach became moderator and clerk; but in February, 1893, Mr. Bowlus re-

sumed charge of the records of session, a position he still holds. There were 196 members received since organization, but the greater number have been dismissed to New Rochester and other churches.

The English Lutheran Society was organized in July, 1895, by Rev. Engers, of Toledo, under the title—"Martin Luther Society." Daniel Rife presided at the meeting, with H. W. Schroeder, secretary. There were twenty members reported in October, 1895, who worship in the town hall.

*Secret Societies.*—Pemberville Lodge, No. 516, F. & A. M., was organized May 2, 1877, and chartered October 17, of that year. It is said that Henry Bruning, D. W. Brown, R. L. Van Camp, J. P. Evans, M. Hobart, W. D. Stewart, John Edmond and A. Rees were the first officers in lodge rank, while on another authority, Gustavus Hebling is named as first master. Taking the official list of presiding officers, G. Hebling served until 1879, when Morris Rees was installed; G. Hebling, again, from December 27, 1879, to December 28, 1882; then J. O. Cable to 1884; Henry Bruning to 1885; D. B. Brown to January, 1889; E. W. Pember to December 28, 1889; D. B. Brown to December, 1891; Thomas N. Bierly to January 13, 1894; J. E. Ladd to January 12, 1895; and M. Hobart, 1895. In December, 1895, D. B. Brown was elected. The secretaries in order of service are M. Hobart, 1877-78 and 1880; Henry Bruning, 1879; Charles Gerding, 1881 and 1882; G. Hebling, 1883 and 1885; J. P. Evans, 1884; T. J. Lake, 1886 and 1895; J. P. Muir, 1887; R. F. Muir, 1888, 1890 and 1891; H. L. Davis, 1889; John S. Hoyman, 1892 and 1893; L. A. Challen, 1894; and J. L. Jackson, 1896. The number of members in June, 1895, was sixty-five.

Freedom Lodge, No. 723, I. O. O. F., was instituted January 29, 1883, under a charter granted in May, 1882, to the following members: T. J. Lake, E. Smeed, D. B. Brown, R. J. Simon, Fred Gerding, J. T. Anderson, J. E. Fish, J. C. Bruning, S. B. Agnew, George Hiser, Tobias Henline, M. S. Frazier, William Agnew, John Craft and O. Peters. The past grands are named as follows: T. J. Lake, E. Smeed, D. B. Brown, R. J. Simon, J. E. Fish, dropped; J. T. Anderson, M. S. Frazier, A. Peters, J. C. Scott, H. B. Knoff, withdrawn; A. Keil, C. H. Hammond, E. E. Lake, W. J. Young, H. H. Bruning and Byron Shaw; Hiram Isbell and G. E. Bushnell, elected in June, 1895. In December, 1895, James Rogers was elected noble grand. The secretaries from 1883 to the present time are named in the order of service: T. J. Lake,

1883; E. Smeed, 1884; J. C. Scott and R. J. Simon, 1885; J. T. Anderson, 1886; R. G. Simon and A. L. Muir, 1887; H. B. Knoff and H. L. Davis, 1888; F. M. Lewis and M. S. Frazier, 1889; A. Peters and Dr. Brown, 1890; J. E. Fish, 1891-92; John S. Hoyman, 1893; George H. Speck, 1894-96, and W. H. Bruning, elected in December, 1895. There were ninety-five members reported in October, 1895.

Wood Encampment, No. 256, I. O. O. F., was chartered April 15, 1891, with the following named members: I. F. Pheils, T. J. Lake, J. C. Scott, S. B. Hooper, Melvin Frazier, T. N. Bierly, J. C. Seiler, J. H. Chidester, Edwin Smeed, Junlier Smith, G. O. DePawe, D. B. Brown, Heman Allen, Byron Shaw, C. H. Hammond, J. V. Beverstock, John Muir, H. H. Bruning, J. S. Hoyman, H. M. Anderson, J. T. Anderson, H. Isbell, E. E. Lake, C. S. Habad, J. C. Bruning (chief), G. E. Bushnell, M. M. Fowler. The past chief patriarchs are: J. T. Lake, J. V. Beverstock, J. S. Hoyman (two terms), C. H. Hammond, J. T. Anderson, Byron Shaw and H. H. Bruning (two terms). The scribes who have served the encampment are named as follows: C. H. Hammond, J. V. Beverstock, J. C. Seiler, and C. H. Hammond, who was again scribe in 1895. There were forty-three members in June, 1895.

Reba Lodge, No. 239, D. of R., was instituted in 1889, with fifteen charter members. The first noble grand was Nancy Smead. The present membership is sixty-five. Mrs. T. J. Lake is the deputy grand master; Mrs. Byron Shaw, noble grand, and Miss Elva Bushnell recording secretary.

Benedict Post, No. 26, G. A. R., was named in honor of Napoleon Benedict of the 3rd Ohio Cavalry, who was killed in the retreat from Lovejoy's Station, Ga., in August, 1864. The charter members were Leroy Moore, G. Hebling, A. Vanetten, I. W. Krotzer, Jacob H. Furry, J. W. Vanetten, T. J. Lake, A. Hines, H. Allen, A. Bressler, William Finlay, James Muir, Theo. Alexander, J. D. Muir, W. W. Dunipace, R. Housholder, William Isbell, James Stewart, S. S. Canfield and J. J. Hemminger. T. J. Lake was the first commander, and Theo. Alexander, the first adjutant. The charter was issued May 4, 1880. W. W. Isbell died in October, 1889, and J. W. Vanetten of the 72nd, in May, 1890; W. W. Weddell and J. H. Furry died in 1895; Alanson Bushnell and Daniel M. Hobart, with C. C. Layman, adjutant. John D. Muir was elected commander, in 1881 T. J. Lake, with J. C. McLaughlin, adjutant, in 1884; Robert Black, 1885; R. F. Lewis, 1886; Heman Allen,

1887, with Robert Black, adjutant; James Muir, 1888; Wm. Weddell, 1890, with John Hathaway, adjutant; H. C. Heisler, 1893; Wm. Weddell, 1894; and S. S. Canfield, elected in July, 1895, *vice* Weddell, deceased. Robert Black has served as adjutant since 1887. There were forty-two members in October, 1895.

Benedict Relief Corps, No. 276, surrendered its charter in 1895. Among its first members were Lillian Cornwell, Plumie Babcock, Mary Hathaway (of Luckey), Mrs. Kesson, Mrs. J. Muir, Mrs. James Moore, Mrs. Bressler, Fannie Hathaway, Emma Brown and others.

Camp A. Jolly, No. 12, S. of V., was chartered April 1, 1884, with the following named members: H. L. Davis, Frederick Lewis, John Purcell, A. L. Muir, A. Keil, James Muir, Ned Altman, Ray Hathaway, H. Lake, H. L. Brown, O. S. Bressler, B. J. Froney, J. McLaughlin and Albert Isbell.

De Molay Tent, No. 211, K. O. T. M., was instituted June 30, 1894, with the following named members: E. A. Saxby, D. B. Brown, M. D., Frank Brown, J. F. Bruning (the first commander), C. H. Hammond (the second commander), L. T. Slee, W. F. Whitten, J. B. Walters, J. W. Morrison, Fred Stahler, J. W. Hays and W. W. Henton. The tent numbers thirty-three members. E. A. Saxby has been secretary since organization.

Kenilworth Court, A. O. F. of A., was organized June 26, 1895, with E. A. Saxby, chief ranger, and the following named officers in court rank: E. C. Chaffee, W. W. Krotzer, J. P. Muir, J. F. Krotzer, B. F. Green, B. G. Hawthorne, J. W. Morrison, S. S. Dilley, and trustees, Byron Shaw, J. H. Cook and L. T. Slee.

Acme Lodge, I. O. G. T., No. 44, was chartered March 11, 1885, with G. Helbring, Mrs. L. J. Walk, F. M. Boyer, Mrs. D. B. Brown,

H. K. Allen, Lula Culver, Clayton Hobart, R. F. Muir, Mrs. V. Frazier, Dora Vanetten, J. W. Keyser, Mrs. S. M. Harns, Mrs. M. Bowlus and J. C. Alexander, officials in lodge rank.

The P. O. S. of A., Camp 79, claimed as officers, in 1891, the following named: E. D. Griffin, J. E. Isbell, W. H. Daly, B. F. Rickett, W. H. Bruning, C. H. Pember, M. F. Krotzer, W. H. Boren, Eugene Jenkins and Chauncy Fair.

The Männerchor organized in August, 1893, with J. H. Schinke, president; C. A. Fehr, secretary; Charles Nieman, treasurer; J. F. Meier, conductor, and A. H. Oberschulte, manager. Contemporary with this association was the "Æolian Quartette," composed of S. W. Stahler, F. W. Schultz, C. S. Hobart and George H. Speck, and "The Thespian Club."

*The Pemberville Library.*—This semi-public institution may be said to have been founded by Thomas N. Bierly, in 1893. His donation of 600 volumes was placed in charge of the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church, in which building a room was fitted up and the books installed therein. Mr. Bierly donated a hundred or more volumes to the Presbyterian Society, thus giving to that denomination the nucleus of a second collection of books.

*Conclusion.*—This history of Freedom and villages is based primarily on records found within the township, and on documents and newspaper files searched at Bowling Green; and secondarily on the historical papers written for the Bowling Green newspapers by Messrs. Van Tassel, 1877; Evers, 1875, and Bierly, 1889, from which 2,000 words were taken, with a few items from the local paper. The roster and record of soldiers furnished to the Federal army during the Civil war (given in the Military chapter), is based on a list of soldiers compiled by the writer from the relations of veterans.

## CHAPTER XXXI.

### GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP.

ITS ORIGIN AND NOMENCLATURE—ORGANIZATION AND OFFICIALS—EARLY SETTLEMENTS—THE HUCKLEBERRY WAR—THE WAR OF 1835—THE CHOLERA—HOLIDAY ACCIDENT—COMMON SCHOOLS—CHURCHES; GRAND RAPIDS VILLAGE—EARLY AND OTHER TRADERS, ENTERPRISES, ETC.—INCORPORATION AND OFFICIAL LISTS—SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS—CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND SOCIETIES.

**G**RAND RAPIDS was unknown as a township until 1888, having previously been a part of Weston. Though the first settlements were made near the Head of the Rapids (where the surveys were made in 1819 and 1821), the township of Weston organized there, and the beginnings of civilization made there, the persons and events have generally been grouped under the head of Weston township, and these groupings have been continued so long it is now difficult to separate them. The Census of 1890 credits the township with 1,021 inhabitants.

In 1829, the residents in the neighborhood of the present town of Grand Rapids, petitioned the commissioners to authorize a new township. On June 14, 1830, the petition was granted, and Ottawa township was formed out of the territory in Range 9, south of the Maumee, including the islands adjacent. The place of meeting was fixed at Edward Howard's house, but, for some reason, the meeting was not held. On December 6, 1830, the commissioners changed the name to "Weston," and ordered a township meeting to be held on April 4, 1831. The officers then elected were those mentioned in the chapter devoted to Weston township and village. The efforts of the pioneers did not rest with the organization of the township, for in 1832 they petitioned the Post Office Department for an office in their principal village, and December 15, 1832, Weston post office was established with Edward Howard in charge. On March 30, 1837, the name was changed to Gilead, and, in 1868, to Grand Rapids.

*Organization and Officials.*—The township was organized September 25, 1888, when the officers, elected on the 17th of that month, met to transact business. Ebenezer Donaldson, W. B. Kerr and J. W. Brown (the first trustees), A. J. Friess (the first clerk), and Thomas D. Avery

(the first treasurer) were present. Asher Thurstin was elected trustee in 1890; John Katon, elected in 1891, resigned in 1892, when Jerry E. Huffman was appointed to fill the vacancy; W. B. Kerr was re-elected in 1892; John Long in 1893; John McLain in 1894; W. B. Kerr in 1895, and Jasper N. Mosier in 1896. Azor Thurstin was elected clerk in 1889, to succeed Friess, and served until April, 1893; the present (1896) clerk, Frank L. Sheats, was elected in 1894; Thomas D. Avery was elected treasurer in 1896. The first justice of the peace was S. G. Robinson, elected in 1891; the second, Ebenezer Donaldson, elected as an additional justice in 1893, under an order of the probate judge; the third, J. S. Benschoter, elected in 1894; in 1896, Frank A. Crosby was elected justice of the peace. In 1895, I. Huffman was chosen assessor, W. A. Katon, J. N. Mosier and M. G. Judson, road supervisors, and J. S. Foor, with Martin Kecheley, school directors. In April, 1895, over thirty women voted for school officers, Mrs. B. F. Kerr being the first of them to cast a ballot. There were 156 votes cast for trustee and clerk, and 153 for assessor. In 1896 Truman Rigg, L. A. Pettys, and Lester Heyman were elected members of the school board, the other members being A. W. Nafus (1894), and Napoleon Conrad (1895). In April, 1894, the question of building stone roads was submitted, but defeated on a vote of 136 against 108. The last session of the Legislature authorized the village and township trustees to build a town hall, but so far no serious action has been taken in the matter.

*Early Settlements.*—In the reminiscences of Dresden W. H. Howard, it is related that, in May, 1821, his grandfather, Thomas (aged 63 years), his father, Edward (aged 43), his uncle, Robert A. (aged 23), with their wives and children, left Yates county, New York, embarked on Capt. Anson Reed's schooner at Cleveland, and on June

17, that year, landed at Orleans of the North. The Indians were then encamped along the river bank, and Major Stickney, the agent, was among them. When first seen from the schooner, they were engaged in dancing and various sports; but when the vessel approached they set up a fearful yell, and ran to the water's edge to see her. The grandfather of D. W. H. Howard entered the land where Woodville village was subsequently founded, but, in 1822, the party moved to Grand Rapids, where they erected three cabins, and from which to the Indian mission, eight miles below, they cut a road in 1823, settling opposite the Indian village of "Kinjoino." Dresden attended the old mission school for three years, being the only Caucasian pupil (save a few French-Indian half-breed children), and learned their language. Later, he engaged in trading with the tribes; in 1831, his uncle, William, and family arrived; in 1832, he aided in transporting Indians across the country to new reservations, and in 1837 and 1839 assisted in removing them to the Osage river, in Kansas. The principal chiefs of the Ottawas, remembered by him, are Nawash, Ottuso, Charlo, Ocquenoxie, Kinjoino, Ottokee, Waseon and Waseoniquet; of the Pottawatamies—Wawbonsee, Bawbeese, Meteah, Winamac; of the Miamis—LaFontaine and Richardville; and of the Shawnees—Joseph and William Parks. James Sassaquas, the last full-blooded representative of the once great Miami nation, in the old hunting-grounds, died at Peru, Indiana, February 13, 1895, aged eighty-four years. He hunted with the Ottawas of the Maumee in his boyhood, and lived to see the last of the old warriors pass to the "Happy Hunting Grounds."

At that time the principal town of the Indians was located not far from the site of the "Howard Hotel," while along Beaver creek and on the sand ridges were other Indian lodges. They were the only neighbors of the Howards, until William Pratt and Joseph Keith appeared upon the scene and, shortly after, Richard Howard, then aged nineteen years. Dr. Spencer, of Weston, speaking on this settlement at the Rapids, gives the following particulars: "They entered land in what is now Section 8. Edward Howard's farm faced the river in the northwest corner of the section, and the school house and part of the village are on land entered by Edward Howard. He was a shrewd business man, and began at once the improvement of his farm, and opened trade with the Indians. He built a house and kept the first tavern in Gilead or in Weston township. It was at his house that the first election was held. Travelers along the river road below Grand Rapids, and

but a short distance below the wagon bridge over the river, cannot pass by unnoticed, the ancient looking building facing the river from the south side of the road, with its great wooden colonades or pillars. That is the location of Ed. Howard's house. Robert Howard owned the farm on the south of Edward's, while Richard located down the river, near the mouth of Beaver creek. The first death in the settlement was that of Thomas Howard, who died May 25, 1825. A wooded bluff, on the banks of a sharp little ravine at the northwest corner of Ed. Howard's farm, was chosen as a site for a burying ground. This cemetery is the family burial place of the Howards. Here lie buried, among others of the family: Thomas Howard, May 25, 1825, aged 66; William, January 2, 1833, aged 53; Richard, January 26, 1834, aged 32; Edward, February 2, 1841, aged 63; and Robert Howard, November 26, 1872, aged 74."

Alexander Brown and his father-in-law, Joseph North, were the first to move back from the river, up Minard's creek toward Keeler's Prairie. This venture was made in 1828, and must be considered the beginning of settlement in Weston township.

Within seven years of Brown's and North's migration from the Rapids, there were no less than eighty-four adult males having their homes within the township. The names of the pioneers are given in the following list: Emanuel Arnold, Alexander Brown, P. B. Brown, William Biggar, — Bartlett, Bela Bennett, Edmund Battles, Lewis Bortle, John Crom, Sr., Daniel Crom, — Cooper, William Collett, James Donaldson, Levi Felton, John Fowler, J. N. Graham, William Gruber, Alva Gillett, Edward Howard, B. W. Howard, D. W. H. Howard, E. W. Hedges, D. Harbogle, Samuel Junkins, Henry Kimberlin, Ralph O. Keeler, Robert Keith, Peter Troup, Moses P. Morgan, Jacob Macklin, David Murdock, William and Joseph North, Guy Nearing, Andrew Oliver, Matthias Oberdorf, Alexander Peugh, P. C. Parker, John Rice, Thomas Silsbee, John Skinner, Jacob Walters, Sr., A. R. Williams, William Wonderly, Thomas Davis, Samuel Dull, David Edwards, Andrew Foster, Robert Bamber, Harvey Burritt, William Baker, Jacob Crom, John Crom, Jr., J. W. Culbertson, Gideon Cornel, A. B. Crosby, E. Foote, John Gingery, Enoch Gruber, Gabriel Guyer, George Nicholas, R. A. Howard, R. M. Howard, David Hedges, Jacob Harris, F. Hinsdale, Thomas Junkins, John Kimberlin, James Kling, Henry Kerr, William Loughrey, B. McCue, John McKee, James McGeehan, William Martin, Nep-



tune Nearing, Benjamin Olney, Anson Owens, William Pratt, William Patton, Matthias Reams, John Soash, Hiram Scovill, D. Taylor, John Ward, Hiram Wade, and Samuel Van Horn.

In January, 1884, Dr. J. B. Spencer contributed his historical reminiscences to the *Sentinel*, and from his paper the following references to the old settlers and their homesteads are taken: In 1834, Thomas Taylor, Sr., located land and built a log house very near where the "old Taylor house" at Weston stands; at the same time, James Hutchinson, and his son Andrew were building a house five miles farther south, near what is now Groff's Corners, on the edge of the Jackson prairie. John Gingery was also venturesome enough to settle back from the river in the thick forests. In 1830 he settled on the farm later owned by D. H. Bassett, near the McKee school house. The next year he moved back to Gilead. Jacob Walters, Sr., about this time also settled on the farm, later owned by his son Jacob. Jacob Crom, in 1830, located the farm later owned by Capt. McKee. John Crom, Sr., located the land where Rev. James Kerr lived in 1884, and built his house where the old orchard is, north of the U. B. church. Alex. Peugh located the farm later owned by Albert Heyman. He was a single man, and kept bachelor's hall for a few years, traveling nine miles through swamps and forests to see Eliza Hutchinson, who afterward became his wife. John Rice, step-father of Thomas and Samuel Jenkins, located the farm in 1833, later owned by Phillip Heyman; Henry Kimberlin located at the mouth of Beaver creek in 1832; Jacob Macklin, on the farm later known as the Carson farm; William Martin, the farm later owned by William Martin; Samuel Dull, the farm later owned by Joseph Wright, just south of Potter settlement; John Crom, Jr., occupied the farm owned by D. H. Bassett, at McKee's Corners; J. Gingery first settled there, but never owned the land; Jonathan Crom, son of Rev. John Crom, Sr., settled the farm later owned by Lester Pettys; Daniel Crom settled on the farm later owned by Floyd McKee, on the Wapakoneta road; one daughter of Rev. John Crom, Elizabeth, married Jacob Walters, Sr. She was eighty years old in May, 1883. Another daughter, Sarah, married Matthias Reams, in Harrison county, Ohio, and moved into Weston township, settling on Beaver creek, living on the same farm until Mr. Reams' death about 1881. Another daughter of John Crom, Susan, married Peter Dull, and settled on the farm where she lived in 1884 with her sons, David L. and John. Gabriel Guyer, in 1833, located the farm

later owned by Jacob Steinman; Samuel Van-Horn settled the farm later owned by William Donnel. Bortel and Oberdorf settled a little south and west of the Floyd McKee house; Jacob Dull located the farm later owned by Jacob Bamer, Sr.; James Donaldson moved up the river and bought the farm just west of Beaver Creek cemetery; then shortly afterward he bought Emanuel Arnold's farm, later owned by A. C. Judson. This process of extending settlements continued until the original township of Weston was converted into rich, productive farms.

*The Huckleberry War* was an echo of the desire of the Sacs and the Foxes to push back the whites. In the Mississippi Valley it was more serious than an echo. A council was held at the Rapids, where were present Peter Minard, John E. Hunt, George Knaggs, Indian Agent Jackson, Edward Howard, R. A. Forsythe, Petonquet, Kinjoino, and Nackichewa, to learn the cause of the Indian discontent. The chiefs told the whites what they knew, and so terror-stricken were the settlers that they repaired to the Edward Howard Stone House at the Rapids, to the log house of Henry Kimberlin, or to the log house of Joseph Keith, whose brother had killed an Indian and fled—the leaders of the people requiring the Indians to send to the Stone House the wives and children of the chiefs, who were held as hostages for the good behavior of their warriors. White women, such as the late Mrs. Charlotte Pratt, the Lahartz girl and Lucy Keith guarded the Indian women. The alarm was caused by two foreign Indians appearing to a few Ottawa girls, who were picking huckleberries near the Rapids, and the report that they were emissaries of the Sacs sent hither to enlist the Ottawas in a war against the settlers. The Ottawas were, however, more alarmed than the whites, and kept great fires burning every night, to prove to their white neighbors that they were not on the war path.

*The War of 1835*, or the Toledo war, was another alarm. All the able-bodied men of the settlement were called to arms, and, as told in the general history, went to the front. The desertion of Dan Sickman with a musket and blanket, belonging to Ohio, and the sale of 100 head of cattle to the Michigan troops by Ralph O. Keeler, appear to have been the only wise deeds credited to the Grand Rapids, or other volunteers in that war.

*The Cholera*.—The death of Alonzo Bowerman and wife, of Providence, on July 5, 1854, was followed by fourteen others. Dr. Bletter, who attended them, was infected, but recovered;

he was stricken later, and died immediately. R. A. Snively's daughter, and Squire Davis, who died at Toledo while fleeing from New York, were among its first victims. Only three died in the village of Grand Rapids, while Cornell and his son and others died in the adjacent territory. Of 22 cases treated by Dr. Gardner, thirteen were cured, the other nine having collapsed before the Doctor's aid was called. Not more than five families remained in the village, namely those of Emanuel Arnold, Dr. A. J. Gardner, Seth McDonald, Alva Gillett, and Wm. Gruber. Of eighteen men employed in Seth McDonald's saw-mill, only one—John Long—remained. The disease is said to have set in after a ball, held at Fancher's, July 4, just as it did at Perrysburg, after the celebration of that day.

*Holiday Accident.*—In July, 1856, the people of Grand Rapids imported the old Croghan cannon from Perrysburg. Placing it in position, the gunners found it spiked with an old rat-tail file. That was removed by T. J. Sterling, and the cannon loaded. When firing, it exploded, sent the ramrod across the river, and crippled Joseph Shannon.

*Common Schools.*—The first school was simply a gathering of eight or ten tow-headed pioneers in home-spun clothes, by Charlotte Howard. This was in 1831. The school was held in the log house of Richard Howard. At the spring election of 1832 the voters discussed the question of schools and school districts, and the result was a division of the township into five school districts, by the trustees for 1832. The districts were as follows: No. 1 began at the Henry county line on the river, extended two miles down the river and one mile back, making two square miles, and taking in the village of Gilead. This was the district in which Miss Howard had already taught two seasons. No. 2 was two miles square, just east of No. 1. No. 3 inclosed all that portion of Weston township that has since been set off into Washington township, embracing the village of Otsego. No. 4 started one mile back from the river, and took a strip two miles wide on the west side of the township, from that point south to the county line. No. 5 was the "boss" school district, including all the remainder of the township, being fifteen miles long and four miles wide. The first school building in the township was in No. 1, on land owned by the Howards. It was a low log hut, with shake roof and puncheon floor, desks and seats, and was located about eighty rods south of the present brick school building. The first large school building of the township, erected in the

"forties," is now the "Commercial Hotel," of the village. An early school was held in 1834 or 1835 at Alexander Peugh's house, near where Albert Heyman lives, and there Thomas Junkins and one or more of his brothers and sisters attended as pupils.

#### CHURCHES.

*The United Brethren Society*, the first Church body in Weston or Grand Rapids township, was organized at Henry Kimberlin's house in 1832, by Henry Kimberlin, John Crom, Sr., and Jacob Crom, who were local preachers. Messrs. Strong, Moore, Michael Long and John Long preached at Beaver Creek at intervals until 1833, when Stephen Lillibridge came as preacher-in-charge. In 1843, the Conference was held at Beaver Creek. In 1848 George Gilmore was steward and D. Glancy, preacher. At that time a subscription was collected for Church purposes, and in 1850 the building on the Weston and Grand Rapids road, west of Beaver Creek, was erected. The names of the members, in 1856, were Sarah Henry, John, Jacob, Sally and Mary Kimberlin, Elizabeth Guyer, Matthias, Noah and Sarah Reames, Eva Oberdorf, Sabina Kimberlin, Susan Bowser, John and Mary Walters, James, Charlotte, Henry and Mary-Jane Barton, John and Delilah Dull, Eli and Andrew Van Horn, Emily and Hannah Older, Catherine and Eliza Long, James and Sarah Brown, Philip and Mary Hine-man, Martha McLain and Barbara Swarm. Rev. John Davis, "The Hatter," and John Bell were the preachers in 1856; Silas Foster in 1857; and J. Fink in 1859. Following Mr. Lillibridge was Jonathan Thomas, who preached here several years. Daniel Glancy was here again in 1860; Samuel Essex in 1862; and S. Jacoby in 1864. The Liberal U. B. Society, of which Messrs. Heyman, Thorley, Harris, Russell and Gundy are trustees, own the old building since 1889, when the division took place. Of the eighty members who once formed the society, only ten are left. The East Beaver Creek U. B. Society erected a house of worship near the line of Plain township, just before the war, which, when the Church disbanded, was sold to Mr. Gill, who leased it to the Christian Union.

*The Radical United Brethren Society* was organized, in 1889, out of the old U. B. Church, of Beaver Creek, and its neighbor of East Beaver Creek, or "The Gingery Church." The original members were D. L. and Alice L. Dull, Lester A. and Sarah E. Pettis, Rev. John and Elizabeth French, William C. and Clara French, John Gingery, Dorothy Wade, Rev. Joseph and

Sarah Burkett, John Bortel, Jacob and Sabina Kimberlin, John and Mary Conrad, Albert Long and wife, and A. P. Schlappi. The trustees are L. A. Pettis, Jacob Kimberlin; D. L. Dull, John Conrad and G. C. Lashley. They were the builders of the church on the Dull farm, and now represent the forty-five members who worship there.

*The United Presbyterian Church*, on the southeast corner of Sec. 19, was organized early in the "fifties," by Rev. James Miller, a Scotchman, who preached at Scotch Ridge as early as 1845. Among the members were Jesse and Jane Kerr, James P. Katon and wife, Hugh and Sarah Barton, Samuel and Fanny Barton, McCabe and wife, Samuel Barton, Sr., and wife, James, William, Joseph and Mrs. Mary Ross, William B. Kerr, and Mrs. Eliza Van Horn. Of all named, William B. Kerr is the only resident of this county. Rev. Jackson Duff, of the Webster Church, preached here from 1852 to 1868, followed by others named in Webster (tp.) history. J. C. Bigham was here in 1875; Rev. William Wright and Rev. Wainwright (the last named a teacher in the Grand Rapids school) have been pastors since Centennial year. Jesse Kerr, J. P. Katon and Mr. McCabe were elders for many years. Death created vacancies, and W. B. Kerr, now the senior elder, was elected to fill the first; R. R. McKnight and William Donnell were elders as early as 1869; J. E. Kerr was chosen in the "seventies," and W. L. Ross in 1878. The meeting house was erected in 1859, and is now owned by the forty-two members of the society.

#### GRAND RAPIDS VILLAGE.

It is said that John A. Graham established the village of Gilead in 1831, and that early in 1832 he employed Lewis Bortle and Gabriel Guyer to clear that portion where the depot building and B. F. Kerr's new residence now stand, for a wheat and potato field. The plat in the recorder's office shows that the town was surveyed in June, 1833, by Ambrose Rice for John N. Graham, on the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 7, T. 5, R. 9. Graham was the owner of the quarter section, and also of Island No. 2. In April, 1836, John C. Spink's addition was surveyed by Hiram Davis. In 1835 J. C. Spink bought the Ed. Howard farm and the "Stone Tavern," as the "Howard House" was called, because a portion of it was built of stone. In 1837, Spink rented the hotel to Hiram Scovill, who moved in and took possession August 31. Scovill was married to a sister of George Laskey, and Laskey, who was then a little

boy, came along with them to the hotel as general utility boy. Scovill started a ferry from the "Howard House" to the opposite side of the river, for public convenience, and it was in constant use for more than twenty years. Young Laskey attended to the ferry and the hotel barn as long as Scovill kept the hotel, or until 1840, when he moved to the village of Florida, Laskey going with his brother-in-law. In the "fifties," C. W. McDonald rented the house, and made hotel-keeping a department of his extensive business.

*Early Traders.*—Dr. A. J. Gardner, in his reminiscences of early merchants and druggists, states that "the first merchant to open a store was Nicholas Gee, who came here in 1833 and opened his goods in a log building owned by Tomer Davis, on the corner of First and West streets. A Mr. Culbertson, brother of the late James G. Culbertson, came shortly afterward, and went into partnership with Mr. Gee for a short time, but sold out to Gee in 1835. Frank Hinsdale, who had been a clerk for John Hollister, at Perrysburg, for some time, bought the remnant of Hollister's store, and formed a partnership with Gee, and they built the store room now occupied by Dr. A. J. Gardner & Co. In 1840 Gee sold out to Hinsdale, who continued in business until he died in 1851. George Laskey came here, as before stated, in 1836, and afterward was chief clerk to Mr. Hinsdale at the princely salary of \$8 per month and board. He saved at the end of each of the three first years \$50, and bought three forty-acre pieces of land; which he sold a few years ago for \$50 an acre. After Hinsdale's death Mrs. Hinsdale and Mr. Laskey formed a partnership, built a store room, and continued in business together until 1857, when Mrs. Hinsdale retired and Delos Pratt and Stephen Laskey became members of the firm, under the firm name of Laskeys, Pratt & Co. George P. Hinsdale took an interest in the business a year or two afterward. In 1861 Pratt and Hinsdale withdrew from the firm, and built the first story of the building now occupied by B. F. Kerr, who has since added a second story.

"In 1835 Philander P. Brown and Enoch Gruber, built a small store room on the bank of the river. They were succeeded by Tobias Rudsell. In 1834 Mr. Culbertson built a store room, since burned, west of the Laskey building, into which he moved from Otsego. He was succeeded by Samuel Clymer, who afterward moved the stock to Otsego. Seth C. McDonald, in 1857, bought a bankrupt stock of goods in Toledo, and occupied the building. At the end of a year or two the stock and building were destroyed by fire. In

1850, Galen B. Able occupied the above mentioned store room. About this time Hughes & Camp built a one-story room and opened a small store. In 1854 they sold to Charles Bucklin and Mr. Gunn. Bucklin soon bought out Gunn's interest, and in turn sold to Atkinson & Ashley. In 1853 Robert Mead built a one-story building, and opened the first grocery. He afterward took in Foster Pratt, and they carried on a livery stable in connection with their other business. In 1860 George P. Crosby built the store room occupied by Evans, and did business with George Hospelhorn; afterward sold to Delos Pratt and Stephen Laskey, who, in turn, sold to John H. Fisher. In 1856 C. W. McDonald opened a drug store in the room now occupied by John Roberts. The next year he built the building now occupied by Richardson's grocery, and added a small stock of books and groceries. Dr. J. H. Watson and C. E. Beardsley succeeded him in the drug business for a short time, and then sold out to J. H. Campbell and Robert Pratt, who were followed by A. Sterling, who moved the stock into the building now occupied by Anton Schuster. In the fall of 1860, Dr. Gardner came back from Cleveland, and, in company with Laskey, Pratt & Co., bought out Sterling and opened the first regular drug store. He has conducted the business since '62 with Laskey brothers as the 'Co.,' they having bought Pratt and Hinsdale's interests."

Prior to Gee's time two peddlers from Mansfield, named Bartlett and Cooper, came on the suggestion of James Purdy, and opened a stock of goods in a hut which stood near the south end of Main street. If we except the Indian traders, they were the first to engage in mercantile business here. Francis Hinsdale, who was a clerk in Hollister's store at Perrysburg, came a year or two after, with a small stock of dry goods, notions, groceries and hardware, so that the commercial beginnings were made before Gee established his store at this point.

*Water-power and Mills.*—John A. Graham, built a mill-race and dam; a sawmill was built, and a set of buhrs for grinding corn added to it. Emanuel Arnold built and operated the only tannery ever in the village or township. Hutchinson opened a hotel, at which the young people of the settlement were wont to meet in social dances, much to the elation of the boozy descendants of the Ottawas, who yet hung about the white settlements. In 1836, James Purdy, then a lawyer in active practice in Mansfield, bought the water privilege at the head of the rapids from John Graham. Purdy had traveled through the Maumee region as early as 1822. It was through

his influence that Bartlett & Cooper came from Mansfield with the first stock of merchandise. The keen eye of Purdy saw that a proprietorship at the head of such power would be a good investment, but it was just at this time that the Miami and Erie canal was being established from Cincinnati to Toledo, and it is probable that Purdy saw that the slack water at the head of the rapids must furnish the water for the canal from that point to Toledo, and if he became proprietor of the water privilege he could dictate terms to the great corporation, which he did do in after years, to the lasting benefit of Grand Rapids. Great excitement was created through the Beaver Creek settlements in 1845 by the action of the board of public works, in attempting to destroy Purdy's rights as owner of the dam and water power at Gilead, by building a dam just above Purdy's and deflecting the current to the north of Island No. 2 and through the canal. The citizens of Gilead turned out one night and cut the canal dam, and so restored the water power to Gilead mills. A compromise was finally effected, by the State constructing what is called the "Gilead canal" from the State dam to Purdy's mill race. The whole works costing the State over \$20,000, and by this means making Gilead a canal port. Purdy built a gristmill and in 1848, water was let into the Gilead canal, and business again picked up for there were good gristmills and sawmills, and the merchants could pay high prices for all kinds of produce, for the canal gave them means of putting the produce of the country into market.

*Traders of the "Fifties."*—Among other residents of the "fifties" may be named Cloud Bro's. hardware and tin shop, about 1855. George Gries, an old German who started the first tin shop in the town; Fancher & Abbott, blacksmiths, 1855; Bucklin & Gunn, dry-goods store and ashery, 1854; Fisher & Gruber, gristmill, 1856; David Failor, blacksmith, 1854; McDonald & Beales, sawmill, and Pratt & Mead, grocery, 1855. Dr. Harvey Burritt, referred to in the chapter on the Medical profession, removed to Maumee in 1852; a lawyer referred to in the chapter on the Bench and Bar was also here. Old citizens yet tell of Dr. Burritt's long and dismal rides through the swamps and forests from Gilead to the Hutchinson settlement, now Groff's Corners, or to the Collister Haskins settlement on the Portage river.

*McDonald's Enterprises.*—Seth McDonald came to Gilead in 1850, and rented the water-power sawmill referred to. The old mill stood very nearly where the pulp-mill now stands, and

when at its best, with its two old upright saws at work, it could cut 3,000 feet of hardwood lumber in a day. McDonald was a public-spirited man, who built more houses, and did as much to advance the material interests of the village as any man who ever lived there. After Seth had run the old water-mill about two years, his brother, Clark W. McDonald, who lived at Weston, moved to Gilead and went into partnership with him in the sawmill. In 1854, Seth McDonald built a steam sawmill, very nearly on the ground once occupied by Sturgis' livery barn, across from the "Patterson House," and also bought Samuel Clymer's stock of goods and storeroom. His store burned down in 1856, and Seth McDonald moved to Toledo. C. W. McDonald rented the mill at the mouth of Beaver creek, and another at Providence; established a line of canal boats; operated a lime kiln; conducted the "Howard House," from 1854 to 1856; hired a little English tailor, and established the first tailoring shop in the village; hired a journeyman harness-maker, and established a harness shop; bought John Morrison's interest in a blacksmith shop, hired blacksmiths, and went into the horse-shoeing and repair business; hired Dr. Philo in 1854 for six months, and established a medical department; shipped a lot of drugs from Cincinnati in 1855, and, with Dr. Philo as partner, established a drug store, which he sold in 1858 to Beardsley & Watson. The harness shop was sold the same year to H. J. Pike, and, by degrees, he ridded himself of his manifold business, and moved to Weston in 1863, where he died in 1895. The Purdy sawmill was leased by the Wabash Railroad Co. in 1855, and there all the timber used in bridge building along its eastern line was sawed.

*Sundry Items.*—The hotel building, known now as the "Commercial House," was erected in the "forties," for school purposes. The contract was awarded to William Flynn, who erected it on the plateau, near the Methodist church. When the present brick school house was completed, in 1878, the old building was used for town meetings, and as a Grand Army hall; but R. Patterson purchased it, moved it to the site of Arnold's tannery and refitted it for hotel purposes. The hotel, known in the "eighties" as the "Yost House," was established by Robert Mead, in 1860.

The ferry, referred to above, the owners of which are named in the general history, gave place to a bridge, which may be said to have been in use until February, 1879, when three spans of it were carried away. In July, of that

year, the present county bridge was constructed.

The contracts for building the Toledo & Grand Rapids narrow gauge railroad were awarded in April, 1877, by D. W. H. Howard, Thomas Pray, H. B. Shanks and B. F. Kerr, the directors. On June 28, 1877, the road was completed southwest to Waterville, and soon after to the Rapids, where a bridge was constructed, as related in the sketch of the Clover Leaf railroad.

The first shipment of grain from the settlements on the Rapids was in 1825, when Ed. Howard, also Peter Manor, who settled on the opposite side of the river, took a flatboat load of corn, which they sold to the garrison of Fort Wayne, at Detroit, returning with a cargo of goods and groceries purchased at Detroit and Malden, and being over two weeks in making the trip. Peter Manor and Ed. Howard were both traders with the Indians. There was quite a trade established up the river from the east; goods from Buffalo came to Fort Meigs, thence by land transportation or light boat, to Gilead, where they were loaded into larger boats, and so carried up the river to Forts Defiance and Wayne, and in return brought down vast quantities of peltries and valuable furs. William Pratt, the husband of Charlotte Howard, had a large warehouse above town, from which had been transmitted vast stores of goods going up and down the river. In 1836, a small steamboat was launched in the deep water above the Rapids, and made regular trips to the mouth of the Auglaize, and in high-water times to Fort Wayne. To-day a small steamer runs up to Napoleon, but the upper river marine of to-day is dedicated to pleasure rather than to trade.

*Incorporation, and Official Lists.*—The petition from residents of the town of Gilead was presented to the commissioners by Dr. A. J. Gardner and G. E. Guyer, December 5, 1855, asking that it be organized into an incorporated village to be called Grand Rapids. In March, 1856, the petition was amended so as to read "Gilead" *vice* "Grand Rapids," and the following described territory, "so much of the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 7, T. 5, R. 9, as was included in the original plat of Gilead, and the several subsequent additions thereto," was recognized as a village. In June, 1858, some contiguous territory was annexed. On September 5, 1856, Emanuel Arnold was elected mayor; A. C. Davis, recorder; Thomas J. Sterling, R. B. Mead, William Gruber, and George Hospelhorn, councilmen, were elected to serve until April, 1857. At that time A. J. Gardner, E. Arnold and A. Alcorn were elected councilmen, Sterling and Guyer

being re-elected. They were re-elected in 1858, but in April, 1859, new officers were chosen. The following lists show the names of all who have filled the offices of mayor, clerk and councilmen:

The mayors of the town were Emanuel Arnold, 1856; George Laskey, 1857; A. Sterling, 1859; Jeremiah Atkinson, 1860 to 1869; James J. Vorhes, 1869; G. P. Hinsdale, 1870; Dr. A. J. Gardner, 1872; Levi Sterling, 1873, 1875 and 1890; J. H. Metkeff, 1874; B. L. Ashley, 1878 to 1884; S. G. Robinson, 1884; Henry S. Laskey, 1886; John C. Bucklin, 1892; John E. Stevens, appointed in August, 1893; and F. M. Arnold, elected 1894. J. E. Stevens, the present mayor, was elected in 1895 and 1896. The office of clerk has been filled by the following named citizens: A. C. Davis, 1856, and 1859 to 1863; George Hospelhorn, 1857; B. L. Ashley, 1864; John Campbell, 1868; James Kerr, 1872; Robert A. Snively, 1874, *vice* Pike who did not qualify; George A. Bell, 1878; Geo. Hospelhorn, 1879; Alex. Williamson, 1884 to 1888; A. J. Friese, 1888; J. K. Henderson, 1888; E. H. Eckert, 1890; S. T. Laskey, 1892; Roswell R. Sherer, who qualified August 7, 1893; and Chas. O. Brewster, elected in 1896.

The councilmen, other than those named, who have been elected since April, 1859, were as follows:

- 1859—John Fisher, R. B. Mead, O. C. Carr, J. B. Snively, T. J. Sterling.
- 1860-61—R. B. Mead, Geo. Hospelhorn, Milo Caton, J. E. McGowan, O. C. Carr.
- 1862—J. R. Huff, Geo. Hospelhorn, J. B. Snively, T. J. Sterling, O. C. Carr.
- 1863—J. R. Huff, D. A. Avery, J. J. Vorhes, T. J. Sterling, O. B. Carr.
- 1864—J. R. Huff, D. A. Avery, J. J. Vorhes, T. J. Sterling, R. C. O'Donnell.
- 1865—George Hinsdale, W. A. Pryor, Geo. Hospelhorn, J. J. Vorhes, R. C. O'Donnell.
- 1866—W. A. Pryor, Delos Pratt, Jacob Heeter, Samuel Vorhes, A. J. Gardner.
- 1867—George Laskey, Samuel Bossard, Jacob Heeter, T. J. Sterling, J. J. Vorhes.
- 1868—Wm. Gruber, Lewis Bortel, Jacob Heeter, T. J. Sterling, J. J. Vorhes.
- 1869—Wm. Gruber, Jeremiah Atkinson, D. W. Peugh, T. J. Sterling, S. C. Pike.
- 1870—William Gruber, D. W. Peugh and T. J. Sterling (2 years), J. J. Clark, I. Groff, M. Kecheley (1 year).

The trio elected annually since 1871, are named as follows:

- 1871—J. Atkinson, Isaac Groff and J. H. Metkeff.
- 1872—Jacob Hackenberger, S. C. Pike and Jesse L. Peugh.
- 1873—T. J. Sterling, R. Park, G. P. Hinsdale (2 years), J. Metkeff (1 year).
- 1874—H. P. Shanks, J. L. Peugh, E. Donaldson.
- 1875—J. Heller, T. J. Sterling, E. G. Laskey.
- 1876—H. P. Shanks, J. L. Gillett, J. Hackenberger.
- 1877—Jacob Heeter, Lewis Bortel, T. J. Sterling.
- 1878—J. Hackenberger, H. B. Pike, Peter Yost.

- 1879—Jacob Hackman, Jacob Heeter, M. Kecheley.
- 1880—R. H. Housley, H. B. Pike, J. L. Peugh.
- 1881—W. Markloff, H. C. Bortel, Jacob Heeter.
- 1882—David Peugh, Martin Kecheley, J. N. Yantiss.
- 1883—W. Markloff, H. C. Bortel, H. S. Laskey.
- 1884—J. M. Stump, Geo. J. Freiss, John Rowland.
- 1885—J. C. Blake, G. P. Hensley, G. P. Hinsdale.
- 1886—F. A. Crosby, Justin Jennings, E. Donaldson (in July, 1886, the vote for Prohibition Ordinance was 59, against it, 65).
- 1887—James S. Foor, W. Megginson, Henry P. Shanks (2 years), Geo. L. Holder (1 year).
- 1888—John C. Bucklin, Geo. L. Holder, Frank A. Crosby.
- 1889—R. A. Housley, J. S. Foor, Fred. Heeter.
- 1890—S. G. Robinson, E. G. Laskey, Henry Sherer.
- 1891—W. Megginson, A. B. Long, M. Kecheley.
- 1892—S. G. Robinson, H. C. Bortel, J. S. Lamb.
- 1893—M. Kecheley, Jerry Huffman, E. Donaldson.
- 1894—H. J. Yelter, William Box, William Schultz.

The election of April, 1895, resulted in the choice of J. E. Stevens (R.), mayor, who received sixty-seven votes against C. A. Gary (D.), who received fifteen votes. R. Sherer (R.), clerk; R. A. Housley, H. C. Bortel and Israel Huffman (Republicans), councilmen; William Mailey (R.), street commissioner; and Azor Thurstin, treasurer. In the spring election of 1896, Azor Thurstin, who has held the office of treasurer many years, was re-elected; Peter Snyder was elected marshal; E. R. Hopkins, Claud Inman, and Geo. Rooney were chosen members of the council; and R. B. Saltz, Wm. Megginson, and W. K. Evans, members of the school board.

*Special School District.*—In the history of the township, reference is made to the pioneer schools and school teachers. The old record of Gilead School District dates back to January 31, 1859, when the voters were notified to meet on that day for the purpose of voting for or against the adoption of the Akron School Law. There were thirty-eight votes for the law, and fourteen *contra*. On February 10 six directors were elected, namely: W. Pratt, George Hospelhorn, A. Sterling, R. B. Mead, William Flynn and John Fisher. That board appointed A. J. Gardner, J. W. Hamilton and J. E. McGowan school examiners, and, in March, appointed D. A. Avery teacher at a salary of \$360 per annum. Mary E. Lacy was then teacher of the primary school. The directors of this special district are, practically, the same men who have served as councilmen of the village, so that it is unnecessary to report their names here.

In September, 1875, Donaldson, Gillett, Williamson, Bell, Powell and Kerr, members of school board, and the contract for building the present school house was awarded to S. N. Beach, of Perrysburg, on his bid of \$10,000. In March, 1876, George P. Hinsdale, H. P. Shanks and T. J. Sterling were elected members of the board. In

May the assessed value of the district was \$304,442, on which a levy of four mills for tuition and four mills for interest on school bonds was made. In December, 1876, a 220-pound bell was purchased. In 1878 the elegant building was dedicated to education. David Donaldson was clerk in 1859; succeeded by George Hospelhorn, who served until 1863, when A. C. Davis was appointed. In 1864, G. P. Hinsdale was appointed; in 1869, J. N. Mead; in 1870, G. P. Hinsdale; in 1875, B. F. Kerr, who served until April, 1882, when Alexander Williamson succeeded him. In 1888, F. L. Sheats was appointed; but H. P. Shanks succeeded him. In 1890, G. P. Hinsdale signs as clerk; but D. A. Avery succeeded him in May of that year, and, in January, 1891, F. L. Sheats held the office, followed by W. E. Kerr, in April, 1891; J. C. Bucklin in October, 1891; B. F. Kerr in 1893; and J. S. Foor, in April, 1894.

*The Post Office* is an old institution at the head of the Rapids. As early as 1822, when the Presbyterian mission was organized below the present village, the mail carrier passed that way at intervals. In the year 1832 an office was established under the name "Weston," and Edward Howard appointed postmaster December 15, that year. During Dr. Burritt's long residence there he was postmaster (with the exception of the term beginning March 30, 1837, when John W. Culbertson held the office, then named "Gilead"), and when he left in 1852 the office was favored with at least one mail a week. When Dr. Gardner came to reside here, in 1853, he suggested the employment of a special carrier, who would cross the river to Providence daily, and return with the mail for the people on this side of the river. In March, 1868, the name "Gilead" was changed to "Grand Rapids."

*Fires.*—From 1850 to the present time the destruction of houses in the village by fire has been often chronicled. In October, 1887, the Sturgess livery stable was burned. The fire of December 28, 1888, destroyed Bucklin's brick block and stock of hardware, J. K. Henderson's stock of dry goods, and damaged the "Commercial House" and Wolford's livery stable, the total loss being estimated at \$15,000. A few large brick buildings have taken the place of those destroyed, and the fire proved a blessing in disguise.

*Gas Wells.*—The Grand Rapids Natural Gas & Oil Co. was organized September 23, 1887, with B. F. Kerr, president; G. P. Hinsdale, secretary and treasurer; R. A. Housley, F. A. Crosby, J. C. Blake, William Megginson and B. F. Kerr, directors. In October, J. W. Carrothers

began drilling No. 1. On December 10, the drill entered the Trenton at 1,640 feet. At 1,659 feet the well was shot, and a heavy flow of gas responded. Within a few weeks the well exhausted itself. In 1889, the corporation authorized bonds for \$5,000 to be expended in drilling for gas and laying mains in the principal streets. Of this sum, \$2,500 was expended in drilling Corporation Well No. 1. That well produced gas for a short time, when, like Company Well No. 1, it ceased to flow, and the casing was pulled.

*Churches.*—In 1833, the first Methodist class was organized, with Samuel Van Horn as leader. The other six members of the class, as recorded, were Jacob and Catharine Macklin, Mrs. Van-Horn, Sarah Arnold, Annie Donaldson, and Mrs. Rice, who was the mother of Samuel and Thomas Junkins. This was the planting of the Methodist Church in Weston township, and the organization was known on Conference records as "the Gilead Mission," in charge of the Perrysburg circuit. During 1834, the Rev. Elam Day, father of Elam Day, who a few years since practiced law in Weston, was the preacher. In 1835, Rev. Cyrus Brooks was appointed, and in 1837 the Church became a portion of the regular Perrysburg circuit with Rev. Wesley Shortis as pastor. In that year the first quarterly meeting was held at the log school house in Gilead, Rev. Leonard B. Gurley, presiding elder. In 1848, a house of worship, the first church in the township, was built at Gilead by the combined efforts of Methodists and Presbyterians, neither society being able to erect a building alone. Col. James McGeehan gave one-half the amount necessary to build the church now owned by the Presbyterian Society. Samuel Clymer, John Evers, James Conway, A. Alcorn, J. W. Condit, Samuel Bossard and Edwin Tuller were the builders. The Methodist house of worship of the present day is a brick structure, erected in 1880, on the plateau, above the planing-mill.

In October, 1862, George Mather was pastor of the Gilead circuit, which embraced Gilead, Beaver Creek, Westfield and Washington, and of which Henry Warner was recording steward, and John Graham, presiding elder. Sturgeon class was added in 1863, Otsego in November of that year; Damascus in 1864; Weston, Ellsworth and Lewiston the same year, over which circuit Horatio S. Bradley presided as elder. In 1865, John Farley was preacher-in-charge. In November, 1865, Duke's class is mentioned, but nothing is said of Lewiston and Ellsworth. In 1866, James White was pastor, and, in 1867, E. C.



Gavitt, was elder, and Rev. D. Bulle, preacher-in-charge. In 1868, Bamber's class is noticed, and in 1869 the record of the pastorates of James White and H. VanGundy are recorded. In October, 1869, reports from Custar and Park's classes were made; the name "Gilead" was written "Grand Rapids;" Charles Hoag was named as preacher-in-charge, and E. M. Warner as recording steward.

The Presbyterian Church was organized September 18, 1848, by Rev. J. M. Crabb (on foundation placed by Rev. Phillip Condit), when Alexander Peugh and James T. Martin were elected ruling elders, and Mr. Condit, pastor. The first members included the elders named, and their wives, John Carson and wife, William Martin, Sr., John Rowland, Jr., Samuel Kirken-dale, and their wives, with Sarah Marks and Sarah Arnold. In 1853, Mr. Condit led a colony to Oregon, and his place as pastor was taken by Rev. J. M. Crabb. Rev. J. H. Layman became pastor in 1856; Rev. J. W. Hamilton, in 1858; W. H. Reed, 1860; D. H. Richardson, 1862; Robert Edgar, 1865; J. E. Vance, 1870; M. L. Donahey, stated supply 1875 to 1881; A. E. Baichley, 1882 to 1884; Rev. Thomas E. Burrow, from July 18, 1886, to January, 1888; Rev. J. B. Hawkins, 1890, to April, 1894, and Rev. C. L. Herald, June, 1895, to the present time.

The list of elders succeeding the first elders, comprises the following names: Silas Rowland, John Campbell, R. Parks (one year), J. E. Carson, Dr. A. J. Gardner, Thomas D. Avery, B. F. Kerr, J. E. Stevens and Jesse Trapp. The old house of worship, erected in 1848 by this society in union with the Methodists, is to-day as it has been since 1880, the property of the Presbyterians of the village. The Union Sabbath-school ceased in 1880, when each denomination organized separately.

The Gilead United Brethern Church purchased land in the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 7, T. 5. R. 9, on February 11, 1862, from James Purdy. The society has now a good church building. Since 1880, when the Union Sabbath-school was abolished, the United Brethren have carried on a purely denominational school, which has a large attendance.

The old Baptist Society worshiped in various buildings until its dissolution. Elder Brown was the old-time organizer and preacher. Late in the "fifties," Elder Turner, a resident of Portage, visited the Church, and for a while it was prosperous. During the war, the society, like that of Perrysburg, dissolved.

*Secret and Benevolent Societies.*—Grand Rapids Lodge, No. 289, A. F. & A. M., was organized under dispensation July 31, 1856, and chartered October 23, that year, with Alvah Gillett, Samuel Blythe, E. Arnold, A. J. Gardner, O. C. Carr, John Edgar, S. A. Bacon, S. H. Steedman, Daniel Barton, Emilus Wood and E. R. Wood, members. The masters, since organization, are named as follows: S. A. Bacon, 1856-59, and 1862 and 1866; O. C. Carr, 1859-61, 1863 and 1870-71; T. J. Sterling, 1864, 1869, 1873, 1874 and 1877; D. A. Avery, 1865; Milo Caton, 1867; A. J. Gardner, 1868 and 1872; Alex. Williamson, 1875, 1876, 1881, 1883, 1884, and 1891; Lewis Bortel, 1878, 1879 and 1880; S. L. Irwin, 1882; J. A. Backus, 1885, 1886 and 1887; R. B. Saltz, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1892 and 1893; J. S. Benschoter, 1894 and 1895. The secretaries have been S. H. Steedman, 1856 and 1858; A. J. Gardner, 1857, 1870 and 1876; J. Dwyer, 1860; D. A. Avery, 1861, 1862 and 1863; O. C. Carr, 1864; J. J. Vorhes, 1865, 1867, 1868 and 1871; C. E. Vorhes, 1869; J. S. Benschoter, 1873; George A. Bell, 1874; C. C. Sterling, 1877 and 1886; J. L. Gillett, 1878; E. Donaldson, 1879; L. D. Heller, 1880 and 1881; F. M. Young, 1882; W. Callihan, 1883; Alexander Williamson, 1885 and 1887; J. C. Bucklin, 1894; J. A. Backus, 1884, 1889 to 1893 (inclusive) and 1895. In May, 1895, there were fifty-one members, who owned the lodge building erected in the "sixties."

Turkey Foot Lodge, No. 529, I. O. O. F., was chartered July 27, 1872, with the following members: D. W. Peugh, Thomas J. Lake, L. Bortel, R. Parke, John A. Lake, A. Mead, Hamilton Lake, Thomas Scott, J. W. Yantiss, J. N. Yantiss, Jacob Yantiss. The first noble grand was D. W. Peugh, and the recording secretary, J. A. Lake. The past grands are named as follows: D. W. Peugh, 1872; Lewis Bortel, 1873; James P. Ragan, 1874; and J. L. Gillett and R. B. Saltz, 1875; H. B. Pike and John Ward, 1876; T. L. Wood and Eli Culbertson, 1877; Eli Culbertson and George W. Shepard, 1878; W. E. Kerr and Peter Hockman, 1879; J. B. Wheeland and G. N. Mosier, 1880; G. L. Holder and W. E. Kerr, 1881; C. E. Rowland and M. L. Heller, 1882; J. G. Markley, 1883; R. B. Saltz and Charles Kerstetter, 1884; R. A. Housley and N. N. Kunkle, 1885; Edward Hopkins and J. S. Foor, 1886; Joseph Shull and F. L. Sheets, 1887; Azor Thurstin and J. K. Henderson, 1888; William McCauley and W. M. Stocking, 1889; William Finkenbinder and J. A. Backus, 1890; A. B. Long and H. C. Bortel, 1891; W. K. Evans and



George E. Miller, 1892; T. D. Avery and W. D. Kerstetter, 1893; C. F. Patton and B. F. Box, 1894; L. W. Crosby and W. S. Patton, 1895. J. S. Foor was elected permanent secretary in 1888, and has served since, except one term. There were fifty-seven members in May, 1895, who owned a half interest in the W. E. Kerr brick building of 1886, in which their hall is.

Rapids Encampment, No. 240, I. O. O. F., was chartered May 2, 1888, with J. A. Backus, Azor Thurstin, R. A. Housley, Eli Culbertson, G. L. Holder, J. K. Henderson, W. E. Kerr, John H. Stover, R. B. Saltz, Lewis Bortel, E. H. Hopkins, Wm. McCauley, J. S. Foor, M. A. Duckett, R. J. Eger and C. M. Fizer, members. The patriarchs are named as follows: J. A. Backus, 1888; R. B. Saltz and Eli Culbertson, 1889; Azor Thurstin and Lewis Bortel, 1890; George L. Holder and J. H. Stover, 1891; Charles Kerstetter and W. D. Kerstetter, 1892; J. S. Foor and W. D. Kerstetter, 1893; L. W. Crosby and C. F. Patton, 1894; C. M. Fizer and George E. Miller, 1895. The first scribe, J. K. Henderson, was succeeded in 1889 by Dr. Backus, who has served since that time, and is now grand senior warden of the Grand Encampment. The number of members is forty-five.

Grand Rapids Lodge, No. 289, K. of P., was chartered April 20, 1888, with G. F. Markloff (1), P. C.; A. Pilliod (2), C. C.; W. B. Carr (3), W. A. Watson (12), F. Heeter, S. T. Laskey, J. C. Bucklin, Edward Hanna, C. O. Brewster and E. L. Vanscoter, officers in order of rank, with Adam Bell (7), Adam Keller, Hi Ludwig, Daniel Carr, George Hersh, Eph. Swanson, J. K. Nelson, John Rock, O. C. Robinson, J. D. Parke, Lee Stump, Mel. Robinson, R. B. Grafton, Cash. Gibson, Frank Van Horn, Alex. Donaldson, T. J. Grisell, G. Walgenbach, C. C. Sterling, J. D. Bresler, W. Van Tassel, H. Cramer, Fred Krill, and K. Bowser. The names marked 1, 2, 3, 7, and 12, served as chancellor commanders, with E. A. Hanna for the fourth term, W. D. Kerstetter (5), E. A. McLain (6), J. S. Miller (8), J. S. Lamb (9), L. L. Stump (10), Warren Brown (11), Frank Thorley (13), and Wm. Miller (14). The office of K. of R. & S. has been occupied by the following named members: Geo. F. Markloff, J. C. Bucklin, S. T. Laskey, E. A. Hanna, R. Sherer and C. O. Brewster. Geo. F. Walter was the recorder in June, 1895, when the lodge had thirty-four members.

Jeptha Tent, No. 145, K. O. T. M., was organized U. D., March 4, 1893, and under charter of October 19, 1893, with Wilbur K. Evans, John

A. Backus, Lorenzo D. Long, Roswell R. Sherer, Azor Thurstin, James H. Williams, J. A. Backus (M. E.), W. A. Watson, C. F. Patton, Harvey Sherer, Byron S. Nefus, V. P. Huffman and E. E. Huffman, officers ranking from P. Sir Knight Commander to Sir Knight Picket, with the following named unofficial members: C. Fulckemer, F. A. Chapman, L. D. Judson, Frank Garry, Floyd Huffman, J. S. Foor, William E. Poling, W. A. Ludwig and Charles Lang. The past commanders include the two named above, and Lorenzo D. Long; while Roswell R. Sherer has been secretary since the beginning. There are now nineteen members, with lodge room in Housley's Hall.

Post No. 75, G. A. R., was chartered March 14, 1867, with B. F. Kerr, David Donaldson, J. S. Benschoter, A. D. Newell, E. W. Bossard, O. N. Gunn, M. Caton, W. H. Wood, M. Kecheley, Carlos Vorhes, W. B. Kerr, J. L. Peugh, E. R. Hinsdale, B. M. Campbell, E. D. Groff, Samuel Holder, W. A. Benschoter, James White, Albert Shively, D. W. Peugh, Henry C. Bortel and S. S. Laskey. This post ceased work in 1872.

Bond Post, No. 24, G. A. R., was organized December 8, and mustered December 22, 1879. The roster of the original members is as follows: John McLain, B. F. Kerr, W. R. Barton, R. A. Snively, D. B. Burwell, J. B. Snively, P. T. Groff, S. G. Robinson, E. Guyer, E. Donaldson, N. P. Sturgess, T. D. Rowland, John P. Katon, and Thomas J. Sterling, Peter Johnston, Jr., Martin L. Heller, Hiram Fishburn, Spencer Crowshaw, Israel Snyder, Michael H. Head, Levi Batt, Thomas Mawer and James Barrett were enrolled members prior to the close of June, 1880.

The commanders are named as follows: John McLain, 1879, re-elected in 1880-81; William Callihan, elected in December, 1882; John McLain, 1883; S. G. Robinson, 1884; John McLain, 1885; D. P. Knapp, 1886; John McLain, 1887; L. A. Kunkle, elected in December, 1888; Alex. Williamson, 1889 and 1890; John McLain, 1891-94, and T. D. Avery, elected in December, 1894. In a memorandum made by the present adjutant, John Katon is mentioned as commander in 1889.

The adjutants were: R. A. Snively, 1879, re-elected in 1880, and served for several years; J. S. Benschoter, 1888; J. Reynolds, acting adjutant, 1891, adjutant in 1892; J. S. Benschoter, 1894; P. B. Wallace, 1894; and John McLain, 1895.

Capt. Trapp Camp No. 485, S. of V., was chartered May 22, 1891, with W. H. Richardson,

L. D. Long, W. W. Katon, G. F. Walters, V. P. Huffman, A. E. McLain, A. K. Nafus, W. E. Walter, C. A. Rowland, Ed J. Long, A. B. Hersh, H. F. Powell, C. B. Cole, F. G. Nafus, G. E. Hersh, Orlo Brown, E. O. Wallace, George Feather and Grant Beam members.

Temperance organizations, under one name or another, have been organized here, but few of

them existed more than half a decade. In January, 1871, the Sons of Temperance organized a lodge here.

The Union League of Gilead was organized May 30, 1863, with John McKee, president, and James Kerr, secretary. There were twenty-five male and ninety-nine female members.

## CHAPTER XXXII.

### HENRY TOWNSHIP.

INTRODUCTION—POPULATION—SURVEYS—ORGANIZATION—OFFICIALS—PIONEERS—LAND BUYERS—VOTERS OF 1839—FIRST THINGS—SCHOOLS—HUNTERS—VILLAGES—CHURCHES—OIL AND GAS. NORTH BALTIMORE—ITS COMMENCEMENT—NEW BALTIMORE—CENSUS REPORTS—INCORPORATION, OFFICIALS, ETC.—FIRST THINGS—SCHOOLS—FIRE DEPARTMENT—THE VILLAGE OF 1874—POST OFFICE—BANKS—OPERA HOUSE—ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.—GAS AND OIL CO.—GREAT INDUSTRIES—FIRES—BOARD OF TRADE—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—CONCLUSION.

**T**HIS township presents, to the searcher after knowledge, a most unique subject. Prior to 1829, the soldiers under Hull made their way through its forest and marsh, and, before them, the Indians traversed the township on their trail, from Fort Defiance to the site of Tiffin. The early surveyors penetrated the territory, but the early traders and white hunters never ventured a visit, for it seemed to them that there was nothing there which the Caucasian might covet.

In 1829, the indomitable pioneer appeared among the trees; ten years later there were about 125 inhabitants; in 1840 the population was 213, by 1850 increased to 321, by 1860 to 454, by 1870 to 685, and by 1880 to 1,688, including the 701 inhabitants of North Baltimore. Between June, 1880, and June, 1890, the number of inhabitants increased to 4,496, of whom there resided at North Baltimore, 2,857.

The survey of the exterior lines was made in 1819, by Samuel and Alexander Holmes, while the sub-divisional lines were surveyed in 1821 by Worthington.

*Township Organization.*—The township was established December 3, 1836, and the first election was ordered to be held on the third Monday of that month. On the day named, the voters assembled and selected the following named officials: Trustees, Henry Shaw, Jabez

Bell and Tobias Shellenbarger; treasurer, George Carrel; clerk, Lewis F. Lambert; assessor, Amos Jones; justice, Newell Bills; constable, Charles Grant. The election was held at the house of George Carrel, Section 35, and the men elected held their offices for several terms in succession. Of the officers given, all were Democrats except Jabez Bell and Charles Grant, who are represented to have been Whigs. Henry thus started as a Democratic township, and it continued to be such until 1884, when it became Republican.

Prior to the establishment of the township, the inhabitants of Congressional township, No. 3, R. 10, assembled to formulate a petition and to agree upon a name. Some were in favor of calling it Bell township, in honor of Jabez Bell, a fat and jolly farmer who lived in the north of the territory, and others were favorable to calling it Shaw township, as a mark of esteem for Henry Shaw, the first settler of the territory who dwelt in the southern part. After much discussion, it was decided that Bell and Shaw should proceed to Perrysburg, the county seat, with the report of the organization, and that the township should be named after the one who arrived there first. The meeting was held on a Saturday, and it was understood that the report should reach Perrysburg on Monday. Sometime during Sunday night, Bell, with a view to "stealing a march" on Shaw, mounted a horse and rode leisurely off

toward the county seat. On his arrival in Perysburg the next morning, the first man he met was Shaw. A comparison of notes developed the fact that the latter had started afoot sometime during Sunday afternoon, and had walked all night. So the township was named "Henry," after Shaw, some objection appearing to the use of his family name.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

Owing to the incomplete condition of the township records, it is found impossible to give all the officials under date. Mr. Marron, who in February, 1895, made a thorough effort to compile a history of the township and villages, failed to find the old minute books of the trustees, but from interviews, he obtained information on which he based the following list of officers:

*Trustees:* John Wallace, John Davis, W. W. Wiley, David Ackerman, Peter Freyman, George Schaffer, Wm. Hough, Frederick Bealer, Lillburn B. Rogers, Peter Freyman, John L. Rogers, J. C. Myers, O. H. Fellers, Harmon Longbrake, Hugh Campbell, Fergus Hughes, John J. Faylor, Wm. Gibson, James Thrush, Isaac Akerman, Henry Freyman, George Copus, Hiram Beatty, John Kile, Andrew Katzenberger, John Buchanan and Henry Carrel.

*Clerks:* Lewis F. Lambert, Jackson Wallace, B. L. Peters (14 years), W. C. Peters, John Ruckman, John F. Clayton, Hugh Campbell, Dr. W. T. Thomas, W. Hughes, Frank Taylor, D. E. Peters, John DeLong and John Ebersole.

*Treasurers:* George Carrel, Henry Rasely, Henry Carrel, B. L. Peters, Paul Hough, Frank Clark, Jacob Katzenmeyer, John Knoke and Michael Henning. [Geo. Carrel was treasurer from 1839 to 1845; Henry Carrel was treasurer in 1846; Henry Rasely in 1848; and S. McCrory from 1856 to 1859.]

*Assessors:* Amos Jones, Henry Carrel, Silas Foster, B. L. Peters (11 years), Samuel Edgar, Fergus Hughes, B. A. Lawrence, D. E. Peters, J. B. Todd, Hugh Campbell, Frederick Bealer and Paul Hough.

Since Mr. Marron made that list, documents in the county auditor's office have given up the following names of the trustees, with dates of service: Hiram Bigelow, Lewis F. Lambert and Tobias Shellenbarger, 1841; Samuel McCrory, Harlow Brooks and Tobias Shellenbarger, 1843, with Jabez Bell, clerk; Levi Edington, A. Azenbaugh and Jabez Bell, 1846, with L. F. Lambert, clerk; John Davis, Peter Freyman and A. Azenbaugh, 1848-51, with Jackson

Wallace, clerk, from 1850 to April, 1853; John Davis, Robert M. Yonker and David Ackerman, 1852, with B. L. Peters, clerk, in 1853-59; L. B. Rogers, John Davis and William Hough, in 1858; George Schaffer, David Ackerman and William Hough, in 1860, with John F. Clayton, clerk; Ackerman and Schaffer with F. Bealer, in 1861, and B. L. Peters, clerk; and Ackerman, Schaffer and L. B. Rogers, in 1862, with H. Campbell, clerk; Peter Freyman, J. C. Myers and George Schaffer, 1864, and John L. Rogers, with Messrs. Freyman and Myers in 1865-66 and 1867. The trustees who signed the tax levies from 1868 to 1879, are named as follows: William Hough and Peter Freyman, 1868; Fergus Hughes, H. Longbrake and Hugh Campbell, 1869; John Apple, C. R. Thomas and J. C. Myers, 1870-71, with W. C. Peters, clerk; Fergus Hughes, J. Buchanan and Jacob Ackerman, 1872; Henry Carrel and H. W. Sterling, 1873, with Abraham Hampshire, clerk; J. J. Faylor, in 1874; John Buchanan, John Marshall and J. C. Myers, 1875, with Dr. W. T. Thomas, clerk; Paul Hough and J. L. Rogers, 1877, with George J. Barr, clerk; Paul Hough, J. L. Rogers and John Marshall, 1878, with W. T. Thomas, clerk; and J. L. Heminger, with Messrs. Rogers and Marshall, in 1879.

In the matter of justices of the peace, Newell Bills qualified in 1838; Jabez Bell in 1843; Henry Rasely in 1851, served until 1863; B. L. Peters, 1861 to 1892; Peter Freyman, 1861 to 1869; Israel Smith, 1869; John W. Ebersole, 1870; Henry Carrel, 1872-75; John J. Faylor, 1875 to 1884; James Porter, 1875; George Barnd, 1877; Frank Taylor, 1880; Josiah Noble, 1884; Lewis D. Arnold, 1886, to present time; Benton J. Leathers, 1892, and W. H. Caster, 1895.

Newell Bills was clerk in 1841; L. F. Lambert was assessor in 1842; W. A. Lininger, in 1844; Silas Foster, in 1846; Jabez Bell, in 1848; Henry Rasely, in 1850; while in later years, H. P. Eaton and John Marshall were assessors.

In 1896 the elections resulted as follows: For trustee, W. E. Deibley; clerk, J. M. De Long; assessor, N. North Baltimore precinct, Geo. Copus; S. North Baltimore precinct, Geo. D. Chase; and Hammansburg, Silas Tabor. Constable, David Helfrich and S. P. Beverlin. School trustees, H. Freyman, W. Ducat, G. Eiting, H. Voglesong, W. C. Peters, and John Haen.

*Pioneers.*—Henry Shaw came from Virginia in 1829, and entered eighty acres in the south-

east corner of Section 30. He is said to have been the first settler of the township, and to have done the first clearing of any resident. Some clearing—about thirty acres—was done in Section 30, before the coming of Shaw, by a German, who came from the East and disappeared after a short stay. Besides clearing the thirty acres, the mysterious visitor "deadened" a large area of timber, and the tract has since been known, in the neighborhood as "The Dutchman's Deadening." Shaw moved to Indiana along in the "fifties," where he later served in the State Senate. His son, Henry, who was born in Henry township, has been twice amember of the Indiana House of Representatives.

George Carrel, who was born in Westmoreland county, Penn., and who had been a resident for some time in Richland county, Ohio, entered 120 acres in Section 33, in 1832, and there he died in 1846. To Mr. and Mrs. Carrel nine children were born, only two of whom now survive—Elizabeth, wife of Capt. Howard, of Findlay, and an ex-army officer and an ex-treasurer of Hancock county, and Henry Carrel, now of Hancock county, who was a commissioner of Wood county from 1875 to 1881. For many years Henry Carrel lived in Henry township. In 1884, having met reverses of fortune, he went to South Dakota, where he remained four years. In 1889 he returned to Ohio, and settled on a fine farm three miles from McComb. Lewis F. Lambert came to Wood county with the Carrels in 1832. At that time he was fifty years old, and had served sixteen years as a sailor in the Russian navy. In an engagement with a ship of France, a mast, in the top of which Lambert was at work, was cut down by a cannon ball with the result of precipitating the sailor violently to the deck of the vessel, and fracturing his skull so severely that he never fully recovered.

Charles Grant, a native of Massachusetts, who had resided in Richland county for a time, became a settler in 1834, taking up forty acres in Section 34. He died in 1892, leaving two sons—Henry, a lumber dealer of North Baltimore, and Samuel, a farmer living near Alma. Adam and Daniel Crosser were also from Richland county, coming in 1834. Adam entered eighty acres in Section 35, and Daniel forty acres in Section 34. Adam went to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1854, and Daniel died in Henry township in 1870, his widow following him in 1890.

Nelson Copus and Reason Copus were from Richland county, coming in 1835. Nelson entered 120 acres in Section 36, and made his home there until 1866, when he removed to Tennessee.

In 1830 he established a gristmill on the bank of Portage river (Rocky Ford branch), within the present limits of North Baltimore. In Tennessee, Mr. Copus established a mill on a larger scale, which he conducted until he was overtaken by financial reverses. In 1874, he returned to Wood county, and settled near Bradner, where he died, in 1876. Reason Copus entered eighty acres in Section 36, and died there in 1860. Amos Jones was a New Englander who took up eighty acres in Section 26, in 1835. He remained until 1840, when he removed to Michigan. Newell Bills was a resident of the township about fourteen years, and occupied forty acres in Section 35. He went to Nebraska in 1850. Tobias and Moses Shellenbarger came from Richland county, in 1835, and entered land in Section 34. Many years ago they removed from Wood county, and are now living near Coldwater, Michigan.

Jabez Bell, a native of New Jersey, settled in Henry township about 1836, taking up forty acres in Section 35. In 1849 his son was crushed under a falling tree one Sunday morning, while coon-hunting, and soon after Mr. Bell died. His home was the principal stopping place for travelers. Being a joiner, he made coffins as well as doors, window-sash, looms, tables and bedsteads, dealt in tools, and, moreover, was the principal arbitrator in neighborhood misunderstandings. The family then moved to Richland county. James Howard was a Kentuckian, who settled on 160 acres in Section 26, in 1836. In 1853 he removed to Hancock county after the death of his wife. Richard Morgan came from Morgan county, Ohio, in 1836, and entered forty acres in Section 34. A few years later he joined the Mormons and went west. In the historic fight at Nauvoo, Ill., he was badly injured, and, when the Mormons were driven out of Illinois, he went with them, crossing the Mississippi river on the ice.

Adam Rail was a New Yorker who came to the new township, in 1838, and entered eighty acres in Section 34. All further record of him is unobtainable.

Henry McCauley was an almost direct arrival from Ireland in 1838. He entered eighty acres in Section 34, and remained there until 1848, when he removed to near Fostoria, where he died. He was the father of Judge McCauley, of Tiffin, and of three daughters, all of whom were school teachers, and are now dead. Jonathan Wells was one of the early settlers, but there is no further record of him than that he entered 120 acres in Section 25, about 1838. Joshua Bartlett, the blacksmith, had a shop in the forest;

Joseph Gobel, who lived with 'Squire Bell, was a noted sower of grain and breaker of oxen, while Travis, Scott, Purkey, Morrow, Deming, Roberts, and Caskey, were equally staunch pioneers of this township.

*Land Buyers.*—The first purchasers of government land in Henry, who located their cabins in this county, are named as follows:

Samuel McCrory, E. S. E. Sec. 1, Nov. 29, 1833.  
 Thomas Calahan, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 4, Nov. 10, 1836.  
 Benjamin S. Read, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 12, Oct. 28, 1833.  
 Michael Longacre, W. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 14, May 13, 1839.  
 David Ackerman, E. N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 14, Oct. 12, 1836.  
 Uriah M. Franks, W. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 23, March 24, 1834.  
 Reuben Franks, E. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 23, March 24, 1834.  
 Christopher Miller, E. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 23, Feb. 17, 1836.  
 James Copus, E. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 25, Aug. 27, 1831.  
 Wesley Copus, N. W. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 25, June 14, 1834.  
 William Wiley, E. N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 27, Jan. 9, 1834.  
 Samuel Cross, W. N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 31, Dec. 13, 1836.  
 Stephen Arnold, S. W. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 31, ret. for tax in 1853.  
 Elias Price, S. E. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 32, Nov. 19, 1838.  
 George Carrel, S. E. of S. E. S. 33, Sep. 21, 1832.  
 Lewis S. Lambert, N. E. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 34, April 26, 1833.  
 Simeon Archer, W. S. W. S. 35, May 2, 1833.  
 Thomas Metcalf, E. N. E. W. S. 35, Aug. 23, 1833.  
 Nelson Copus, N. E. N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 36, June 14, 1834.  
 Henry and William Campbell, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 24, Sep. 17, 1834.  
 Andrew Campbell, N. of S. W. and N. of S. E. S. 24, Sep. 17, '34.  
 Hugh Campbell, N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 24, Sep. 17, 1834.  
 Henry Shaw, E. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 36, Feb. 21, 1831.

*Voters of 1839.*—The thirty male inhabitants of the township, over twenty-one years of age, in 1839, are named as follows: Hiram Bigelow, Henry Beeson, Jabez Bell, Joshua Bartlett, Newell Bills, Daniel Crosser, John Crosser, Adam Crosser, George Carrel, Nelson Copus, John Gobel, Charles Grant, Lewis Jones, Levi Jones, John Kelley, Lewis Lambert, Samuel McCrory, David Morrow, Christopher Miller, R. C. Morgan, Edwin Musgrove, William Musgrove, Francis Oetny, David Ackerman, Jacob Auviter, Christopher Rail, Henry Shaw, Moses Shellenbarger, Tobias Shellenbarger, Richard B. Wall.

The men named opened the forest to civilization, and must undoubtedly be credited with making the beginnings of this advanced division of the county. A number of these were present when the township was organized and, for years afterward, took an active interest in public affairs, as well as in the agricultural development of their township.

*First Things.*—The first death was that of a child of George E. Carrel, in 1833. The first marriage in the township was that of Samuel Howard and Elizabeth Carrel, in 1836. The first frame house was erected by George Carrel on Section 35, in 1842. The first store was started by Samuel McCrory at Woodbury, in the extreme northeastern corner of the township, in 1837, and Mr. McCrory was the first postmaster

and the first hotel keeper. The first physician was Dr. William Wiley, who came from Fairfield county in 1840, and settled in Section 26. He married a daughter of Jabez Bell, and moved to the vicinity of Lincoln, Neb., in 1850. The first gristmill was established in 1834, by John Beeson, on the bank of the Portage river (Rocky Ford), within the present limits of North Baltimore. It was at first run by horse power, but was later changed to a water-mill. Thomas Whitelock carried it on in later years until it was abandoned. John Beeson built a mill also on Ten-Mile creek, which he carried on until his removal to Wisconsin, where he died years ago. The first orchards planted were those of George Carrel, Charles Grant and Tobias and Moses Shellenbarger. These were planted in 1835, the stock coming from Jonathan Chapman, of Mansfield, known to fame as "Johnny Appleseed," who is said to have traveled a great deal over this country in the early days, in an engagement of starting orchards and sowing the seeds of medicinal plants for the benefit of posterity. The first road was one of the traces of the army of Gen. Hull. When the army entered what is now Henry township, it traveled on both sides of the Portage river, or Rocky Ford as it is called. Near the Bloom township line, the section of the army on the east bank crossed over and joined that on the west. A remarkable fact about the traces is that nothing will grow in them except coarse grass, until they are plowed.

In the early history of the township the deer, wild turkey, raccoon, bear, muskrat, wolf and lynx were often to be encountered. B. L. Peters was the last to kill a lynx in Henry township.

*Schools.*—A. T. Glaze, writing from Murray, Neb., to *The Times*, under date July 22, 1895, says:

The first school in Henry township was taught in her own house, for one dollar a week, by "Aunt Charity" Kelly, wife of John Kelly, daughter of John Beeson. Let me say here, parenthetically, from which you may make local mention, if you desire, that "Aunt Charity" Kelly, one of the best of God's noble women, long one of the residents of Wood and Hancock counties, died of cancer at Okonee, Neb., on July 12, 1895, at the age of eighty-six years. Everybody in your locality, in the olden time, knew her as "Aunt Charity." She, with her husband, John Kelly, lived on what was the Jim Howard place, and there she taught school for one dollar a week, the first school in the township. The first school house was at the corner east of the above, and John Dye, of Van Buren, was the first teacher in it. Subsequently that school house was moved to near Thos. McClintock's, half a mile north, and the writer of these lines taught the first school in it at the new location. The school house, not far from the junction of Portage and Ten Mile, was built long after the above. Henry Carrel went to school, and taught in it and knows about it. Amos Roberts, Aaron Howard and Garner Whitelock were among the early teachers.

In a paper on this subject, prepared by Mr.

Marron, and published in *The Times*, in 1895, it is said:

Old residents disagree when and where the first school was held. B. L. Peters says Mark Thompson was the first teacher; that his temple of learning was in Section 26, and that the term began and ended in 1836. Henry Carrel says the first school house was established in 1839, in the south-west corner of Section 24, on the John Davis land, now owned by the Standard Oil Company, and that the first teacher was John Dye, of Hancock county, who originally came from Virginia. One referred to the first school which was probably held in a private house, and the other to the first school. The first school consisted of about 25 or 26 pupils, and the compensation of the teacher was "ten dollars a month and board around."

A valuable paper on the early schools of this township was found among documents in the auditor's office, in May, 1895. It is the school census of 1842.

The enumeration made in October, 1842, by Newell Bills, then township clerk, gives the following names of pupils in the four school districts of that period:

*District No. 1.*—James, Samuel, Daniel, Lewis, Elizabeth, Hannah, and Lida Ann McCrory; Sarah, Susannah, Almena and Rachel Roberts; John, William and Christian Freyman; Douglas, Martha and Lucy Bigelow; George and Elizabeth Lininger; George A. Longaker; Henry and Frederick Hannen; Jacob, Frances and Mary Aukerman, and Michael Anviter. Total, 21.

*District No. 2.*—Amos and Hannah Jones; John, James and Mary McCauley; William, Henry and Josiah Boyer; John, Mary and Emily Miller; Mary and Lydia Ann Atteney; Betsey, Julia Ann and Daniel Musgrove; Abzada Morrow, and James, Charles and Cornelius Howard. Total, 19.

*District No. 3.*—Robert, Jesse, Martha, Lucy and Anna Caskey; John, Jalson, Mary and Margaret Rayt. Total, 9.

*District No. 5.*—Stephen, Albert N. and Sarah W. Bills; Orwell and Delight Morgan; Esther, Harriet, Catherine and Belinda Grant; Henry, Peter, George, Almira and Emiline, children of Tobias Shellenbarger; Christian, Mary and Catherine Crosser, children of Daniel; Joseph (son of John) Crosser; Samuel, Philip, Jacob, Mary, Sophia and Susan, children of Moses Shellenbarger; John, David, James, Tobias, Lydia, Amy, Margaret, Nancy and Elizabeth, children of Mary Lincicum; Henry and Isabel Carrell; Cynthia, John, Ann and Maria Dickerson; Lewis, Stephen, Marg't, Betsey, Hettie, Barbara, Cassia and Mary Jane Crosser, children of John Crosser; Daniel, Silas, Lewis, Delilah and Betsey, children of Adam Crosser; William, Jacob, Matthew, John, James D., Susannah, Christiana, Elizabeth, Margaret and Rebecca, children of Matthew Scott; Betsey and Melia, children of Thomas White-

lock; Jacob Copus, and Jabez Bell's children—Miranda, Phoebe and Jane Bell. Total, 65.

*Hunters.*—A reference to the general history of the county will tell of the early hunters. Here a reference may be made to a hunt of 1843. One morning Lycurgus and Josiah Millbourn started for the windfall in the southern part of Liberty township, to hunt coon; there had been a slight fall of snow the night before. They soon struck a bear trail; the tracks showed that one old bear and three cubs had passed along the trail. The hunters determined to get more help before pursuing the game. They got a large white dog of Samuel McCrory, that was "game;" at Peter Freyman's they got two more dogs, five in all. Uncle Peter loaded up his double-barrel gun, and went along. Near where the Magill school house now stands, the dogs treed two of the cubs. When the hunters came up, the bears commenced to back down the tree; Josiah Millbourn now sent a bullet through the head of one of the bears; Lycurgus shot the other, breaking the jaw. A lively fight then took place, between the wounded bear and the five dogs, but another shot soon settled the cub. Upon following the trail of the old bear, they found that she had made a circle and had stood up, with her forepaws, on a log and witnessed the fight, but she soon took to flight. The cubs were the size of a large dog, and were fine meat.

As has been stated, B. L. Peters killed the last lynx seen within the limits of Henry township. It was a great preserve for large game until the sawmill and railroad men appeared in the woods, and, even later, the hunter could find profitable employment until the oil men dashed impetuously through the township.

*Villages.*—The villages of the township, outside North Baltimore, are Eberly, an oil town; Hammansburg, a sawmill and stave village; Denver, an oil town; Lawrence, a railroad station, about two miles north of North Baltimore; and the new hamlet called "Slabtown," near the northern township line.

Hammansburg was surveyed by W. H. Wood, for William Hammond and Jacob Ackerman, February 28, 1873. It became at once the seat of the stave manufacturing industry, and a factor in clearing the land of its thick covering of burr-oak, elm, hickory, white-ash, sycamore and walnut. On April 14, 1885, Foster & Noble's stave works were burned, \$15,000 worth of property destroyed, and forty persons left without employment. The Fulton well, which came in on December 8, 1886, caused a stampede to this part of the township, and introduced an era in which

the old lumber industry played but an insignificant part. In May, 1876, the post office of Woodbury was moved to Hammansburg.

Denver was surveyed by David Donaldson for George D. Chase, in April, 1875, on the line of the B. & O. railroad, one mile west of North Baltimore. The latter village had the start, built no less than 102 dwellings in the two years preceding April, 1875, and continued in the path of progress without recognizing the new town of Denver, which became less as the older town increased. The Denver well, drilled in 1889, won attention for the village, and it is said yielded \$84 per diem to the owner of the town from its production.

Eberly is an oil town with its main street lined, on each side, by frame cottages. In the oil belt, and at the same time, the center of a rich agricultural district, it is a busy hamlet.

Slabtown is a modern place in point of time, but very ancient in its conveniences, and in the manners, customs and habits of its residents. The oil development of 1895, and the establishment of the Burnett sawmill in the vicinity, must be credited with the existence of such a hamlet.

Woodbury.—In May, 1876, Woodbury post office was discontinued. It was established in Bloom township, in 1835, with Samuel Heller in charge. He lived on the farm which S. Hamman owned in 1876, while yet the office was called "Rocky Ford." A few years later, it was moved to McCrory's tavern, or Woodbury, where Gen. Thompson attempted to establish a town. Joseph Thompson was appointed postmaster, but he was succeeded by Samuel McCrory. In 1858, Joseph Madden succeeded McCrory, and the office was moved to the Madden cabin, one mile south of the tavern. Chauncey Gordon, named in the history of Bowling Green, was the mail-carrier. For weeks the sack would be empty, so that on one occasion, McCrory mailed a chip, which proved a turning point in the fortunes of the office; for every mail afterward brought a letter.

The Frame House at Woodbury was built by Gen. Thompson, as the first house on the town site, on the Liberty side. A log house for store purposes was built on the Henry side, in 1835, wherein Joseph Thompson kept store. Neither of the buildings are standing, fire having reduced them to ashes. A number of stories are told about the Frame House, not the least of which relates to its habitation by witches. It was at one time occupied by John Clever and his sister; at another time by equally notorious citizens until fire swept it away. It was reported that a peddler

named Nimms was killed there, and that his spirit haunted the place.

*Churches.*—The first religious impressions were made by the Mormon missionaries late in the "thirties," when one or more families embraced Joseph Smith's teachings and accompanied their teachers to Illinois.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, which was organized in the winter of 1846-47, was the first church in the township. The first meeting was held at the house of James Howard, in Section 26, and the first members were Charles and Mrs. Grant, Thomas and Mrs. McClintock, James and Mrs. Howard, and some few others whose names can not now be recalled. There was no minister at that time, and the members would take turns in preaching.

Mount Harmon Society, of the Evangelical Association, in Henry township, was organized in June, 1883, the signers of the articles being H. W. Sterling, Fergus Hughes, Catherine Sterling, Elizabeth Sterling, Anton Sieber, D. S. Thrush and Barbara Siver.

The United Brethren Church, southwest of Hammansburg, has, like that of the Methodist and Evangelical, a house of worship and a small membership.

In the old villages of Hammansburg and Denver, classes of one church or another have been organized and disbanded, and re-organized and disbanded. Secret societies, too, have grown up for a season and fallen to decay. In religious matters it is now difficult to tell where the Christian ends and the pagan begins; for, in this township, a large number of the inhabitants revel in adiaphorism.

*Oil and Gas.*—Henry township, since 1886, has been chiefly noted as an oil field, and to the discovery of gas and oil it owes its remarkable growth of the last decade. The first oil well was struck in 1886 on a lot now known as the Madden property, on Second street, in North Baltimore. The well, which was owned by a company of local men, was tubed June 10, 1886, and, though there was a fair flow of oil for a time, it did not prove as prolific as was expected. The first big well was the Fulton on the Fulton farm, three miles north of North Baltimore. The flowing commenced on December 8, 1886, and was estimated at seven hundred and twenty barrels a day. The Fulton proves the best paying well ever drilled in the township, and is still a good producer. In 1887 the Henning well, which flowed five hundred barrels a day at the start, was drilled, and was soon followed by the Fanny Peters well No. 1, on the Fanny Peters farm,



about one-quarter of a mile east of the Fulton well. The latter was good for two hundred barrels a day, and is still a fair producer. From this well was taken the first oil put into the tanks. Several hundred oil wells have been drilled since 1886, and some of them are prolific producers, which have enriched, and are enriching, many men who were poor ten years ago, and scarcely dreamed of the good fortune in store for them. The first gas well in Henry township was the Peters well, drilled by C. C. Conroy, on the Peters farm, within the limits of North Baltimore. Gas was struck in October, 1886, at a depth of 1,128 feet, and about twenty-one feet in the Trenton rock. Its flow was estimated at the start at 3,590,000 cubic feet. Twenty-four gas wells have been drilled within the corporation in all, and all are owned by the village. In 1890 the original well was a good producer, while the newer wells gave promise of immense supplies of fuel. The Enterprise Window Glass Works, the Zihlman Flint Glass Works and the North Baltimore Bottle Works were suggested by the Conroy developments, and the enterprise of the townspeople did the rest. Indeed, it is questionable if that enterprise did not lead to the development of the oil reservoirs of the township; for in 1885 the capitalists of the village began to organize for work.

#### NORTH BALTIMORE.

The town of North Baltimore may be said to have been suggested by the construction of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad. Though a gristmill was constructed within its present boundaries, as early as 1834, by Thomas Whitelock—though the pioneers of Secs. 26 and 35 appeared in the wilderness at that time, and notwithstanding the fact that such men as B. L. Peters, Levi Tarr, Jacob Dirk and George Franks had occupied the site for many years—nothing was done toward town-building until the iron way had been placed, and the whistle of the locomotive had reminded the land owners of their opportunity and of their duty. On April 25, 1874, the plat of the village of New Baltimore was recorded for B. L. Peters, the owner. On the day after, F. J. Frazier's survey of Tarr's addition was filed for record; then followed the plat of Jacob Dirk's addition and many others, until at one time it would appear as if the town builders would cover all Henry township with survey stakes and buildings, so great were their ambitions, and so thorough their faith in the location. The first enumeration for the United States Census, made in 1880,

credited the village with 701 inhabitants; in 1890 the population was 2,857.

The petition of eighty-one residents for the incorporation of North Baltimore was presented December 10, 1875, by H. P. Eaton and W. L. Yates. The commissioners granted the prayer of the petitioners on February 7, 1876. In 1887, a good deal of territory was annexed, and since that time many blocks have been surveyed and built upon.

The mayors of the village since 1876 are named as follows: B. L. Peters, 1876 to 1878, and 1880 to 1882; L. D. Arnold, 1878 to 1880, and 1882 to 1884; H. H. Bordman, 1884 to 1886; Dr. William T. Thomas, 1886 to 1890, and 1894 to 1896; Frank P. Clark, 1890 to 1892; H. L. Huddle, 1892 to 1894; and Dr. M. D. Reasoner, 1896.

The clerks of the village from 1876 to 1896 are named in the following list: William T. Thomas, 1876; G. B. Smith, 1878; J. B. Wilson, 1880; T. W. Carr, 1882; J. W. Hughes, 1883; J. R. Turnpugh, 1884; I. M. Justice, 1888; J. K. Willick, 1890-96. It is said that G. B. Smith filled the office of clerk between 1886 and 1888, but the ordinance book does not show the name at that time. The election of April, 1895, resulted in a tie vote for E. S. Anderson (R.) and G. W. Ewing (D.), each receiving 153. Lots were drawn to decide the election, when E. S. Anderson won, and he was re-elected in 1896.

The election of councilmen, in 1895, resulted in the choice of J. H. Pote, who received 209 votes; S. P. Beverlin, 167; G. S. Chase, 181; and W. S. Decker, 108. All are Republicans. The highest Democratic vote cast was 107 for John Schatzel, and the highest Prohibition vote was 46 for W. P. Whitzel. The council of Centennial year comprised John Tarr, D. Dillinger, M. E. Pease, Solomon Zarbaugh, A. Barnd and N. B. Holdsworth. In 1896, D. J. Sloan, Henry Campbell, Hugh Campbell and William Rodgers were elected councilmen.

The gas trustees, elected in 1895, were J. B. Dirk, G. W. Wilkinson and P. W. Connell, all Republicans. One Democrat, R. J. Hindall, was chosen as cemetery trustee, receiving 186 votes, against 158 cast for his Republican opponent.

Paul Hough, the first treasurer, was succeeded by Mahlon Carr, he by Jeff. Richcreek, the treasurer in 1895, and he by J. W. Borough, elected in 1896.

The marshals have been S. Zimmerman, George Mills, A. DeLong, W. H. Kratz (two terms), John W. Weaver, Charles Zorn, John



Coleman, Jacob H. Helfrich, William McCurdy, and Scott Reese, who was elected in 1896.

In 1896, G. C. Dotson and Frank Helfrich were elected members of the school board.

The principal acts of the council embrace the purchase of the Conroy, Duke & Myers gas plant, or, rather, their interests in the Peters lease, with its equipment, June 18, 1887, for \$10,000, when Mayor Thomas and others urged the passage of a special act to enable the village to invest \$12,000 in gas works; the building of the City Hall in 1890, for \$5,925; the pavement of Broadway and other streets in 1892-93; the construction of main sewers, authorized in August, 1892; and the construction of water works in 1890. The tax levy in June, 1894, was twelve mills. This included three mills for light, three and one-fourth for sinking-fund, and three for water. The paving and sewerage of the town was carried out under the special assessment plan, on that very equitable basis which considered the benefits to the personal property owner as well as to the real-estate owner.

*First Things.*—The first newspaper, established in March, 1875, reached No. 27, of Vol. IV, before its removal to Bowling Green. It is referred to in the chapter on the Press, where the history of the modern newspapers of the village is given.

The first brick house, in the village or township, was that erected by John Schatzel in 1874. The first hotel was conducted by William Witten, where now stands the Smith-Child buildings. The first grain elevator was built in 1874 by the B. & O. Co., and the beginnings of New Baltimore were made before the name was changed to North Baltimore.

The railroads are referred to in the chapter on Highways, Railroads and Navigation. It may be stated here that the North Baltimore and Welker railroad was graded in 1893 by Hon. John J. Geghan, the object being to connect the C. H. & D. branch with the T. & O. C., and thus further the general interests of the town. A half mile of the road was made ready for the rails when the work was suspended.

*Schools.*—In 1860, the first frame school building in this township was erected on the site of the Dirk block, by B. L. Peters, contractor, at a cost of \$550. The contractor was the first teacher. In 1875 or 1876, that house gave way to a larger building, the construction of which angered many citizens who declared it too large and too expensive for the place. The first building was moved twice, and is now a dwelling house on Margaret avenue; the second is Shank &

Sponsler's wagon shop. In 1885, the first of the three large public-school houses, of the present day, was erected. Two modern buildings have been added until the actual value of school property to-day exceeds \$50,000. In April, 1895, the enrollment was 860. The first school board comprised George B. Smith, Thomas Witten, William Yates, George Barnd, L. D. Arnold and Jacob Katzenmeyer. In May, 1895, S. T. Reed, L. Wooster, Mrs. N. Schaffer, C. H. Stewart, L. D. Arnold and Miller, formed the board.

*Fire Department.*—A volunteer fire company was organized in 1877, with B. L. Peters, foreman. The village provided buckets, truck and hook and ladder. In 1882 a hose cart, with 500 feet of hose and a hand engine, was purchased. With this pretentious equipment the "Rescue Hooks" reorganized with I. M. Justice, chief engineer. In 1890, two trucks were added and Buckeye Hose Co. organized. Howard L. Lenhart is chief, with I. N. Tarr, the successor of B. L. Peters, assistant chief; G. W. Wilkinson, foreman of the hose company, and A. C. Baldwin, of the hook and ladder company. The two companies are quartered in the City Building.

*The Village of 1874.*—New Baltimore of October, 1874, was something above a hamlet and something below a small railroad town. The business houses were B. L. Peters' dry-goods store; E. W. Poe & Co's store; Henry & Tarr's drug store; Porter & Berger's hardware; John Schatzel's shoe store; Silas Grove's grocery store; Tarr & Weaver's blacksmith shop; L. D. Arnold's harness shop; Wm. Witten's boarding house; and Samuel Harry's hotel, with Dr. Eaton's gristmill, then building.

*The Post Office* was opened in August, 1874, with Lincoln P. Hudson, master, in E. W. Poe's store. Some short time after the daily East and West mail was established over the Baltimore & Ohio system, so that in more ways than one may the beginnings of this busy town be credited to its railroad advantages. The successors of Hudson in the office were Samuel M. Bower, Washington Young, John Cramer, Dr. H. P. Eaton (appointed in September, 1885, resigned in 1889), and Dr. W. T. Thomas. The present master, Capt. A. W. Adams, was commissioned at the beginning of President Cleveland's second administration. The office has 451 call and 250 lock boxes. In 1894 there were 2,450 money orders and 1,015 postal notes issued, the sale of stamps amounted to about \$4,200 and the total revenue to about \$4,800.

*Banks.*—The People's Bank was organized in 1888, when M. B. Waldo was cashier. As the

People's Banking Co., Lloyd Weisel was president; B. A. Lawrence, vice-president; and M. B. Waldo, cashier, and they, with F. P. Clark, Jacob Katzenmeyer, Jeremiah Foltz, G. W. Needles, J. E. Wilkison and S. W. Nigh, were directors. The firm retired from business in 1894, leaving the National Bank in possession of the field.

The First National Bank was organized June 13, 1890, with S. E. Niece, president; Jeff Richcreek, vice-president; L. Wooster, cashier; D. E. Peters, assistant cashier; and the president, vice-president, A. Emerine, B. L. Peters, Hugh Campbell, J. R. Rogers, and Andrew Schick, directors. The stockholders included the above named, with H. D. Stouffer, G. D. Chase, I. W. Richardson, W. F. Fry, S. B. Albertson, E. C. Showman, L. S. Lyon, John C. Peters, F. Taylor, Michael Arverter, R. Crocker, Joseph Madden, Jacob Dirk and A. L. Pfau. On October 1 business was commenced in the Richcreek Block, pending the completion of their bank building. The only change made in officials was in January, 1892, when A. Emerine succeeded Mr. Niece as president. The bank building was erected in 1890-1, at a cost of \$16,000.

*The Henry Opera House* was built in 1888, for Dr. A. G. Henry. The fire of March 1, 1894, destroyed that building, entailing a loss of \$25,000. Undaunted, the owner caused the debris to be cleared away, plans to be made and building to be inaugurated, and before the close of the year a house, capable of seating 1,000 persons, heated by steam, lighted by electricity, and well arranged in every particular, was opened to the public. This theatre forms a part of the Henry Block, a three-story brick building, with stone trimmings. From 1873 to 1894 Dr. Henry conducted a large drug business here.

*The North Baltimore Electric Light Co.* is another creation of this enterprising physician. The plant was constructed in 1890-91 for Dr. Henry, and now furnishes about 100 arc and 1,500 incandescent lights.

*The North Baltimore Gas and Oil Co.*—On August 13, 1885, the North Baltimoreans had subscribed \$600 toward drilling a well for gas to a depth of 1,000 feet. Aaron Barnd, Jefferson Richcreek, G. G. Rockwell, A. J. Harmon, M. M. Carr, L. D. Arnold and George Franks being the first on the list. On November 12, the *Beacon* appealed to the people to subscribe funds, promising them, if gas were found, a period of great progress. By November 26, the names of B. L. Peters, A. G. Henry, B. A. Lawrence, Isaac Taylor, W. O. Lawrence, G. G. Rockwell,

Doherty & Kile, S. M. Bower, D. Dillinger, M. M. Carr, A. J. Harmon, George Franks, John Dirk, A. B. Smith, and Aaron Barnd were affixed to a subscription paper for \$100 each. H. L. Huddle, Jacob Dirk, C. J. Bushong, J. A. Hough, J. Katzenmeyer, John Cramer, John A. Sutton, James A. Gibson and Jeff. Richcreek were added, and the North Baltimore Gas and Oil Co. was organized, early in 1886, with Aaron Barnd, president; Dr. A. G. Henry, vice president; John A. Sutton, secretary; John Cramer, treasurer, and Jeff. Richcreek, manager. The work of drilling commenced March 18, 1886. On April 22, the drill opened a gas vein at 600 feet; on the 29th the reservoir was tapped, but on June 29 the well showed twenty barrels of oil as well as gas. This was on Lot 88, original town of North Baltimore. It was plugged, and has remained so.

*Great Industries.*—The pioneer manufacturing industry was Whitelock's gristmill of 1834, which stood on the bank of Rocky Ford. It was operated by horse-power until a dam was built and a water-wheel introduced, and continued for many years the only industry of the kind in that neighborhood.

The North Baltimore Roller Mills were built by Dr. Eaton, in 1874, with a capacity of 100 barrels a day. In 1880, G. G. Rockwell purchased the mills, changed the buhrs for a complete set of Barnard & Lee's machinery, and made it a modern milling concern.

The development of the gas field brought hither new industries, such as the Zihlmann Glass Co., employing 200 hands and producing 1,000 drinking glasses or tumblers a day (it was partly destroyed by fire December 15, 1895); the Bartelle Furniture Co., with their great buildings and kilns, their large force of workmen and local stockholders, such as Aaron Barnd, L. Weisel, R. Shoemaker and T. J. Adams; the Hardy Machine Co., of which D. M. Murphy is president, James Hardy, secretary, and Dennis O'Brien, treasurer, with their immense plant and large force of skilled mechanics; the Central Pressed Brick Co., who employ eighty-five men, and produce 8,000,000 bricks annually; the Bottle Glass Co., employing 125 men, and producing carloads of bottles, fruit jars and carboys; and a number of smaller concerns have been established here since 1887. The presence of gas and oil for fuel, and remarkable railroad facilities, were the magnets which attracted them. The scarcity of gas and the high price of oil threatened these industries early in 1895, and drove the manufacturers to consider the possibility of having to seek other fuels. With the prospects

of ascetylene, electricity and extensions of the gas and oil fields, presented later in the year, they learned that the tricky gas field was not their sole hope.

*Fires.*—The first fire in the town occurred in 1875 when the drug store of Henry & Tarr and the dwelling house of Mr. Bachtel, both located on south Main street, were entirely consumed. The fire of January 21, 1885, originated in Dr. Henry's drug store, which it destroyed, with Dillinger & Fielding's market, C. M. Justice's tobacco store, and other property. On February 23, the grocery store of Randal Hale, and the shoe shop of John Tice, were destroyed, while, on the 25th, the school building at Denver was burned. Following these, the dwellings of John Caskey, one and one-half miles west, and of Samuel Harry and George Presler, were destroyed. In November, 1886, the Hale Building, and in December, 1886, Dr. Henry's residence, were burned.

The fire of March 24, 1888, destroyed property valued at \$26,000, including Dr. Henry's opera hall and furniture, \$5,500; G. F. Brenner's dry-goods stock, \$3,000; Richcreek's loss, \$1,000; Luckey & Ward's damage, \$500; Knoke & Dirk's, \$300; S. M. Bower's, \$200; Charles Pifher's, \$2,000; W. I. Chalfant's, \$2,000; F. P. Clarke's, \$7,500; W. J. Hutton's, \$1,500, and Dr. Reddin's, \$2,500. In April, 1888, the work of rebuilding the burned district was inaugurated by James A. Gibson, D. Dillinger, Nigh Brothers, Chalfant, Hutton, Clarke and the B. & O. Railroad Co.; so that before the close of the year a number of modern houses were given to the town.

The fire of October 30, 1891, swept away 35 buildings, on Main street, between the railroad and Broadway, in the heart of the town, doing for it comparatively what the fire of October, 1871, did for Chicago—wiping out old buildings (erected at a cost of \$51,000), and making way, within one year, for twenty-seven buildings (which cost \$129,000) on Main street, as well as for many residences on other streets. The large buildings, erected prior to October 30, 1892, and the cost of each are named as follows: J. A. Gibson, \$8,000; A. Emerine, \$7,000; A. St. Amant, \$4,000; G. W. Franks, \$4,000; D. E. Childs, \$4,000; Mrs. H. L. Smith, \$8,000; J. Katzenmeyer, \$4,000; M. B. Waldo, \$4,000; George Pitcher, \$4,000; Joseph Magrum, \$2,500; L. D. Arnold, \$2,500; S. W. Nigh, \$2,500; F. Snyder, \$2,500; S. T. Reed, \$3,000; John Loudon, —; Presbyterian Church, \$5,000; Mrs. Grosser, —; N. Bedell, \$1,000; Horace Bechtel, \$2,000; John

Bartz, \$2,000; George Shannon, \$1,000; Daniel Dillinger, \$7,000; McClaran heirs, \$6,000; F. P. Clarke, \$5,000; Hotel Columbia, \$15,000; People's Bank, \$17,000, and Charles Pifher, \$8,000.

The fire of December 15, 1895, resulting from an explosion of a gas meter in the Zihlmann Glass works, destroyed property valued at \$25,000, and caused the death of Andrew Beary, one of the expert workmen.

*The Board of Trade* was organized in the fall of 1892 with the following named directors: D. E. Peters, A. L. Pfau, G. W. Ewing, James Loe, M. I. Sponsler, Aaron Barnd, W. D. Richardson, Dr. A. G. Henry, C. P. Jones, H. D. Stouffer and Jeff Richcreek. Among the unofficial members were Dr. Eaton, Samuel Hamman, J. M. Beckett, D. J. Sloan, Geo. W. Wilkinson, McPherson & Co., Hugh Campbell, U. A. Long, Henry Pressler, Spitler Bros., A. N. Kaley, J. F. Kile, H. Netzorg, Frank Taylor, Exline & Connell, H. L. Huddle, J. H. Chapman, G. G. Rockwell, Dr. E. E. Fuller, B. A. Lawrence, John Shatzel, J. E. Shatzel, M. B. Waldo, J. H. Helfrich, S. P. Harrison, J. W. Bushong, J. C. Knoke, D. E. Peters, P. W. Connell, C. M. Justice, Samuel Knight, W. M. Northrup, E. R. Dean, H. J. Everett, J. P. Rampe, W. H. Hough, W. J. Christie, Daniel Dillinger, Dr. C. P. Jones, L. D. Langmade, B. J. Hughes, A. W. Adams, M. E. Dirk, I. W. Richardson, S. W. Nigh, A. F. Swineheart, I. M. Justice, Bedall & Wiley, W. R. Martin, Peter Gobel, Charles Leathers, G. B. Smith, John Cramer, Frank Snyder, L. W. DeLong and Martin Matturn. Levi Wooster was elected president; J. J. Geghan, secretary; and Frank Clark, treasurer.

#### CHURCHES.

*The Church of Christ* may be said to have been organized in the "fifties," but it was not legally organized until November 1, 1875, when David H. Randall and Alvah Edgecomb were elected elders; John B. Zarbaugh and Jacob Priest, deacons, and D. Dillinger, A. G. Henry and John B. Zarbaugh, trustees. Dr. Eaton and others contributed funds. A house was built between Main and Tarr streets, south of the B. & O. track, near the old south cemetery. After two or three years, the Presbyterians purchased the house, and the Disciples ended.

*The United Brethren Church* was the first religious organization in North Baltimore. In January, 1861, a little band of men and women gathered and organized a church society, its first members being B. L. Peters and wife, William

Witten and wife, Mrs. Hutton, Mary Ausenburg and Mrs. Heminger. The Sabbath-school was organized June 17, 1862, and B. L. Peters was the first superintendent. The first regular sermon was preached by Rev. George French, in the school house in 1862. The society gradually grew in numbers, and in 1875 the present house of worship was erected on West Broadway, since which time it has been remodded and improved. This church building was the first one erected in North Baltimore. It was dedicated by Bishop Weaver, November 8, 1874. At that time the membership was less than thirty, while now it is over two hundred, and the enrollment of scholars is 200, with an average attendance of 150. Rev. Joseph Beaver was the first pastor, remaining in charge three years. The present pastor, Rev. Jacob Swinehart, has been here during the past three years. The property is valued at \$4,000.

*The Presbyterian Church.*—This society was organized in 1876, and its first members were Samuel Bowman, D. M. Wilson, — Bechtel, E. F. Rogers, Dr. McClaran, and their wives, and John Holiday. On November 5, 1876, articles of incorporation were filed by Messrs. Wilson, Davis and McClaran, trustees. The following year the society purchased the Disciples building, which stood near the old Bell cemetery on South street. Rev. P. C. Baldwin organized the society, and was its pastor for several years. In the spring of 1892, the church building was moved from South street to its present location on Tarr street, and was remodeled. The society owns a parsonage, and the property is valued at about \$9,000. The membership is about 140, and the enrollment of S. S. scholars, 200, with an average attendance of 120. J. W. Bushong was the S. S. superintendent, and Rev. L. L. Alspach was the pastor in 1895.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church.*—In February, 1878, this society was organized by Rev. Joshua M. Longfellow, its members being Michael Hill, Susan Tice, Samuel Smith, Eliza J. Smith, S. L. Edgar, Catherine Edgar, Samuel Shaffner, Mrs. S. Shaffner, Catherine Groves, Mary Thompson and Sarah Shiner. Rev. S. D. Shaffner was the first pastor. Services were held in the U. B. church until the society built a frame house on Water street—which is now used as the G. A. R. hall—in 1881–82, costing \$2,000. Rev. S. G. Reeder was then pastor. In 1888 a brick edifice was commenced on the corner of Second and Water streets, which was completed in 1891, and dedicated July 12, that year, Rev. A. A. Thomas being pastor. The parsonage was built at the same time the church was. The

present value of the church property is \$11,000. Rev. D. Bower is the pastor. The membership at the close of 1894 was 325.

*Free Methodist Church.*—In April, 1890, the Free Methodists organized their society with sixteen members, with Rev. S. K. Wheatly as the first pastor. Meetings were held for a year or more in Dillinger's hall and other places; then in 1891 a church building was erected on Beecher street, and was finished and dedicated September 2, of that same year, by Rev. E. P. Hart, of Alameda, Cal. The church property is valued at \$1,000. The present pastor is Rev. J. E. Williams. The membership is nearly thirty, and the school attendance averages fifty scholars.

*St. Augustine's Catholic Congregation* assembled in the City Building for worship, August 2, 1891, subsequently services were held in the Opera House until a house of worship was completed in December, 1892. It was dedicated in June, 1893, by Rt. Rev. Bishop Horstman, of Cleveland. Father Kress, of Bowling Green, who was instrumental in building the church, remained in charge of the parish until January 1, 1893, when Father I. J. Wonderly was appointed. He has liquidated a debt of \$500 on the building, besides furnishing the parsonage. The church is located on the corner of Second and Oak streets, and is valued at \$4,000. There are forty families belonging to St. Augustine's congregation.

*The First Baptist Church.*—On July 5, 1893, a class was formed with seven members: D. R. McGregor and wife, I. DeVaughn and two daughters, Matilda Reese and Maggie Small. The first meetings were held at the homes of the different class members. The first sermon was preached by Rev. Herbert Agate. On January 7, 1894, Rev. Dr. Leonard, of Norwalk, Ohio, organized the First Baptist Church Society, and he preached the first regular sermon, and since that time services have been held at the G. A. R. hall, by Rev. Leonard. The society has now sixteen members, and the school fifty-two scholars.

#### SOCIETIES.

*The North Baltimore Agricultural Association* leased twenty-five acres from George Franks in August, 1887, for fair and race track purposes. To this association may also be credited the street fair, which has become an annual meeting of some importance, much on the principle of European fairs. The fourth fair was held in August, 1895, the managers then being Charles Pifher, C. L. Huddle, B. B. Rockwell, F. P.

Clark and H. A. Konetzka. Mr. Rockwell was president, with E. H. Westenhaver, secretary, and F. P. Clark, treasurer. The horse and cattle exhibit was dispensed with in 1895, but many new attractions were introduced.

*The I. O. O. F., Rocky Ford Lodge, No. 647*, was the first secret society organized in North Baltimore or Henry township. It was instituted in July, 1870, and on March 29, 1879, was consolidated with Hayward lodge, of Van Buren. The lodge is called Hayward now; its number is 333, and it has seventy-six members. The charter members were: Allen Dorsey, Daniel Frick, John Haen, Lloyd Weisel, Edward Zarbaugh, William Campbell, Henry Campbell, E. W. Poe, J. W. Tarr, F. Goldner, L. D. Arnold, Jeff Richcreek, J. C. Shaffer, J. Salsbury, J. W. Bushong, Jacob Light, Michael Henning, Reuben Shoemaker, E. F. Rogers, G. W. Trout, Joseph Magrum, J. W. Coleman, T. C. Poe. The first noble grand was Jeff Richcreek, and the first permanent secretary, James Porter. In 1895 F. H. Braymer was noble grand.

*Marius Encampment, No. 196*, was instituted August 6, 1875. For a while it was broken up, but the charter was restored August 24, 1890, to Jeff Richcreek, E. F. Rogers, James C. Shaffer, J. W. Hughes, A. Shick, C. H. Ross, Frank Noble, S. B. Albertson, H. F. Neumann, James Dildine, W. S. Dildine, Samuel Seymour, J. W. Sharp, W. H. Kratz, O. E. Osborn, Charles Pifher, J. W. Coleman, John F. Kile, H. C. Grant, William E. Diebley and S. E. Niece. In 1895 M. E. Dirk was chief patriarch and W. M. McCoy, scribe.

*The Daughters of Rebekah*.—Oren Lodge, No. 380, was organized October 10, 1893. The charter members were: W. S. Dildine, Ann Dildine, Oren E. Osborn, Mollie J. Osborn, Henry Campbell, Rhody Campbell, John Apple, Margaret Apple, Belle Wagner, Frank Noble, Lottie Shuler and Sarah E. Harrison. In 1895 Mrs. Mollie Osborn was noble grand.

*North Baltimore Lodge, F. & A. M., No. 561*, was instituted in December, 1890, and chartered October 30, 1891. There are now forty-two members. B. J. Hughes was the first master, John F. Kile, the first senior warden, and Duncan J. Sloan, Jr., the first junior warden. The charter members were: W. D. Dougherty, John F. Kile, D. J. Sloan, H. G. Tussing, T. H. Johnson, Grant G. Huddle, J. H. Pote, T. H. Carter, Barrett J. Hughes, J. M. Elliott, Thomas Smith, T. W. Carr, S. M. Bower and M. B. Waldo. In 1895 I. W. Richardson, Jr., was master, with J. H. Pote, secretary.

*The Woodmen of the World*.—Columbia Camp, No. 17, was organized December 5, 1893. The charter members were E. L. Adams, D. C. Bricker, John Birk, L. U. Colwell, Leonard Fromer, C. L. Huddle, Ralph Henning, Fred Moeck, J. F. Nass, Jacob Plocher, Frank W. Rose, John Sisa, W. C. Schever, W. T. Thomas, Jacob Tome, Ernest Vorback, A. A. Wrede and W. J. White. In 1895 John Naas presided, with L. J. Bacome, secretary.

*Baltimore Tent, No. 84, K. O. T. M.*, was organized June 10, 1890, with the following named officers in tent rank: H. J. Everitt, A. A. Thomas, H. Jacobson, William Wilson, J. Albans, C. W. Mann, V. Gray, A. G. Henry, J. W. Cushing, F. W. Flint, G. L. Monroe, S. Swartz and B. Netzorg. E. M. Pardee was commander in 1895.

*North Baltimore Hive, No. 51, L. O. T. M.*, was instituted November 22, 1894, with Caroline B. Young, Lou W. Fowler, Eliza Christie, Lillian A. Cove, Mary A. McGregor, Susan Eliza Whitzel, Sarah Womer, Ada A. Dittman, Margaret Anderson and Eliza J. Ferguson officers in order of Hive rank. Mrs. Adelle Trautman presided in 1895, with Sarah Womer record-keeper.

*The Knights of Pythias*, a strong organization, though young in years, was presided over in 1895 by J. S. Platte, with Dr. M. B. Reasoner keeper of records and seals.

*Sill Post, G. A. R., No. 57* was organized April 18, 1881, and named in honor of Joshua W. Sill, who commanded a brigade in Sheridan's division at Stone River, where he was killed December 31, 1862. The original members were E. W. Poe, Reuben Shoemaker, Harrison Downs, J. H. Monasmith, T. J. Campbell, John Heminger, Ira Grimes, George Chase, L. J. Bloom, George Colwell, Martin Lauck, J. S. Lauck, Washington Young, and Samuel Dissinger. E. W. Poe was the first commander, followed in 1882, by T. J. Campbell; 1883, J. A. Heminger; 1884 and 1892, Washington Young; 1885, J. B. Zarbaugh; 1886-87, W. S. Decker; 1888-89, J. W. Bender; 1890, Harrison Downs; 1893, John Baldwin; 1894, W. S. Decker; 1895, J. W. Bender and 1896, P. P. Shuler. The adjutants have been, Rueben Shoemaker, 1881; J. B. Zarbaugh, 1882 to 1884; Washington Young, 1885; J. B. Zarbaugh, 1886-87; D. A. Wilson, 1888; J. E. Hesse, 1889; W. S. Decker, 1891; J. W. Bender, 1892; W. S. Decker, 1895; and J. W. Bender, 1896. The number of members is twenty-five, of forty on the muster roll.

*The Woman's Relief Corps, Sill Corps, No.*

264, was instituted March 19, 1889. The first president was Mary E. Morgan; the first senior vice, Hannah Decker; and the first junior vice, Mary N. Heminger. The charter members were: Mary E. Morgan, Hannah Decker, Mary Ann Heminger, Nellie Simons, Mary Weaver, Carrie Weaver, Effie Decker, Elmira Bender, Julia Gibson, Sarah Downs, Phoebe Heminger, Wilda Arnold, Sarah Acker, Anna Dildine, Erwilda Taylor, Rachael A. Young, Mary Coleman, Mary G. Shade and Opal Baldwin. Mrs. Rebecca Somers presided in 1895, with Carrie Simon, secretary, while, in 1896, Sola Huber presided, with Phila Parker, secretary.

*The Sons of Veterans*, John Reed Porter Camp, No. 281, was organized June 21, 1888. In 1895, John B. Wilson was captain, and P. M. Bender, orderly sergeant.

*The Union Veterans' Union*, General Day Command, No. 54, was instituted in November, 1892. Thomas McKay was the first colonel, and John A. Smith the first lieutenant-colonel. The charter members are J. A. Smith, Sidney Lynn, John Dow, J. D. Burrell, John E. Mock, Charles Lano, W. N. Johnson, R. Shoemaker, J. H. Black, W. H. Harter, F. S. Probst, Ezekiel Steele, James E. Hess, Thomas McKay, John Hagen, William M. Maxwell and Jesse O'Hare. Col. J. D. Burrell was commander in 1895, with J. E. Mock, quartermaster.

*The Woman's Veteran Relief Union*, Mrs. Emma L. McKinney Post, No. 26, was instituted May 7, 1894, with the following charter members: Nora McKay, Julia Harter, Mary Lano, S. A. Smith, Fannie Smith, Sarah Fouts, Nellie Adams, Lorinda McNamara, Amanda Steele, Kate Harter, Mary A. Shoemaker, Jennie Powers, Jennie Riser, Lelia Freece, — Higgins, Emma McFall, Mattie McFall, Mary Chase, Nancy Steele and Eliza E. Wilson. In 1895, Mrs. Nora McKay was president, Mrs. Saloam Smith, secretary, and Mrs. Fannie Smith, treasurer.

*Timoleon Temple, Rathbone Sisters*, was presided over, in 1895, by Mrs. Elizabeth Reasoner, with Mrs. Phila Platte, recorder.

*The Equitable Aid Union*, of which G. B. Sawdy was chancellor, and Mrs. L. L. Burton, secretary, in 1895, is a beneficial organization with a fair membership.

*The Patriotic Order Sons of America*, Washington Camp, No. 76, was instituted June 22, 1893. The charter members were George B. Smith, L. Mosely, J. Durham, John Justice, A. C. Tussing, F. M. Justice, Curtis Baker, E. A.

Wolfe, Charles Himler, Edward Watterick, O. P. Kimball, John M. Durham, Ed. Harter, John Baker, Frank Smila, George Dissinger, E. Misamore, C. F. Wiley, H. G. Craun, Edward Nigh, Reuben Nigh, William Campbell, O. J. Corry, Jerry Kniseley, S. Chaney and George Riser. The president, in 1895, was L. Mosely, with A. A. Edwards, secretary.

*The Jr. O. U. A. M.*, North Baltimore Council, No. 301, was organized August 6, 1892. It has about fifty members now. The charter members were Frank Rudy, Jesse Baker, C. W. Buffington, G. W. Connell, William Credicott, C. A. Suttles, C. F. Wiley, J. H. Tilton, Clois Spitler, Frank S. Jones, J. E. Connell, George H. Males, William Lyon, G. W. Shadle and J. H. Jones. W. H. Sheller was councillor in 1895, with Isaac Moorhead, secretary.

*The Painters and Decorators' Union*, No. 188, was organized in September, 1890, with A. W. Orians, A. C. Tussing, W. M. Henning, T. D. Grant and C. M. Rumer, officials.

*The Bryant Guards*, or Company K, O. N. G., was mustered into the Second Regiment, August 5, 1895, to take the place of the Celina Company, just then disbanded. The officers are W. J. White, captain; Robert Jones, first lieutenant; E. B. Drake, second lieutenant; S. Wilson, first sergeant; Frank Wilson, second sergeant; Alex. Sloan, third sergeant, and Rudolph Lamfrom, fourth sergeant. Frederick Yeager and Ezra Wolf were appointed corporals. The company went into camp, with the Second Regiment, at Tiffin, in August, 1895, and at once made a favorable impression.

#### CONCLUSION.

The beginnings of the village are described in the history of Henry township, where mention is made of its pioneers and their institutions. The building of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, in 1874, introduced a new era in the southern townships of Wood county, and this town is a child of that era.

North Baltimore has no poetic features. Great stores and great industries take the place of Fancy's castles. It is a creation of commercial enterprise. Business and residence streets; business blocks in stone and brick; modern residences in brick and wood; commercial institutions; churches and schools—have all grown up within a quarter of a century, exemplifying what courage, linked with bold business policy, may accomplish. The modern town is scarcely a decade

old, but it is as precocious as it is young. Like other ambitious towns, it had its ups and downs, its fires, its periods of trade and financial depres-

sion and common disappointments, but it rose above all obstacles, and is to-day a progressive place.

## CHAPTER XXXIII.

### JACKSON TOWNSHIP.

POPULATION, GROWTH, ETC.—PIONEERS—THE LOST CHILD—A TRAGEDY—EARLY LAND BUYERS—NAMING THE TOWNSHIP—ORGANIZATION—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—SCHOOLS—HOYTVILLE—HAMLETS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES, ETC.

THE exterior lines of this division of the county were surveyed in 1819, and the section lines in 1821. The progress of Jackson township was very slow but very sure, down to 1870, when the population did not exceed 347. In 1840, the Census credits it with 26; in 1850, with 74; and in 1860, with 144. When the United States enumerators traversed the township in 1870, the agriculturist and lumberman had scarcely left an impression on the forest. Everything was primitive in the extreme. Within the ensuing decade, the population increased to 1,028 or nearly, but, even with the increase of workmen, the coming of a railroad and the establishment of a village, material improvement was still slow. In 1890 the number of inhabitants was found to be 1,587. The oilman and lumberman were among them, the former, like Ponce de Leon, searching for hidden wealth, the latter cutting down the great trees, and forming them into commercial shapes. Within the last half decade, the township has made very marked advances. Well cultivated farms and comfortable homes are now seen, where the forest stood a few years ago; log cabins are disappearing, and Jackson is preparing to take a place among the first townships of Wood county.

*Pioneers.*—The first settler in Jackson township was John Dubbs. He moved to Section 1 in the month of April, 1835. When he entered his land the previous year, it was occupied by several families of Ottawa Indians. They had several shanties which they occupied until Mr. Dubbs came. He moved into one of them with his family and occupied another for a stable, and he so lived until the following autumn, when he built a log house and moved into it. In the fall of 1835 three more families moved into the town-

ship—Samuel Bowman, Nicholas Crist and widow Crist and family. They settled in the vicinity of what is now known as Hoytville. In the spring of 1836, Peter Hockenberry, the great hunter, settled here. He has been known to take on an ox-cart as high as four hundred dollars worth of bear, deer, wolf, fox, wild-cat, coon, mink and other skins at one time, all of his own killing. He was a very eccentric man. He had a wife, but never had any children. He died in the "seventies" at McComb, Hancock county, aged eighty-five years. A short time before his death he told some of his attendants that he had buried, in the roots of a large oak tree on his farm in Jackson township, over \$1,000 in gold and silver, but he could not describe the place accurately enough for them to find it. There was considerable search made but of no avail. From 1836 to 1839 some four or five more families settled in the township, among whom were the Dunns, the Apgers, Kagys, the Simmons, and E. Rowan. Rowan came from Maumee, and was the contractor of what was later known as the Duncan and Gibson big ditch, which was the first ditch that was built in the southwest part of the county. The intention was to drain what is now known as the Jackson Prairie, but the ditch was only sixteen feet in width, and, on an average, three feet in depth. It proved to be of no benefit for two reasons: it had no outlet, and its extent was so short that it overflowed its banks and did no perceptible good. Rowan built about three miles of said ditch at a great cost of money to his employers, and no profit to himself. He did all the excavation with men and spades. Plowing and scraping ditches was not then in fashion in Wood county. The price he got for digging was sixteen cents a yard, and the price of good ditchers a day was fifty cents.



*The Lost Child.*—The finding of the Frankfather girl, who wandered away from Bloom township into the Jackson wilderness, was one of the stirring incidents of pioneer days. She came into Dubbs' field one morning about eight o'clock where his children were digging potatoes. They brought her to the house and gave her some food, which was the first she had eaten for eleven days, except what nuts and berries she had found. It was with difficulty that they could restrain her from eating too much. They immediately sent a messenger to Frankfather's house in Bloom township to inform him. He arrived at Dubbs' that same evening. When he saw his little girl he burst out crying, took her in his arms and started on the run on a straight line for his home, which was about ten miles through a pathless wilderness all the way. The story is told in detail in the history of Bloom township.

*A Tragedy.*—The death of Simmons, one of the pioneers, took place on the Dubbs farm, in April, 1837. Simmons had leased a tract of land from John Dubbs, built his cabin thereon, and was occupying it when the tragedy occurred. The inquest was held by Morrison McMillen and Daniel Barton, justices, the jurors being James and Andrew Hutchinson, Samuel Barton, Henry Dubbs, James Birdsall, and another pioneer, whose name has not been ascertained. The verdict of the jury was that he came to his death by the hand of his wife, who had done the deed in a deranged state of mind. She was placed under arrest, and an examination had before Squires Barton and McMillen, and was committed to jail. A short time after she was tried in the court of common pleas, and was adjudged by the jury to be insane, and was sent to the State Asylum where she only lived about one year after she did the deed.

*Early Land Buyers.*—The early land buyers, with location and date of purchase, are given as follows: John Dubbs, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 1, and other tracts, Dec. 4, 1834; John W. Allen, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 1, Oct. 16, 1836; James Mackull, S. E. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 6, Nov. 28, 1836; Ruel Smith, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 7, Nov. 8, 1836; David Updegraff, S.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 13, Aug. 26, 1839; Andrew Hite, S. of S. W. and S. of N. E., 19, Oct. 21, 1836; Martin Pagery, N. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , and N. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 19, Oct. 21, 1836; Casper B. Wyckoff, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 24, Nov. 14, 1840; Samuel Bowman, W. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 25, Nov. 28, 1836; Samuel Bowman, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 26, Dec. 18, 1835; Peter Hockenbery, E. N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 31, July 30, 1836; Isaac Dubbs, N. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 34, Jan. 5, 1835; Nicholas Crist, E. of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 34, April 30, 1839; and Hugh Newell, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , 36, Oct.

8, 1836. In 1844, the Dunns located on Section 19, while many others ventured in to reclaim the wilderness.

*Naming the Township.*—The story of the first town meeting was often told by the pioneer voters, the last of them—Rev. J. B. Dunn—verifying it in all particulars. After their town officers were elected, the people held a celebration, raised a hickory pole, had the Declaration of Independence read, and a speech made by Morrison McMillen, of Milton. After the reading and speech they partook of a dinner furnished by Mr. Dubbs, and all the pure old "Monongahela" they wished to drink, furnished by Rowan. After dinner the votes were counted, and the officers sworn in by 'Squire McMillen, and they agreed to recommend that the township be called Jackson, for the reason that every voter had voted for Jackson.

*Organization.*—The township was established June 1, 1840, by order of the commissioners, and the resident tax-payers of T. 3, N. R. 9 E., were ordered to meet at John Dubbs' house, on July 4, following, to elect officers.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Justices.*—The justices of the peace, who qualified from that period to 1895, are named as follows: James Bowman, 1841; Samuel Bowman, Sr., 1844; Jacob B. Dunn, 1847; Samuel Knowland, 1850; George France, 1856; John R. Apger, 1859; Samuel Dunn, 1862 to 1893; Hugh Boiles, 1865-66; Wellington G. Jewell, 1869 to 1875; Lafayette M. Zigler, 1874; A. Bergman, 1876; Stephen Byrns, 1877; William Gibson, 1880, resigned in 1882; H. M. Jones, 1882; Zephaniah Wells, 1883-86; E. H. Westenhaver, 1886-89, resigned in 1891; Allen S. Ferguson, 1887-91; Levi Burgoon, 1889, resigned in 1889; J. W. Yates, 1894; and Daniel Cooper, 1896.

*Trustees.*—The office of trustee, for the first three years, was filled by the Dubbs, Mays, Wyckoffs, Rowan, Crist and others. The documents in the auditor's office, and the records in possession of Township Clerk Dunn, give the following names, from 1844 to 1895:

1844—Casper B. Wyckoff, John Mays, William Crist.  
 1845—Casper B. Wyckoff, James Dunn, Nicholas Crist.  
 1846—Casper B. Wyckoff, John Dubbs, Henry Kagy.  
 1847-48—Thomas C. Larkin, John Dunn, Henry Kagy.  
 1849—Thomas C. Larkin, John Dunn, Peter W. Apger.  
 1850—David Tyner, John Dunn, Peter W. Apger.  
 1851—F. D. Doty, Demas Leatherman, George France.  
 1852—David Tyner, John Dunn, George France.  
 1853—F. D. Doty, J. R. Apger, Demas Leatherman.  
 1854—James Dunn, John Ferguson, Demas Leatherman.  
 1855—David Tyner, John C. Mays, James F. Dubbs.  
 1856—John Ferguson, James Dunn, James F. Dubbs.  
 1857—Jonathan Dean, James Dunn, James F. Dubbs.  
 1858-59—Peter W. Apger, John Ferguson, James F. Dubbs.  
 1860—Jonathan Dean, John Dubbs, Jacob T. Wyckoff.



1861—Robert Mitchell, Ambrose Shively, Jacob T. Wyckoff.  
 1862-63—Robert Mitchell, Allen Pontius, John Edgar.  
 1864—David Tyner, Allen Pontius, John Edgar.  
 1865—Robert Mitchell, David Tyner, Allen Pontius.  
 1866—John Edgar, N. Atchley, Robert Mitchell.  
 1867—John Ferguson, W. C. Hackett, George F. Leonard.  
 1868—Theodore Inman, W. H. Hoyt, W. C. Hackett.  
 1869-70—Demas Leatherman, R. W. C. Buchanan, Zina Hoyt.  
 1871—Theodore Inman, Levi Burgoon, Martin Scheil.  
 1872—Zephaniah Wells, Levi Burgoon, Martin Scheil.  
 1873—Zephaniah Wells, W. C. Hackett, Levi Burgoon.  
 1874-76—Stephen Leonard, Leonard Rush, Levi Burgoon.  
 1877—R. W. C. Buchanan, Jacob Mundwiler, Levi Burgoon.  
 1878—Joseph Durliat, C. Powell, Allen S. Ferguson.  
 1879—Andrew Bergman, Stephen Leonard, Allen S. Ferguson.  
 1880—A. Bergman, John Ferguson, Samuel Leonard.  
 1881—Robert Turnbull, John Ferguson, William Waltman.  
 1882—R. W. C. Buchanan, Geo. W. Needles, Levi W. Burgoon.  
 1883—Andrew Bergman, Joseph Herringshaw, Levi Burgoon.  
 1884—G. W. Mundwiler, Joseph Herringshaw, Andrew Bergman.  
 1885—R. W. C. Buchanan, Sidney Greeley, W. T. Borough.  
 1886—R. W. C. Buchanan, Sidney Greeley, Lorenzo Thomas.

In 1887, Ellis W. Sperow was elected; 1888, James T. Baker; 1889, Elias H. Westenhaver; 1890, John Farquharson; 1891, Garrett Harris; 1892, Martin Reigle; 1893, John C. Wansitler; Jacob Trautman was appointed in December, *vice* Reigle; 1894, Jesse Hager app. Jan. 17, *vice* Garrett Harris, resigned; 1894, John H. Hanna and Emmet Lyle elected; in 1895 John Miller received 195 Democratic votes against a Republican vote of 149 cast for W. S. Armstrong; in 1896, William Milliron was elected.

*Clerks.*—The clerks of the township have been as follows: John Bowman, who, as clerk, made the school census in 1842; John R. Apper down to 1852, when C. B. Wyckoff was elected; James Ferguson was chosen clerk in 1854; C. B. Wyckoff, 1855; George France, 1856; James Ferguson, 1857; Allen Pontius, 1864; James Ferguson, 1865; Peter W. Apper, 1866; Samuel Dunn, 1868; James Ferguson, 1870; Samuel Dunn, 1871; P. H. Robertson, 1874; James A. Tinney, 1879; H. R. Donaldson, 1880; James A. Tinney, 1881; James Weimer, 1882; James A. Tinney, 1883; E. H. Westenhaver, 1884; John Eaken, 1885; James Fox, 1888; James A. Tinney, 1889; Jesse Hager, 1890; A. P. Kiger, 1892 (but Jesse Hager held office until September); George F. Dunn, 1894; George Dermer, 1896.

*Treasurers.*—The office of treasurer has been filled by John Dubbs, 1840 to 1845; Isaac Dubbs, 1845; John Dubbs, 1851; S. J. Knowland, 1854; Nathan Atchley, 1855-59; [no records]; Wayne Mapes, 18—; George Fish, 1874; Stephen Leonard, —; Levi Burgoon, 1880; H. R. Donaldson, 1881; Henry F. Scherer, 1882; George Vagonlander, 1885; G. W. Mundwiler, 1886;

Uriah Dishong, 1889; James E. Weimer, 1891; and Jesse Hager, 1895.

*Assessors.*—In 1896, John Ray was elected, but died soon after, and J. W. Yates was appointed May 9, same year, to succeed him.

The certificate of the election of Samuel Bowman, Sr., in May, 1844, gives the names of the ten voters present, including Casper B. Wyckoff, James Dunn, Robert R. Crist, John Runyan, Henry Kagy, Nicholas Crist, Samuel Bowman, Sr., Samuel Bowman, Jr., William Crist and Thomas C. Larkins. Samuel Bowman cast a vote for himself, thus receiving the ten votes cast at that election for justice of the peace

*Taxpayers, 1840.*—The assessment of Jackson township, for 1840, gives the names of John Dubbs, Daniel McMillen and Jacob Smith as being taxed for real estate, and Samuel Bowman, John Dubbs, Peter Hockenberry, Edward Rowan and Edward Rowan, Jr., for personal property.

*Taxpayers, 1853.*—The resident taxpayers in June, 1853, were Peter W. and John R. Apper; Edward Coyn; Fred D. Doty; George (Sr.) William, Peter, James, Elizabeth and George (Jr.) Dunn; John and William Dubbs; George France; James and John Ferguson; Ezra and James G. Hathaway; Peter F. Millsberry; Demas Leatherman; John and William Mays; Michael Nickelson; Sam. J. Knowland; John Runyan; David Tyner; Adam Waltman; and Caspar R. and John Wyckoff.

#### SCHOOLS.

*Common Schools.*—The first official notice of school matters is contained in a report, made in October, 1842, on the number of children, between the ages of four and twenty years, in Jackson township. John Bowman, then clerk, signed the document, which was found among the files in the auditor's office, with many other valuable records dealing with Henry, Jackson and other southern townships. The names of the children and their parents are given as follows: District No. 1—Andrew, John, George, William, Margaret, Oliver and Ann, children of John Mays; Sarah, John, Jacob, Hannah, Henry and Peter, children of Casper B. Wyckoff; Andrew, Mary Ann, John and Isaac, children of Elizabeth Crist; Elizabeth, Isaac, Catherine and Emily, children of Samuel Bowman; Elizabeth and John Simmons, adopted children of John Dubbs; and John, son of Nicholas Crist. Down to that date, October 20, 1842, there was no school house erected within the limits of Jackson, nor a district school taught therein.

The school records of Jackson, in possession of the clerk, date back to July 22, 1876, when a record of a new school house in District No. 6, was made. Among the directors of the township were R. W. C. Buchanan, A. S. Ferguson, Z. F. Willison, Wm. Burgoon, Stephen Leonard, William Blackburn, George Mundwiler, James Keer, L. Meyers, P. R. Randolph, Garret Teatsworth, J. B. Dunn, and Demas Leatherman. In 1878, a schoolhouse was erected in District No. 3, and the old buildings of Districts 3 and 7 were ordered to be sold. Jesse Ruff, Thomas Davis and O. O. Butterfield were new members of the board in 1878, when a new building was authorized in District No. 1. In 1881, Z. F. Willison and R. H. Donaldson were elected members of the board. On petition of Joseph Durliat and others, a joint sub-district was established in 1882, when Andrew Bergman, C. M. Hunt, John Ferguson, James T. Dean and F. M. Hudson were new members. In September, 1882, a brick school house was authorized for District No. 9; District No. 8 was discontinued, but re-established, and a school house erected in 1884. There are brick buildings in Districts No. 8, 9, 4 and 3, the last erected in 1895. The school interests are advancing like the agricultural interests of this township; so that all the conditions which militated against common schools in 1842 are changed now.

#### HOYTVILLE.

The village was surveyed by W. H. Wood, in 1873, for G. B. Mills and William Hoyt. Several lots were sold in view of the completion of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad; but the buyers appear to have preferred building in other new towns suggested by the coming railroad, and, for a decade, little progress was made in the construction of business and dwelling houses. In 1882, Hoytville shared in the general prosperity of the country, a church building was erected in 1883, and by the fall of 1886 the hamlet attained village proportions.

The petition for the incorporation of Hoytville was presented September 6, 1886, signed by fifty-six residents. Some days later a remonstrance, signed by forty-seven residents, was filed, followed by a second remonstrance and a second petition. On December 6, that year, the commissioners granted the prayer of the second petition, and the people were ordered to elect officers in April of 1887. The first meeting of the councilmen was held April 21, 1887, at the office of E. H. Westenhaver. Miner Wadsworth, the

first mayor, presided; Sylvester Fox was clerk; James E. Weimer, treasurer; John Merritt, marshal; Christian Powell, sealer; and Hugh H. Price, Lyman Colvin, George W. Mundwiler, Uriah Dishong, Thomas M. Moorehead and William Swaney, councilmen. Rules for the government of the village were adopted the same day, and the little municipality took its place among the incorporated villages of the county. E. H. Westenhaver was elected mayor in 1888; Jesse Hager, in 1889; Allen Ferguson, in 1893; and Nathan H. Mills, in 1895; while A. P. Kiger succeeded Sylvester Fox as clerk in 1891. The election in 1896 resulted as follows: Mayor, James A. Tinney (elected in July, sworn in August 4 to fill unexpired term caused by the resignation of N. H. Mills); clerk, A. Kiger; councilmen, G. N. Mundwiler, Peter Hunlock and J. D. W. Hoot; members of school board—Special School, comprising old Township District No. 2 (including corporation)—Jacob Trautman and H. F. Scherer.

*Post Office.*—It is said that the first post office in the neighborhood of Hoytville was called Egypt, and that John R. Apger was the incumbent thereof as early as 1859. It is certain that he had charge of the office in 1862. About that time, the office was discontinued, and not established until 1869, when Zina Hoyt is remembered as postmaster, and David Barton, mail-carrier. Chauncey Maltby succeeded Hoyt, then came H. F. Scherer, R. H. Donaldson, U. Dishong, A. F. Ferguson (who held the office in 1889), and Martin Reigle, in 1890. Jesse Hager is the present incumbent.

*Opera House.*—The Hoytville Opera House, a two-story frame building, 50x30 feet, was erected for Jesse Hager, George Kline and A. S. Ferguson, in 1894. It is simply the old school house on the old site, refitted for the purpose of a Grand Army hall and opera house at a cost of \$1,500.

*The Big Fire.*—The fire of August 29, 1888, may be said to have destroyed Main street, north of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, including U. Dishong's and James Leatherman's buildings, Rader's and Mason's dwellings, John Eaken's and Widow Wall's dwellings, Eaken's saloon and M. C. Apger's store. On September 5, Dewey's stove factory was destroyed, following the Trautman saw and planing mills and hoop factory, burned September 1, that year.

*School.*—The school board records in possession of Allen S. Ferguson, date back to August 29, 1892, when the village was set off as a separate district. Lyman Colvin, J. W. Yates and

Allen S. Ferguson were elected members of the board; Jesse Hager, treasurer; and A. S. Ferguson, clerk. The small frame house of old District No. 2, was presided over by George C. Hanson, who remained here until the present modern brick house was opened. On April 22, 1893, the resolution to build a school house at a cost not exceeding \$8,500, was carried by the board, and, when submitted to the people, received forty-six votes, being all that were cast. The directors chosen were A. S. Ferguson, Jacob Trautman, James T. Baker, James F. Dillinger, G. W. Needles and Levi Burgoon. The school tax in 1893 was twenty-two mills, increased in April, 1895, to twenty-five mills, eighteen mills being for building charges. The same board, with the exception of G. W. Needles, whose place was taken by John Miller, in 1895, manages the school affairs.

*The Christian Union Society* was organized February 14, 1873, by Rev. Stephen Smith, with the following named members: G. B. Mills, T. J. and Mary R. Downham, Lovina Mills, Thomas and Barbara Mirice, George and Elizabeth Kline, John Mills, Mary Apger and Christian and Mary Hager. The pastors, in the order of service, were Revs. Smith, Hazens, Roberts, B. Hazens, Mitchell, Burget, Swinehart, Paine, Dufroy, Johnston, Clover and McBride, while the present pastor is Mr. Aultz. Thomas Myrice, T. J. Downham and G. B. Mills were the elders after organization. Mr. Mills died in 1895, and Levi Burgoon is the elder at present. The seventy-five members of this society own the meeting house completed in 1875, at a cost of \$600.

*The Church of God*, west of Hoytville, may be grouped with the village churches. The building is a substantial frame one, to which the name, "Jackson Bethel," is given.

*The United Brethren Church* was organized many years ago, near the south line of the county, with David, Jacob and Israel Smith, N. Helfrick, and their wives, as members. In 1883 Hoytville was selected as the meeting place of the society, where a church house was erected at a cost of \$2,000. In June, 1895, there were 130 members reported. Mr. Snok was pastor, and James Baker, clerk. The Oakdale society, in the southwest corner of the township, erected a house for worship about twelve years ago.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* circuit, of Hoytville, was formed in 1890, out of the North Baltimore circuit. It then included Hoytville, Hammansburg and South Liberty, with Mr. Wingate in charge, for the year ending October 31, 1891. During his term the work of building

a parsonage was commenced. Mr. Boltin succeeded, when the Portage and Prairie classes were included in his circuit. Rev. W. G. Little remained until the fall of 1893, when Rev. Samuel Given was appointed. At that time there were only a few members, but now there are about forty members, with Rev. W. F. Ernsberger preacher-in-charge. The class is much older than the circuit. Prior to 1885, Rev. Mr. Young was here, later came Mr. Reeder; then A. C. Thomas in 1885; next A. A. Thomas; and following him were the ministers named above. Reynolds Ross has been class-leader since 1890.

*Kiger Post*, No. 735, G. A. R., was chartered March 10, 1891, with Allen S. Ferguson, L. W. Mason, Martin W. Reigle, Jeff. Reigle, S. A. Shane, W. C. Hackett, John Sprague, Jacob Mundwiler, Daniel Ramsey, Wm. Hurson, L. Richardson, Samuel Hunt, Demas Leatherman, Solomon Sheller, A. B. Smith, George Kline, D. M. Anderson, J. F. Mapes, James McCollum and James M. Ferguson. The commanders were L. W. Mason, and the second, Sol. Sheller, while Daniel Ramsey, the present commander, was elected in December, 1893. The adjutant, from organization to January, 1894, was Allen S. Ferguson; Solomon Sheller succeeded him, and in January, 1895, James McCollum was installed.

*Robert McCormic Camp*, S. of V., was chartered June 16, 1893, with the following named members: D. S. E. W., John G. and J. M. Leatherman, A. B., Jesse and Mack Ferguson, W. S. Kempfield, I. J. McCormic, John Strait, Ed. Wilcox, William and Harry Mundwiler, Hugh and John Copus, John Ramsey, Leonard Fuller, W. A. Ralston, Ance and John Thomas, John Reigle, R. W. Leonard and Bert Hutson. The officers of the camp, down to 1895, were elected from among the charter members.

*Hoytville Lodge*, No. 463, K. of P., was chartered August 19, 1891, with the following named members: James E. Weimer, N. H. Mills (1), E. H. McBride (3), F. J. McBride, C. H. Mundwiler, B. Walls, J. E. Mills, G. A. Denner, Jesse Hager, George Copus, H. C. Mills, F. M. Moorehead, F. M. Walls, J. W. Hartsel (2), P. M. Hemlack, M. Wadsworth, Martin Rigal, J. E. Slosser, J. H. Wingate, George Barber, W. J. Trusdale, J. M. Leatherman, S. and T. J. Herringshaw, J. M. Blair, H. R. Sheeler (4), N. D. Dishong, A. J. Wyckoff (5), R. B. Smith (7), Emmett Barber, T. P. Rigal, A. P. Kiger, J. P. Rigal, G. W. Needles, William Swaney, Charles Weisinger and Sidney Greeley. The names after which the numerals occur are those of past chancellors, but J. T.

Smith, the sixth in order of service, and E. L. Smith, the eighth, were not charter members. Frank J. McBride, J. E. Weimer and N. H. Mills, served the lodge as keepers of records and seals, in the order in which the names are given. There were sixty-two members reported in June, 1895.

#### HAMLETS.

*Farnham* was the name given, about 1868, to the post office established at that time in the northwestern corner of the township. Joseph Durliat, one of the pioneers of that district, carried on the office until his death, September 20, 1889, when it was discontinued. The only manufacturing industry, a sawmill, was abandoned late in the "eighties," when the machinery was moved to Lima.

The pioneers of the Farnham district in Jack-

son township, were Joseph Durliat, James Blake, Martin Scheil and Christopher Sisler, all gone to the heaven merited by the pioneers, while Joseph King, W. Ellsworth, Leonard Rush and a few others, who came in the "sixties" and early "seventies," are yet residents.

Prairie Class of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized about six years ago. In 1895, a house for worship was erected near the center of the township, which was dedicated September 8, 1895. The class is small in number, but enthusiastic.

*Oakland*, in the southwest corner of the county, takes its name from the title of the United Brethren church building erected there twelve or thirteen years ago, which draws its membership, principally, from the townships of the adjoining counties.

## CHAPTER XXXIV.

### LAKE TOWNSHIP.

ITS EARLY HISTORY—POPULATION, ETC.—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—SCHOOLS—MILLBURY—WALBRIDGE—LATCHIE—MOLINE—CUMMINGS—OFFICIAL HISTORY—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES, ETC.

**T**HIS township was established June 3, 1844, and its boundaries declared to be coterminous with those of Congressional township 7 N., R. 12 E. The commissioners ordered the first election to be held at the house of John Shinabarger, June 15, 1844; but there appears to have been a hitch in the proceedings, as the first notices of township officials were sent to the auditor in 1845. The trustee's journal from 1845 to 1853 cannot be found, but an attempt to find the names of the officers in township and county documents has been successful. The records from the close of 1861 to March, 1880, are also in some unknown place, if at all in existence; but partial substitutes for them have also been discovered in the auditor's office. Prior to December 3, 1838, the township was a part of Perrysburg. From that day, until its organization, it was a part of Troy township. The population in 1850 was only 152. In 1890 it was credited with 2,131 inhabitants, including the 546 inhabitants of Millbury village. The survey of the exterior lines was made in

1830, by Alex. Holmes, and of the section lines in 1833, by Ambrose Rice.

*Township Officials.*—The justices of the peace are named as follows: Caspar Noel, who qualified in July, 1847, and P. G. Loop, who was elected, but did not qualify; Caspar Noel, 1850 to 1859; Joseph Harpel, 1851; Samuel P. Allen, 1857 to 1873; James Penigar, 1859; John Bailey, 1859; W. L. Wight, 1862; J. R. Tracy, elected in 1865 and again in 1868; C. H. Roberts, 1869; E. Johnson, 1871; J. Z. Elliott, 1872 to 1878; George Wise, 1874; H. D. Grove, from 1877 to 1895; Jacob Pheils, 1878; A. McAllister, 1881; Joseph Crago, 1884 to 1893, re-elected in 1893 for the full term; H. D. Grove (D.), re-elected in 1895, for three years, making seventh term, and twenty-one years' consecutive service.

The trustees of Lake township are named in the following list, the names from 1845 to 1853 inclusive being gathered in the auditor's office, as the township records for that period are not to be found:

1845—Jacob Furry, James McLargin, Samuel Waggoner.  
 1846—Samuel Waggoner, James McLargin, Jacob Furry.  
 1847—Wm. Jeffery, Samuel Waggoner, James Moore.  
 1848—John O'Leary, James McLargin, James Moore.  
 1849—James La Farree, John O'Leary, Philip G. Loop.  
 1850—John Noel, George Akenberger, J. McLargin.  
 1852-53—John S. La Farree, John O'Leary, G. Akenberger.  
 1854—George Akenberger, Elias Hanley, William Jeffery.  
 1855—John S. La Farree, Sam. Waggoner, Sam. P. Allen.  
 1856—John O'Leary, Samuel Waggoner, John Noel.  
 1857—William Jeffery, Samuel Waggoner, S. P. Allen.  
 1858—Joseph Harpel, Samuel Waggoner, S. P. Allen.  
 1859-60—John O'Leary, George Akenberger, Edwin Ayers.  
 1861—John O'Leary, Jacob Furry, Thomas Crago.  
 1862-63—Wm. Jeffery, William Matthews, Thomas Crago.  
 1864—William Jeffery, S. P. Allen, Thomas Crago.  
 1865—S. P. Allen, J. R. Tracy, Jacob Furry.  
 1866—W. L. Wight, S. W. Warner, Jacob Furry.  
 1867—T. K. Craine, W. L. Wight, George Akenberger.  
 1868—Thomas Crago, S. W. Warner, T. E. Wight.  
 1869—Thomas Crago, C. H. Roberts, Andrew Young.  
 1870—Jacob Diefenthaler, C. H. Roberts, George Akenberger.  
 1871—James Penniger, Charles Tyler, George Akenberger.  
 1872—W. H. Maxfield, Charles Tyler, Elias Hanley.  
 1873—Jacob Miller, Charles Tyler, Elias Hanley.  
 1874—George Akenberger, Charles Tyler, James Penniger.  
 1875—George Akenberger, Charles Tyler, E. Ayers.  
 1876—George Akenberger, Charles Tyler, C. F. Chapman.  
 1878—Charles E. Winchester, George E. Cool, Elias Hanley.  
 1879—Charles E. Winchester, John O'Leary, Percy Ayers.  
 1880-81—John O'Leary, Percy Ayers, C. Krummel.  
 1883—H. H. Hower, John H. Sipple, John Isch, Jr.  
 1884—H. H. Hower, Joseph Guy, John Isch, Jr.  
 1885—H. H. Hower, Jacob Diefenthaler, John Isch, Jr.  
 1886—H. H. Hower, Jacob Diefenthaler, James Lund.  
 1887—B. F. Lusher, Jacob Diefenthaler, H. H. Hower.

In 1888 Samuel Hanley was elected for the long term; in 1889, Edward Traver; 1890, B. F. Lusher; 1891, R. J. Hahn; 1892, A. J. Lutman; 1893, Dennis O'Leary; 1894-96, William Berry, with A. J. Lutman and Dennis O'Leary form the board for 1895 and 1896.

In July, 1881, the contract to build two town halls in this township was awarded to Jacob, John, Sr., John, Jr., and Joseph Pheils, on their bid of \$1,863.38.

The assessors were Caspar Noel, 1845; followed by William Jeffery, 1850; Joseph Harpel, 1855; William Jeffery, 1858; Jonathan Eckenberger, 1859; Jacob Furry, 1860; John Bailey, 1860 (no records 1861 to 1879 inclusive); Ed E. Connor and Zophar Warner, 1880; Joseph Long and R. S. Sweet, 1882; Charles Winchester and J. L. Chase, 1883; R. S. Sweet and Jerome Stormer, 1884; Albert Bailey and Jerome Stormer, 1885 and 1887; Albert Ayers and Jerome Stormer, 1886; Albert Ayers and Zophar Warner, 1888; Albert Ayers and F. J. Schriber, 1889; Henry Bohnsen and F. J. Schriber, 1890-92; A. J. Stein and Henry Bohnsen, 1893; Albert Ayers and William Navarre, 1894.

The clerks were Jacob Furry, 1845; John S. La Farree, 1856; John Bailey, 1859; Sherman Jackson, 1860; H. H. Hower, 1861; S. Jackson, 1861; John S. La Farree, 1862; James Pinniger,

1863; James Pinniger, Jr., 1868; J. R. Tracy, 1870; C. F. Chapman, 1871; W. J. Bailey; 1873; F. A. Grove, 1875, and H. D. Grove, from April 16, 1877, to the present time (re-elected 1896), making 21 consecutive years service.

The treasurer's office has been filled by Thomas Crago, 1845; Casper Noel, 1859; Geo. Akenberger, 1861; G. L. Lutman, 1862; A. J. Miller, 1866; John Bailey, appointed in 1879 to succeed Miller. George Yager, 1880; and W. J. Bailey 1891-1896; Albert Ayers, and A. J. Stein elected 1896.

The record books of Lake, down to a few years ago, are in no better condition than those of Freedom, Montgomery, Plain and many other townships. A few important books were found in the Bailey school, one or two in the town hall, and modern journals in Mr. Grove's residence. The list of officials, however, was perfected in the county auditor's office, where the tax levy documents were examined.

*Schools.*—The school records date back to May 31, 1849, when the trustees established two school districts. In July, following, the people of District No. 1 voted \$500 to build a house for school purposes. In March, 1851, District No. 3 was formed, there being thirty-seven pupils in District No. 1, eight in No. 2 and twenty-five in No. 3. Among the teachers were Ann Vass, Dorcas E. Brown, Mrs. Chollette, Augustus LaFarree. The school records in possession of Clerk Grove date back to 1860, when S. P. Allen was chairman of the board of education. He was also director of District No. 2, while George Shure and John O'Leary were directors of No. 1; William Bosse, of No. 4; T. Crossman of No. 5; and J. Pheils, of No. 3. The teachers in 1860 were Misses Stephens, Thornton, Shepard, Vass, Chollette, Wise and Flanan, with Messrs. John Furry, Egleston, J. H. La Farree, Morse, Johnson, J. B. McCutchen, Conrod, and Hooper, while Martha Gorrill taught the joint district school of Troy and Lake townships. There were 24 male and 29 female pupils in Sub-District No. 1; 22 male and 15 female pupils in No. 2; 20 male and 19 female pupils in No. 3; 17 male and 23 female pupils in No. 4; and 21 male and 20 female pupils in Sub-District No. 5, with 3 pupils in Lake and Troy No. 1, and 1 in Lake and Perrysburg No. 9. During war days several of the above named, with Angela Stevens, Mary McAllister, Mary Owens, Emily A. Warren, Millicent B. Duke, Amanda La Farree, Stillman George, Rose Matthews, George Furry, R. B. Willison, Jane Inman, Ervina Bronson, Carrie Brownsberger, Mary Ann Moore, J. F. Blake.

Cornelius Smith, S. Grover, Margaret Regan, Maria Kenf, Jennie Baldwin, Ella Knight, Libbie Gleason and Emma Beach were teachers in this township.

In 1869, Thomas Elliott and William Sanders were directors of Sub-District No. 5; John W. Pheils and Benedict Isch of No. 3 (where a new school building was erected); John S. La Farree and George Akenberger, of No. 1; S. P. Allen and J. W. Slayman, of No. 2; J. R. Tracy and W. H. Maxfield, of No. 4. There were 33 male and 41 female pupils then enrolled in Sub-District No. 1; 42 males and 42 females in No. 2; 37 males and 45 females in No. 3; 57 male and 66 females in No. 4; 47 males and 43 females in No. 5, or 453 pupils in the sub-districts, and 22 in the joint districts, then numbered 1, 9 and 5. In October, 1875, the erection of a school house at Latchie, and one at Walbridge, was authorized. In April, 1876, the voters of the district confirmed that order. At the same time, the following named directors were chosen: John D. Weaver, Charles Winchester, Joseph Dimling, J. Diefenthaler, O. H. Deam, Thomas Elliott and J. R. Tracy, there being then eight sub-districts. In 1877, the names of Samuel Baker, Charles Tyler, P. R. Harpel, G. Finch, Thomas Elliott and John D. Weaver, appear as members of the board of education, with that of H. D. Grove, clerk. Samuel and Isaac Waggoner, James Pinniger, Fred Kramel and A. N. Schnelle, were among the members in 1878. John Marsh, Joseph S. Pheils, Joseph Guy and Daniel O'Leary, in 1879; Benjamin Thornton, John Shank, Zophar Warner, and Thomas Rowe, in 1880; Robert Matthews and John Shook, in 1884; Joseph Traver, A. Bowman and N. H. Hower, in 1885-6; Henry Christianson, Alfred Matthews, John Kelly, Joseph Crago, Davis Siegler, P. Cline and Samuel Hanley, in 1888; O. N. Ayers, James Jeffery and G. B. Brim, in 1891; N. G. Harpel, John Brown, of Latchie, Jack Dicken, Charles Frane and William Smith, may be named among the members of the board. The teachers in 1893 were Arthur Pinniger, F. E. Calkins, Florence Guy, Corwin Waggoner, Anna Berge, Tillie Rowe, F. Behner, Mary Brim and Hattie Grove, who received \$60 a month. In 1894-95, Tillie Rogers, George Furree, G. W. Brown, Sarah Dye, Maggie O'Brien, Cora Carpenter, Florence Guy, Grace Chapman, Bertha Roscoe and Adelia Marsh, were among the teachers.

#### MILLBURY.

Millbury was surveyed by R. B. Willison, and

the plat recorded April 14, 1864. When the northern branch of the Lake Shore or Sandusky road was surveyed, the C. & T. Railroad Company named the crossing of the southern branch in Clay township, Ottawa county, "Clay Junction." When the Sandusky branch was completed, the company sent Milo Gage and George Hewitt to attend the switch at this point. When the question of petitioning for a post office, about 1856, was discussed, Hewitt proposed the name of Millbury, after a village between Worcester and Boston (Mass.), but the residents desired it to be named "Mark Lane," after the English grain market. The men interested left the choice to the turn of a cent, heads being for Millbury, and heads won. Hewitt was appointed master, and as the switchman's house was the only one in Millbury of that day, there the office was established. James Pinniger, George Lutman, A. J. Miller, W. J. Bailey, H. D. Grove, W. J. Bailey and Albert Kalenbach (appointed in 1893) succeeded Hewitt, in the order of the names, as postmaster. George Hewitt returned to Worcester, Mass., of which town he has served as mayor and councilman repeatedly. When the railroad was commenced, there was no school nearer than the Jeffery or Loup settlements, each five miles away. A year or so before the post office was established, a school district was organized.

*Official History.*—A petition for the incorporation of the village of Millbury was presented by Jasher Pillars, Edward Karchner, Lorenzo Luce and A. P. Meng, agents for petitioners, June 1, 1874, and on September 4 the enabling order was issued by the commissioners. An entry in the commissioners' journal, however, shows that a petition, signed by sixty-four inhabitants, was considered and granted September 10, that year, and this date, corresponding with the record in possession of the township clerk, must be accepted as that on which the village became a municipal body. The record of election shows that 111 voters were enrolled on April 5, 1875, and that 110 votes were cast—Lorenzo Luce, Sr., receiving 109 for councilman. A. P. Meng was elected mayor, having received seventy votes against forty-one cast for N. M. Chapman and two for George Wise. The councilmen chosen were W. H. Maxfield, Ed. Karchner and Ed. Johnson, for two years; L. Luce, Sr., W. Taylor and Willard Wight, for one year. A. J. Miller was elected treasurer; Charles Sentenis, recorder; and A. Dean, marshal. The mayors of the village, elected since Centennial year, are named as follows: W. L. Wight, 1876, *vice* Meng, resigned; Joseph Long, July, 1876; F. A. Grove,

1879; A. P. Meng, 1881; C. F. Chapman, 1883; B. M. Darr, 1887; W. J. Bailey, 1888; J. C. Elsbree, 1891; F. W. Jackson, 1893; Charles Facer, 1895; and Peter Martin, 1896. The clerks of the village have been: Charles Sentenish, 1875; A. M. Tredwell, 1876; and H. D. Grove, 1877-96, re-elected 1896. The treasurers are named as follows: A. J. Miller, 1875; George Yager, 1879; W. J. Bailey, 1891-96, re-elected 1896, in which year W. H. Facer was elected marshal.

The members of the council, elected since 1876, are given in the following list:

- 1876—W. L. Wight, W. W. Taylor and C. F. Chapman.
- 1877—A. M. Tredwell, George Yager and A. Barto.
- 1878—W. W. Brim, Adam Martin and J. L. Moore.
- 1879—W. L. Wight, J. L. Chase, Joseph Montgomery, and A. A. Taylor to fill vacancy.
- 1880—A. A. Taylor, J. A. Lutman, Joseph Montgomery and J. L. Chase.
- 1881—M. Carsner, D. A. Curtice and James Emerson.
- 1882—Adam Martin, E. Karchner and J. L. Chase, Joseph Montgomery to fill vacancy.
- 1883—John Chrysler, Joseph Long and A. Barto.
- 1884—W. W. Brim, Adam Martin and F. W. Jackson.
- 1885—E. Karchner, George Chapman and T. E. Wright, Jacob Martin for one year.
- 1886—F. W. Jackson, James Facer and J. L. Moore.
- 1887—C. F. Chapman, M. F. Keane and A. A. Taylor.
- 1888—A. Keefer, A. Crossman, A. Martin and N. D. Youngs.
- 1889—Henry Myers and John Maxfield.
- 1890—A. Martin, A. Crossman and F. W. Jackson (two years), and J. Facer (one year).
- 1891—John Maxfield, John Chrysler and M. Carsner.
- 1892—Adam Martin, James McLargin and John Munch.
- 1893—A. J. Lutman, N. D. Youngs and John Chrysler.
- 1894—Adam Martin, John Munch and M. Carsner.
- 1895—Charles Camper, A. J. Lutman, Herbert Smith and A. Crossman.
- 1896—Charles Camper, John Munch, A. J. Lutman, M. Carsner, Henry Wight and Henry Myers.

School trustees in 1896 are W. J. Bailey, Albert Ayers, L. Dye, F. W. Jackson, A. J. Lutman and Herbert Smith.

*Churches.*—The Methodist Episcopal Church may be said to have been organized in February, 1871, when Rev. Levi Parke, preacher-in-charge of the East Toledo Circuit, appointed Alexander McMillan, J. R. Tracy, A. J. Miller, John Harpel, N. M. Chapman, Edward Hicks and Charles C. Ferdig, trustees of the church property at Millbury. At that time a subscription for building a house of worship was collected, one of the conditions being that the United Brethren Society should have the use of the building at stated times. A. J. Miller, C. F. Chapman, J. R. Tracy and Geo. W. Chapman contributed \$100 each, and with smaller sums enabled the people to build a fair house. By June, 1882, when Messrs. C. W. Bailey, N. M. Chapman and J. R. Tracy were trustees, the building was repaired. The first members were A. McMillan, N. M. Chapman, Joseph R. Tracy, John Hall,

Geo. W. Chapman, and their wives; Mrs. Ann Bailey, F. A. Groves, N. D. Youngs, C. F. Chapman, and their wives; and J. L. Thomas and Marcene Tracy. The membership is about twenty.

The United Brethren Church was organized later, in 1871, and assisted in the building of the Methodist house of worship. In 1882, Rev. D. O. Tussing was pastor, with A. J. Miller, William Downing and J. J. Strohl, trustees. Among the first members were H. F. Jones, A. J. Miller and Charles F. Ferdig, and their wives. This society had a resident pastor and parsonage, and made a strong effort to exist; but it passed away about ten years ago. The parsonage was purchased by Jacob Steinforth, who used it as his dwelling.

*Secret Societies.*—Douglass Post, No. 183, G. A. R., was organized under the charter of December 13, 1881, and named in honor of George Douglass, a native of this township, who was killed in battle. The members at that time were C. F. Chapman, Joseph Long, David Curtice, Ed. E. Conner, A. P. Meng, J. L. Chase, Alfred Barto, Joseph Montgomery, James Emerson, Abram Keefer, A. A. Taylor, John Maxfield, Alfred Dean, J. L. Moore, Daniel Welborn, E. Royer, I. A. Davis, J. W. Hemerick, Joseph Barnswell, Cloafar La Point, A. Benedum, L. Kingfield, W. D. Smith, James Facer and Samuel B. Jackson. In June, 1895, there were thirty-six members reporting. The commanders of this Post are named as follows: C. F. Chapman, Joseph Long (1883), A. J. Marks (1885), C. F. Chapman (1887), John Chrysler (1888-1894), and W. J. Bailey (1895-96). The present commander was quartermaster of the Post from 1883 to January, 1895, when he was promoted. The adjutants, past and present, are here given: Ed. E. Conner (1881), John Chrysler (1882), James Facer (1886), A. B. Johnson (1887), William McCreery (1889), G. J. Downing (1890), John Holmes (1891), Jacob L. Long (June, 1892), J. L. Moore (1893), William Huff (1894), and W. W. Brim (1895 to 1896).

Woman's Relief Corps, No. 309, was chartered November 5, 1890, with Electa Haines, Mary Downing, Sophia Baker, Lucretia Bailey, Emily Whitmore, Mary Johnson, Ella Ames, Almira Ballard, Effie Facer and Mary A. Moore, officers, with Lydia Facer, Susan Taylor, Mary Miller, Mary Tyler, Paulina Brenot, Emma Barnswill, Esther Beaviraer, Mary E. Warner, Emeretta Warner, Marinda Fuller, Isabelle Hough, E. A. Mercer and Kittie Keeper. Mrs. Lucretia Bailey is president of this Corps.



Camp J. L. Chase, S. of V., No. 383, was chartered June 19, 1889, with twenty-one members. The charter is yet in possession of the Camp, but its terms are scarcely observed.

Millbury Tent, No. 244, K. O. T. M., was organized recently with the following named members: Charles Martin, William Marsh, Frank Taylor\*, Albert Kalmbach\*, Richard R. Downing\*, Febne Cardosy\*, William J. Bailey\*, Henry D. Grove, Denis D. Downing\*, Montgomery Carsner\*, Harry Carsner\*, Frank Brough\*, Lambert R. Rowe, Charles Facer\*, Wallace H. Facer, Albert J. Lutman\*, Garot W. Sanders\*, G. Henry C. Farmer, Christ Martin, Charles Kalmbach, Henry Wight, Gilbert B. Brim, William H. Rogers, Robert Tiplady, F. C. Calkins and George Rill. The names marked thus \* are those of the first officers of the Tent, Charles Facer being the keeper of records and seals.

The Millbury Hive, L. O. T. M., was organized in 1895 with Frances Chapman, commander, and Libbie Jackson, record-keeper. The original members are named as follows: Nellie Agler, Mary Ayers, Florence Bailey, Carrie Brough, Ida Caldwell, Hannah Carsner, Mary E. Curtice, Sarah Dye, Maud Deibert, Ella Downing, Elizabeth Dart, Sarah Farmer, Estella Facer, Catherine and Lizzie Friend, Eliza George, Mary Grove, Mary Hood, Emma Jackson, Josie and Daisy Karchner, Ella Kalmbach, Lydia Lutman, Belle Martin, Mary Moore, Henrietta Stage, Esther Tabine, Sylvia Smith, Eliza, Myrtie, Eva, Gusta and Mary E. Wight. The Hive is a busy one.

#### WALBRIDGE.

Walbridge was surveyed for Emeretta and Harriet Warner, in June, 1874, by George Kirk. The village already has the prospects of a suburb of Toledo, rather than those of a country hamlet. Railroads run through it and round it, but it holds its place, as in 1874, waiting the era of progress. The postmasters since the establishment of the office have been S. P. Allen, G. H. Hoover, T. J. Cavanaugh, Neil A. McAllister, and, in August, 1893, Maxime Fenauf.

The Union church building of Walbridge was built in 1889-90, by the people without regard to denominational lines, for the use of religious bodies desiring to hold services therein. The building committee comprised W. W. Stein, N. A. McAllister, J. B. Warner, Henry Arendt and R. W. Thatcher. The building was erected by Thomas Savory at a cost of about \$1,200. The United Brethren and Universalists—the only or-

ganized religious societies at Walbridge—worshiped in this building until April, 1895, when the United Brethren Society determined to build a house of worship.

The Universalist Church was formed about the time the Union Church was built, the members being: William Beery, R. W. and Mary Thatcher, Henry Arendt and wife, Mrs. Mary F. Warner, Blanche Shover, Rachel Stein, Mrs. Stocker, Mrs. O. L. Wells, and one other member. Mr. Umberstone, of Toledo, succeeded Rev. O. L. Wales, who organized the society. The church now has a small membership.

The United Brethren Church of Walbridge was organized some years prior to 1869, when Seth Wick settled northwest of the town. Among the old members are L. T. Roberts and Mrs. Jane Hurd, of Walbridge.

The Ross Chapel U. B. Society was organized in March, 1895, with the following named members: Seth and Lucy Wicks, L. T. Roberts, Jane Hurd, Mr. Snyder and wife, Frank Cates, Starting Taylor, Charles Rhodes, Lydia and Elizabeth McIntyre, Mrs. Guyer and Clifford Wise. The building committee comprises Messrs. Roberts, Wicks and Snyder—the three trustees. Rev. John Croneberger is pastor.

#### LATCHIE.

This village was surveyed by David Donaldson, for J. R. Tracy and Luke Marsh, in July, 1876. It is a railroad hamlet of very small pretensions, but with store, church and school it has something to show for its score of years. The Lutheran Church is presided over by Rev. John Born, of Stony Ridge. When the post office at Webb was discontinued, in November, 1895, Latchie became the mailing point for that district. The post office was managed early in the "seventies" by James Brim, who had the office at his farm-house. His immediate successors were John Downing and Thomas Rowe. Henry Christiansen closed his term as postmaster in 1896; Henry Bahnsen was appointed in 1887; Thomas Rowe in 1892, and B. F. Lusher, the present incumbent, in 1893.

The first settlers were Luke and John Marsh. In 1866 William Rogers bought eighty acres at the corners, and soon after Christian Johnson opened the first store, now the Lusher store. The Aubrey store was purchased from Johnson; Peter Vanally carried on business here a year or so, while Scott, of Millbury, moved a small frame house from that town in which he kept a saloon for a little while. The store at the southwest



corner of the crossroads was erected by Ed. Belmore.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church was organized early in the "eighties" by Rev. Mr. Wolf. Among the supporters and members were Peter and Hans Bahnsen. Henry and Paul Boysen, G. Bracker, Lewis Peterson, H. Michelson, John Kohler, Hans Ingwersen, Chris Gerdson and their families. The present church house was built by G. Bracker, and is now the property of the twenty-four members forming Mr. Born's congregation.

#### MOLINE.

Moline is a new village on the dividing line, between the old farms westward, and the new clearings, eastward. The Toledo & Ohio Central railroad forms the western limit of the hamlet. In 1883, a post office was established here with J. K. Pheils, master. He was followed by Jerome Stormer, who opened the first store that year. B. F. Lusher was appointed in 1888; F. J. Schrieber, in 1889, and Franklin D. Lusher, in 1893. The merchants have been Mr. Stormer (mentioned above), Rudolph & Schrieber, Schrieber & Schrieber, B. F. Lusher & Co., and F. D. Lusher, who became owner of the store in 1890.

The Evangelical Society built a meeting-house here in 1883 at a cost of \$1,350. The families now (July, 1895) represented in the society are those of George Blandon, Jacob Emch, Samuel

Schneider, Jacob and John Suter, Henry J. Suter, Rudolph and Frank Lusher, George Harple, Edward Muhl, George Corn and Benjamin Schneider. There were forty-one members reported by Jacob Suter, the trustee. Rev. J. J. Bernhart was pastor in 1895, but a Mr. Monk is said to have organized the society.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was established here prior to Moline's first post office; but for many causes the class disbanded.

The Dunkard Church, a mile east of Moline, was established six or seven years ago. Among its members are William Gardner, Sr., William Gardner, Jr., Bernard Wagner, Harry Smith and Jacob Baker.

#### CUMMINGS.

Cummings was a name given to a sawmill settlement, one mile east of Moline, in 1880, when Giddings & Cummings established their mills in the forest. F. S. Giddings has been postmaster since the beginning of the hamlet, and is now the operator of the sawmill, as well as the merchant of the locality. The explosion in the stave factory, which occurred July 29, 1891, resulted in the instant death of Charles Moore and Frank Miller, and, later, in the deaths of Zigler and Enz. When Hobart post office was discontinued in November, 1895, the U. S. property was transferred to this office.

## CHAPTER XXXV.

### LIBERTY TOWNSHIP.

SURVEY—EARLY SETTLERS—POPULATION—TOPOGRAPHY—PIONEERS—HULL'S STOCKADE—MEN OF 1839—FEVER AND AGUE—THE HORSE THIEVES—EARLY LAND BUYERS—ORGANIZATION—ELECTORS AND OFFICERS—RECORDS—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—MISCELLANEOUS—AN ADVENTURE ON THE PRAIRIE—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—HAMLETS—CONCLUSION.

THE survey of the exterior lines of Liberty township was made in 1819, for the United States, by Samuel and Alexander Holmes, and of the section lines, in 1821, by I. T. Worthington. There is no record to show a permanent settlement, by white men, within its boundaries, down to that time, and only a rude stockade, to show that the soldiers of Hull, in

their march toward Detroit, halted here for a short period.

In 1825, the Haskins family settled near the eastern line, and its members may be said to have been the only residents for almost four years. The Census enumerator found a population of 215, in June, 1840. During the ensuing decade only twenty-one souls were added to the

settlements. In 1860 there were 635 inhabitants; in 1870, 965; in 1880, 1,292; and in 1890, 2,013, or little over double the number credited in 1870.

The township is rated among the first agricultural districts of Ohio. Land reclaimed from the swamps presents an inexhaustible soil, while the uplands and even the sand ridges are remarkably fertile. Its wealth of mineral oil, discovered within the last decade, has contributed to enrich the people.

*Pioneers.*—Tradition credits Collister Haskins with being the first actual settler, in 1824, going even farther, to show that he purchased land in Section 12, in the spring of that year, and built his cabin some time in September, 1824. The records of land entries do not agree with tradition, and, for this reason, his land purchase must be dated August 9, 1825, while the date of cabin building may be written September, 1825. The location was on the south bank of Portage creek, where, in later years, stood the dwelling of Shellis Patterson. His white assistants, in building, came from Waterville, twelve miles away, but with them were a few Indians who resided or were camped in the vicinity of the Haskins purchase. In 1829 or thereabouts, John B. McKnight, J. M. Jaques, the Cox and Decker families appeared in the neighborhood, and the pioneer felt that henceforth he would have neighbors. Shortly after the men named appeared in the wilderness, Haskins constructed a dam across the stream, and built a sawmill, thus becoming the first manufacturer in the south part of Wood county. John DeWitt was his sawyer at that time, and, later, his son-in-law. In 1833, Haskins erected a cabin, in the northern part of the present village of Portage, for his hired man, English, and that cabin, was used for school purposes in 1835-36, and, indeed, down to about 1842, as related in the history of Portage village, and under the heading "Schools," in this chapter.

*Hull's Stockade.*—In those early days, there was a stockade standing on the bank of the West Branch, on what is known as the Knagg's farm. No one then residing in the county could give its history, nor was anything definite learned of it until April 18, 1891, when D. W. H. Howard wrote to the *Sentinel* on the subject. From that letter, the following paragraph is taken:

I have passed many times when a boy, and camped near its walls, and always thought it an old French traders' fort; yet it was near one of the trails used by Hull's army, but I cannot vouch for the truth of this, but this a matter of history. The swamps and streams were always full, and goods and furs were taken by canoes up or down the Portage and the Beaver, and carried across from the head waters of

one stream to the other. The "old trail" across was a well beaten track; the two streams furnished early communication (nearly all the way by water) from the villages on the bay at the mouth of the Portage river, to the large and important Ottawa village of the chief Gein-jo-i-no, on the left bank of the Maumee, opposite the mouth of Beaver creek (O-mick-ce-pe). This route, although much farther than via the Maumee, on account of the almost continuous rapids for eighteen miles, was more convenient. Hull may have built the block-house, as I have often heard the story from the older Indians, that the "White Chief" (Hull) had left some of his sick and foot-sore soldiers in a small stockade in the swamp, who returned south over the trail after they had sufficiently recruited, and this may have been the place.

We can imagine how that stockade aroused the curious spirit of the first settlers. In their partial isolation, small things amused and interested them, but that rude stockade was a thing of more than passing interest, which formed a subject for conversation round the hearthstones of the settlements, night after night. Progress, rather than Time, removed the last vestige of it years ago.

*Men of 1839.*—In less than four years after the organization of the township, the assessor reported forty-seven male inhabitants, each twenty-one years old or over, and from his list the following names are taken: John Astling, Benjamin Abbott, Conrad Albright, Sacket Brown, Franklin Brown, James Bloom, Horace Cady, George Cook, Jesse Carter, Henry Dubbs, Henry Ellsworth, John Edgar, John Ellsworth, William Edgar, George Ellsworth, John Elder, Henry Groves, William Groves, John Groves (now living in Missouri), Collister Haskins, Henry Hoff, Seth Harris, Isaiah Harris, Richard Kilbury, William Lathrop, Joseph Mitchel, Joseph Mitchel, Jr., John McMahan, William Mercer, George Mercer, Squire J. McConnel, Calvin Rice, Leonard Smith, Ephraim Simmons, Jonathan Salsbury, Charles Sheward, John Sheward, John Sargent, Eli Salsbury, Eli Thurstin, Richard Trowel, S. Wrinklekee, Jacob Wickham, John Wonder, John Wonder, Jr., William Underhill and Daniel Ellsworth. When Henry Dubbs located on Sec. 19, in April, 1831, James Birdsall's was the only family west of him in the township. Wm. Lathrop built a cabin, a few weeks later, between the Dubbs and Birdsall cabins, and later in that year the Hutchinsons, Morrison McMillen and Samuel Barton appeared as neighbors to the west.

*Fever and Ague.*—The vicissitudes and hardships of the first settlers of this part of Wood county can never be realized or understood by the present inhabitants, although a period of only a little over sixty years has elapsed. They were subject to all kinds of deprivations. The most distressing of all the rest was their being

subject to epidemics that swept through the country every summer and fall in the shape of malarial fevers of every grade from the real old-fashioned four-hours' shaking and twenty-hours' fever every day, down to the third-day chills, and this all to be borne without medicine or medical assistance. In the spring of 1834 the Good Spirit, thinking He had punished His people enough, sent Dr. Eli Manville, who soon distributed a few pounds of calomel and a few hundred bottles of quinine in a radius of some twenty miles.

*The Horse Thieves.*—The years of speculation and what was known as "wild-cat money" times in 1837 and 1838, brought quite a number of new settlers to Liberty and adjoining townships, which in a year or two after had the bad effect of seriously disturbing and breaking up the social and confiding friendship of the first settlers. There proved to be a regularly organized band of counterfeiterers, burglars and horse thieves who had chosen this part of the country for their depredations. They established their headquarters, and constituted, as their leader and captain, one who then lived and owned the farm later known as the J. Z. Smith farm. Their accomplices seemed to be established in a direct line from Huron county, running west through Sandusky, Wood, Henry and Williams counties, and thence extending into the State of Indiana.

About the year 1837 their depredations became so bold and lawless, that the honest class of men of Liberty and the adjoining townships, united to stop law-breaking; among these were Collister Haskins, John McMahan, Henry Dubbs, W. C. Lathrop, John Groves, James Bloom, the Mercer brothers, John Sargent, Samuel McCrory, and a number of other leading men in Liberty; in Portage township were found Judge Carothers, Jacob Eberly, and the Cox family of brothers. In Center, H. Lundy, H. Shively, Lee Moore, David Hixon. In Plain the Tracys, Edgertons, Jos. A. Sargent, John Evers, and the Huffs. In Milton, were McMillen, the Bartons and Taylors, and a great number of other influential men of the country, who resolved to to bring the depredators to justice. They proceeded to the work by pledging themselves one to another collectively and undividedly to clean out the organization or be fairly whipped. They called to their assistance Willard V. Way, of Perrysburg, who was then the prosecuting attorney. They organized a court of examination at the house of James Bloom, which is now owned by N. W. Stafford. The examining court consisted of C. Mercer, J. P., of Lib-

erty, Morrison McMillen, J. P., of Milton, and F. Carothers, J. P., of Portage township. There were some ten or twelve of the outlaws arrested, and brought before the court by Constables Rex Tracy, G. Cook and J. H. Carothers, who acquitted themselves fearlessly and creditably. The examination continued from day to day for fifteen days, Sundays not excepted, and resulted in committing to jail the leader, and four of his accomplices.

Following close after the foregoing was the arrest of three of the same band for the murder, in Henry county, of the Chief Sumundewat, his daughter and son-in-law, of the Wyandotte tribe of Indians, then living on the reservation at Upper Sandusky Reserve. It was not until 1844 that the last known members of the organization were driven out.

*Early Land Buyers.*—The earliest land purchases were made in Liberty township from 1825 to 1835. Among the buyers were the following well-known pioneers:

Collister Haskins (E. of N. E., N. E. of S. E., W. of S. E. and W. of N. E., Sec. 12) entered these tracts on Aug. 9, 1825, Dec. 6, 1832, and June 18, 1833.

John Sargent, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and N. E. of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 1, Nov. 27, 1832.

Collister Haskins, E. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 1, Dec. 6, 1832.

John Ellsworth, S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 3, Jan. 2, 1834.

Henry Levering, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 4, March 15, 1834.

Ralph O. Keeler, N. E. of N. E., S. 4, Oct. 21, 1835.

George Rooney, S. E. of N. E., S. 6, Aug. 20, 1835.

Jonathan Salsbury, W. of S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 8, Jan. 1, 1834.

William Grove, E. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 8, March 1, 1834.

Horace Cady, N. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and S. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 9, Oct. 23, 1833.

Horace Cady, W. pt. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 10, Oct. 23, 1833.

John Groves, S. W. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 10, Nov. 2, 1833.

David Dewitt, N., S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 10, Dec. 23, 1834.

George Mercer, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 12, June 18, 1833.

Ambrose Rice, E. of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 12, March 10, 1836.

George and John Mercer entered tracts in S. 13, in 1833.

George, Caleb and William Mercer, in S. 14, in 1833 34 and 1836.

James Birdsall, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 18, Aug. 21, 1833.

William C. Lathrop, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 18, Oct. 21, 1833.

Henry Dubbs, N. W. of N. W., S. 19, Oct. 21, 1833.

Lewis Keith, entered land in S. 23, June 19, 1834.

Thomas McFadden, in 25, Jan. 25, 1836.

John McMahan, E., N. W., and N. W. of N. E., and N. W. of S. W., S. 28, Jan. 1, 1834.

Sylvester Culver, E., N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 32, Feb. 19, 1834.

James Headley, N. of N. W., S. 32, March 15, 1834.

*Organization.*—Liberty township was established March 2, 1835, and the first meeting for the choice of officers was ordered to be held at Henry Groves' house, on the first Monday of April, following. The territory of the original municipal township embraced Congressional Townships 3 and 4 N., in Range 12 E.

*Electors and Officers.*—The names of the electors at that time were John Sargent, Collister Haskins, Thomas Robinson, Horace Cady, Henry Groves, John Groves, Jonathan Salsbury, David

Dewitt, Ephraim Simmons, John Dunham, George Ellsworth, Hugh Arbuckle, Joshua Wright, Henry Dubbs, John McMahan, George Mercer, Lyman Macumber, Samuel Silsby, James Birdsall, Reuben Strait, William C. Lathrop and James Robinson. The result of the election was, for trustees, James Birdsall, Henry Groves, George Ellsworth; for clerk, Reuben Strait; for treasurer, Hugh Arbuckle; for justice of the peace, James Birdsall and Jacob Wickham. "Their choice for treasurer, Arbuckle, proved to be an injudicious one. He was a native of Scotland, a fine scholar and apparently a gentleman, who was in the stock business in connection with Reed & Bishop, of Urbana. During the year that he was serving the township as treasurer, he sold a quantity of the partnership stock, pocketed the money and emigrated. At the time he left, he also had \$28 of the township funds on hand. That also went down in his pocket. John McMahan and Henry Dubbs, who were his bail, paid the sum to the township, but not without some very pointed epithets and firm resolves to never bail another man, which resolves they both very soon forgot." At the next election John Sargent was elected treasurer, which office he held until his death, a period of over twenty years.

In the record of the October election of 1835, Hugh Arbuckle, John McMahan and George Mercer are not named; but the name of Henry Dubbs appears among the eighteen voters present.

*Records.*—The first statement, giving names of electors and first officials, is taken from the *Sentinel* of April 19, 1877, otherwise it could not have been made, for the minute books of the trustees, from April, 1835, to April, 1880, save one in possession of E. W. Norris, are gone. In the county auditor's office, and township treasurer's office, however, the documents offered a last resort to the searcher, and from them the names of justices of the peace back to 1835, trustees back to 1842, and clerks and treasurers to a corresponding date are taken.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Justices.*—The justices of Liberty township were Jacob Wickham, elected in 1835; James Birdsall, 1835; John Groves, 1837; John McMahan, 1839; Caleb Mercer, 1840; John McMahan, 1842; Ephraim Moody, 1843; George Mercer, 1847-51; John Groves, 1847; Lewis Dubbs, 1850; James McCrory, 1851; Thomas Fearnside, 1854; John Osborn, 1857; Edwin Gorton, 1857; John H. Dewitt, 1858; E. B. Turner, 1860; James McCrory, 1861; Lewis F. Dubbs, 1861-

70-73-76; Nathan D. Stratton, 1864-67; J. G. Patterson, 1864-67; R. G. Potter, 1869; E. T. Hayes, 1875; E. B. Turner, 1878-81-84-88, resigned in 1890; A. J. McMahan, 1879, resigned in 1882; B. F. See, 1882-85; J. E. Hummell, 1888; N. W. Stafford, 1889, resigned in 1892, but resignation not accepted by trustees; Jacob Hock, 1891-94; F. M. McIntire, 1894.

*Trustees.*—The trustees of the township, so far as can be found in the township treasurer's books and county auditor's documents, are named as follows:

1842—John Wonder, Jr., W. C. Lathrop, Jonathan Salsbury.  
 1843—John Wonder, Jr., Robert Cook, George Mercer.  
 1844—Justus Simmons, William Groves, George Mercer.  
 1845-46—Henry Dubbs, William Edgar, John H. DeWitt.  
 1847—George Mercer, F. H. Ellsworth, William Holmes.  
 1848—John H. DeWitt, William Groves, George Mercer.  
 1849—John McMahan, S. L. Sargent, F. H. Ellsworth.  
 1850-52—John McMahan, W. C. Lathrop, F. H. Ellsworth.  
 1851—John C. Wooster, William Edgar, F. H. Ellsworth.  
 1853—John McMahan, W. R. Carothers, Thomas Fearnside.  
 1854-55—John McMahan, Daniel Wirtz, Thomas Fearnside.  
 1857—A. Shively, John McMahan, S. L. Sargent.  
 1858—John Groves, John Osborn, W. A. Sargent.  
 1859—John Groves, John McMahan, W. A. Sargent and George Wright.  
 1860—John Mercer, S. L. Sargent, John Osborn.  
 1861—J. Z. Smith, S. L. Sargent, John Mercer.  
 1862—J. Z. Smith, James McCrory, S. L. Sargent.  
 1863—J. Z. Smith, J. G. Patterson, S. L. Sargent.  
 1864—J. Z. Smith, Charles Mercer, Daniel Housley.  
 1865—John McMahan, Thomas Fearnside, Daniel Wirtz.  
 1866—Daniel Housley, J. Z. Smith, W. A. Sargent.  
 1867—John Johnston, J. Z. Smith, Charles Mercer.  
 1868—John Johnston, R. G. Potter, Samuel Mercer.  
 1869—John Johnston, R. G. Potter, Asa Comstock.  
 1870-71—Levi Adams, L. D. Milbourn, William Ransbottom.  
 1872—Levi Adams, L. D. Milbourn, R. G. Potter.  
 1873-74—James McCrory, Henry Mercer, N. W. Stafford (*vice* Potter).  
 1875—L. F. Dubbs, Louis W. McCrory, N. W. Stafford.  
 1876—Daniel Mercer, Louis W. McCrory, N. W. Stafford.  
 1877—Daniel Mercer, Louis W. McCrory, Levi Adams.  
 1878-79—A. J. McMahan, Louis W. McCrory, Levi Adams.  
 1880—Joseph Mitchell, A. J. McMahan, Seldon Welton.  
 1881—Joseph Mitchell, John E. Digby, Josiah Smith.  
 1882—John E. Digby, Josiah Smith, William H. Levers.  
 1883—John E. Digby, Joel Hull, Frank Snyder.  
 1884—Abraham Mercer, John E. Digby, William H. Levers.  
 1885-86—J. H. Mitchell, D. L. Whitacre, H. E. Leedy.

In 1887, Hiram E. Leedy was elected; 1888, D. L. Whitacre; 1889, George W. Friend; 1890, William G. Conkey; 1891, Hiram E. Leedy; 1892, Daniel B. Pugh; 1893, W. G. Conkey; 1894, Horace Mercer; and 1895, Daniel B. Pugh. In 1896 Ashel Sanglier was elected to succeed William G. Conkey.

*Clerks.*—Among the citizens who are known to have filled the clerk's office were Reuben Strait, in 1835; John Groves, in 1839; Caleb Mercer, in 1843; L. F. Dubbs, in 1851; S. Johnson, in 1853; Caleb Mercer, in 1855; James Bloom, in 1856; L. F. Dubbs, in 1857; J. L. Roller, in 1859; E. B. Turner, in 1860; S. Johnson, in 1862; E. B. Turner, in 1863-67; B. M. Delano, in 1868;

John Johnson, in 1869; R. M. Donnelly, in 1872-81; A. J. McMahan, 1881; B. F. See, 1881; J. D. Munn, 1882; H. B. Saylor, 1883; J. D. Munn, 1884; H. B. Saylor, 1885; W. H. Hull, 1888; B. W. Mercer, 1890; W. J. Digby, 1894-96, re-elected.

*Treasurers.*—The story of the first treasurer has been told. John Sargent, elected in 1836, appears to have held the office until 1857, when Abraham Mercer qualified. Caleb Mercer was elected in 1858, Abraham Mercer followed in 1859, then Caleb was re-elected, serving until April, 1862, when A. Abbott was chosen. H. H. Wadsworth appears to have been treasurer from April, 1864, to 1871, when Samuel Mercer succeeded him. On the removal of the latter to Bowling Green, in 1891, the present treasurer, Matt. Schondelmyer, was elected.

*Assessors.*—In giving a list of assessors, it must be considered that, owing to the want of township records, only a few of the number can be named with certainty. George Cook served in 1842-43; Caleb Mercer, in 1844; George Alberti, in 1845; John Elder, in 1847 to 1860 (with the exception of John McMahan's term, in 1853-54); Caleb Mercer, 1868; J. H. Whitehead, 1870; Geo. W. McMahan, in 1871; Elisha P. Turner, 1874; M. S. Winton, elected in 1876, served to 1877; L. F. Dubbs, 1877; M. S. Winton, 1879; Hiram E. Leedy, 1884; William Campbell, 1885; and J. H. McMahan from 1887 to 1896, re-elected.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Hall.*—In June, 1889, the bid of E. E. Householder for building a town hall, at a cost of \$433.10, was accepted, and in March, 1890, the house was rented to Frank Haskins and others for Grange meetings, the provision being made that such meetings would not interfere with those of the trustees or school board. In 1895, the tax levy was fixed at 1.9 mill.

*The Perrysburg and Findlay Road*, referred to in the chapter on Highways, Railroads and Navigation, was authorized February 26, 1820, by the Legislature; but the first county road in the township was cut through in March, 1825, from the N. E. corner of Section 1, to the S. W. corner of Section 18, Lee Moore, John Sargent and Morrison McMillen being the viewers, and Neptune Nearing, the surveyor. The last-named traveled sixteen miles in the five days passed in surveying, and made a plat of the road for the round sum of \$7.50.

*The First Ditch* petition, filed March 24, 1859, was signed by C. W. Simon, Adam Waltman and

W. S. Ferguson. It asked for the construction of a great drain from Section 13, Jackson township, along the course of the Portage, to the confluence of the branches at Pemberville—a distance of thirty-five miles. The petition was granted, and the ditch made at a cost of \$50,000. It drained 8,000 acres of the prairie basin in Liberty, with large areas in Milton and Jackson and the eastern townships, and must be considered the first great ditch excavated in this county.

*An Adventure on the Prairie.*—The following story was related by J. F. Dubbs, with the dual object of preserving an incident of early days, and of showing the physical character of a part of the township before the era of drainage was introduced:

In 1851 (says Mr. Dubbs), Nathaniel Badger, nephew of the old missionary, came and fixed up the cabin, got married and lived there a year or so. Nathaniel had a sister, Stella, a teacher, who lived in Plain township. One bright morning in June Stella and a lady cousin from "York State," nicely mounted on horseback, rode up to our cabin, on the north side of the prairie, to inquire if it would be possible for them to follow the old Indian trail straight across to the Badger cabin. I was a young man at that time, and far too much interested in the two nicely dressed young ladies to see them try to pass over that dangerous, miry trail, and at once advised them to go around by the usual wagon trail, which was of itself bad enough; they took my advice. That evening my brothers, Lewis and John, W. R. Carothers and myself, were chatting around a mosquito smoke at my father's, when, about 9 o'clock, we heard some one hallooing in the distance. I told the boys of the incident of the morning—that two girls had rode over to Badgers, which I had neglected to say was about two miles from our place. Carothers at once said, "that is surely a woman's voice;" we started at once for the prairie, taking with us our two well-trained dogs. When we got through the woods to the prairie we could hear the cries, but very indistinctly, away to the west of us; we shouted so lustily that we made ourselves heard plainly by the lost wanderer, who at once turned back toward us. Soon the dogs were barking away, out in the gloomy waste, in a somewhat different direction. When Lewis and Carothers got to them they found the intelligent brutes had done their part well and faithfully. As if guided by some instinct the dogs had understood what we wanted them to do, and had done it, thereby saving a human life. There, in a grassless spot, in the oozy mire and water, her head barely above the slimy surface, speechless and exhausted, was one of the girls—the one from New York. She probably could not have survived an hour longer. I need not relate our difficulties in getting the poor girl out, for she was perfectly helpless to walk for some time, even if she had been on good ground. Soon after Stella, whose shouts had first warned us of their danger, was found, and not long after brother John and I and the dogs found the horses, grazing in a place where the water was shallow, and got them out to the woods. It was fortunate for the feelings of the poor girls at that particular time that it was dark, for they were in a sorry plight, indeed. Stella told us how it all happened: They had prolonged their stay at Badger's until quite late, and then to gain time had attempted to make a short cut by the Indian trail to our house. The trail crossed a neck of prairie about half a mile wide; it was here they lost their course and went too far east. The prairie, at that time of the year, was wet in those days; no one who has not seen the Wadsworth, or Liberty, prairie, as we sometimes called it, in its natural state, before our drainage system went into effect, can form any true conception of its condition, nor picture to himself the magnitude of the change since. The water was from one to

three feet deep, the grass from three to eight feet high; a great part of the prairie was swampy. It was infested with all sorts of beasts, birds and reptiles common to this country at that time. Wolves, snakes, turtles, frogs, cranes, pumpers, deer flies, and last, but worst in early summer, were the endless swarms of ravenous mosquitoes. Then the heavy fogs which curtained this gloomy wilderness made the aspect so dismal and forbidding that the strongest man might well recoil from its treacherous borders.

Not long after the horses left the trail they began to swamp down, and the riders were unseated from their saddles with no possibility of mounting, even if it had been desirable to do so. In attempting to lead the horses the girls had their skirts trod on and torn off at the waist and were in danger themselves of being tramped into the mire by the floundering animals. By this time they had worked so far east as to be in about the worst part of the swamp, probably not far west of the notorious "Stoga Hole." Here the New York girl gave up to die. Stella left her friend and the horses, and started as she supposed in the direction of her brother's cabin; but how could a woman, wading in water to her knees, in coarse rank grass higher than her head, blinded by mosquitoes and fog, take a course without a single landmark to guide her? She could not even see the woods that bordered the swamp. Fortunately she steered to the woods on the north side, but in a direction almost opposite from what she had intended, and came out about three-quarters of a mile from our house, where she was wandering about when her screams attracted our attention, as previously mentioned.

#### SCHOOLS.

The first log school house is referred to in the history of Portage village. In the fall of 1833, it is said it offered a shelter to Lee Moore and his family. It stood where is now the Drain dwelling, but was not used for school purposes until 1835, when William North organized a class. William Mercer succeeded him in 1836, and A. E. McComber in 1837. Among the pupils were David, Mary Ann and Isabel, children of George Mercer; Abraham and Charles, children of William Mercer; Wealthy, Henry, Sarah, Cynthia and Charles, children of Collister Haskins; Peter Johnson's children — Fidelia and Lydia; Jacob Eberly's children — John, Joe, Mary and Martha; John Sargent's children — Snowden, Nancy and Sarah; Thomas Well's children — Robert, Lydia and Hannah; David Lyon's children — Mary, Barbara and Jane; John Anderson, who was living with David Anderson; Thomas Cox's children — John and Elizabeth; Francis Carothers' children — William, Samuel, Mariah, Nancy, Mary and Neeley; Ephraim Simmons' daughter — Lucinda — and John M. Jaquis' child — Mary Jane. A second house was erected in 1847, which was opened by Mrs. Lavinia Sargent, as teacher. Eight years later, the board of education comprised John McMahan, Thomas Fearnside, George Mercer, John Welton and Cervantez Cook. That board voted \$600 for a school building, and ordered a levy of two mills on the dollar to be made. In the "sixties," J. G. Smith and Levi Adams were active members

of the board; while the names of J. W. Wing and Z. W. McMahan appear, in 1867-68, as members of the building committee.

The board of education in April, 1873, included John Johnson (No. 1), J. H. Whitehead (No. 2), (No. 3 unorganized), L. F. Dubbs (No. 4), George W. McMahan (No. 5), William Wallace (No. 6), F. Griffin (No. 7), Thomas McMahan (No. 8), and John Edgar (No. 9). In April, 1874, N. W. Stafford represented District No. 2; Henry Mercer, No. 3; John Bradshaw, No. 5; James McCrory, No. 7; G. D. Insley, No. 8, and Cyrus Fuller, No. 9. In September, 1874, contractor S. L. Sargent was paid \$500 for a new house in District No. 1. In 1875 the building in District No. 6 was completed. Abraham Mercer, Enos Fellers, Robert Place and George Dipert were among the directors in 1876. John Johnson was chairman of the board in 1877; George W. Robinson, Richard Crocker, Matthew McKee and J. J. Brand, in 1879. In 1881, there were five Mercers on the board of education. That year the authority to build a brick house in District No. 5, or the Bradshaw school house, was given, and \$800 appropriated out of the contingent fund. About this time the introduction of modern school furniture and apparatus was noticed. The names of Frank Haskins, Daniel Pugh, John Anderson, W. R. Carothers, C. A. Mercer, William Kinney, D. L. Whitacre, James E. Kummel and Josiah Smith. The modern board holds but few of the old-time members who did so much to develop the school system in this township. Younger men have taken their places; but the building of school houses, and organization and reorganization of districts go forward as if nothing had hitherto been done. C. A. Mercer has been a director for almost a quarter of a century.

#### CHURCHES.

Very early in the history of Liberty township a *United Brethren* preacher came to the dwelling of Collister Haskins and preached his doctrine to the settlers. Some time after the first school house, or rather dwelling, was erected, Rev. Abner C. Cracraft, a Methodist preacher, called the settlers to listen to him.

*Mt. Zion Church* was organized in 1855, with the following named members: John Osborn, Caleb Mercer, Henry Groves, Elias Cheney, Jonas Henline, J. H. McMahan and their wives, E. Groves, Louisa Osborn, Matilda Mercer and old Mr. Cheney and his wife. Messrs. Foster, J. F. Seiler and P. W. Tussing have served this Church in the order given. Prior to 1875, the

district school house, in the neighborhood of Cass' Corners, was used for worship; but in the year named the present building was erected at a cost of \$2,205. There are seventy-seven members belonging to the society.

*The Bethel Church* may be said to date back to 1840, when George Lucy, a Disciple preacher, came to visit his sister—Mrs. Martha Whitacre—and with the Whitacres visited the Mercer settlement, where he preached the first sermon of that denomination at William Mercer's house. [He organized a class at the Whitacre school house, near the north line of Bloom.] Caleb and Abraham Mercer and Mrs. Groves were induced to accept his teachings at that time. In 1842, Benjamin Alton preached here, and, shortly after, John and William Mercer joined in a call to their friends to assemble for worship. After a few years had passed over, Mahlon Whitacre heard of Moses Bonham's preaching in Putnam county, and walked to the principal settlement of that county to meet him. He brought Bonham home with him, and, during the services which ensued, Daniel Mercer, John and James McCrory, Dr. Hutchins and George Mercer, Sr., were immersed. Bonham was then hired to preach one year, for which Whitacre agreed to give and did give him forty acres in the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 31, Portage. Mahlon Whitacre and John Mercer were chosen elders with Edward Whitacre, and William Mercer, deacons. Meetings were held in the Mercer school house. John Whitacre a preacher from Columbiana county, came a year or two later, held services in a school house northwest of Mermill, and received many into the society, among the number being Charles Mercer, Jane Mercer, Mary Ann McCrory, Harriet Mercer, Ellisa, and Elizabeth and David Mercer. William Wilson, a preacher, came in 1850, followed by Joseph Wade, Thomas Holmes and Zophar Green, of the Christian Bible Society. In 1853, John Harrison moved into Portage; and, in 1858, a Methodist peacher, Mr. Shirk, preached for the Disciples, assisted by Nelson Piper, a Disciple, and Silas Foster, a United Brethren preacher. At that time, thirty persons were baptized, and on April 11, 1858, the society was organized—John and Daniel Mercer, elders, Abraham Mercer and James McCrory, deacons, and twenty-seven others forming the first society; the Whitacres and others holding the Whitacre class. Others united with the United Brethren Society; but Mr. Piper continued to preach, receiving pay at the rate of one dollar for each sermon.

In 1859, Dana Call was hired to preach, and

continued here until July 23, 1861, many members being added during his ministration. Orange Higgins, Michael Riddle, William Dowling and Jackson Dowling preached here in the meantime, or until the society was reorganized in March, 1863, with twenty male and thirty-five female members. William Dowling was engaged as pastor for one year, the salary being \$75 per annum, and after the expiration of his term remained as pastor for five years. In 1865, the first church house was erected at a cost of \$1,200—John, Daniel, Abraham, and Charles Mercer, giving \$550; Robert Miller, \$80; A. VanBlarcum, \$75; and John Mercer, Jr., \$50, toward the building fund. In 1868, Mr. Dowling retired, and Dana Call preached here in 1869. Several preachers were here prior to November, 1872, when Mr. Dowling returned at a salary of \$420. In 1880, after many preachers filled the pulpit, J. V. Updike agreed to give quarter time to this church, and was the pastor until 1886, when the plan of having preachers fill the pulpit for short periods was adopted. The society was incorporated in 1888, and Daniel Mercer, Robert Miller, Joseph Horn and William Kinney were chosen trustees, with Andrew Welton, clerk. In 1889, William Dowling resumed his pastoral position, and in 1890, G. W. Cline, whose salary was placed at \$200 per annum, became pastor. From 1858 to 1890, no less than 597 were recorded as members, and of the total there were 160 members at the close of 1890. [This sketch is based on the records of the Church in possession of H. J. Rudolph—records which can be truly called the only complete ones in the whole township.]

#### HAMLETS.

*Stockwell* post office was established in June, 1888, with John F. Carmody, master. The Laney oil well, in the vicinity, was then in charge of Mr. Carmody. The office was discontinued when Wingston was established.

*Ducat* was surveyed by D. D. Ames in February, 1890, for Exea Ducat, Thomas J. Ducat and Quincy A. Mercer. John Bash is the present postmaster at that place.

*Ross Creek*, about a quarter mile northwest of the present village of Mermill, was the site of Robert Mackey's store, of 1836. The little building was burned in 1837, and the owner moved away. Reason Whitacre remembers Mackey as a tall, gaunt man, who carried a fair stock of general merchandise, and knew the value of a coon skin or a bushel of corn.

*Bays* was surveyed by R. F. Baker, in 1890.



for Theophilus P. Brown, trustee. M. L. Devore is now postmaster. Miss Lucy Cook was the first mistress; Arthur Cook succeeded her; Orrin Dills was the next, preceding M. L. Devore.

*Damtown* was established at the time of the building of the Coldwater railroad, when R. W. McMahan established a general store, and J. D. Haley (who established a store at Mermill) opened a drug and grocery house.

*Mercers* (now called *Rudolph*) was surveyed by W. H. Wood, May 13, 1890, for Daniel Mercer, on the S. E. corner of Section 14. A few days after, J. D. Mercer's addition was surveyed, and in 1893 Place's addition was recorded. H. J. Rudolph is the principal merchant of the village.

*Old Mungen*, established at the time the Coldwater railroad was constructed to the S. E. corner of Liberty township, boasted of the stores of R. W. McMahan, in the Reed building, the houses of T. Ireland and John Mercer, and the Grange Hall, all built late in 1875, or in January, 1876. A. Welton was master of the Grange; James McCrory, overseer; E. Gorton, lecturer; and P. McCrory, secretary. Almost a decade after, Rev. J. V. Updike organized the Disciples Church, and erected the present church building. Among the first members were the McCrorys, Thomas T. and Dr. Knight, John and Samuel Knight, the Whitacres and Groves, and a few of the Mercers. In July, 1895, there were 200 members.

*Town Line* was surveyed in November, 1892, by W. H. Wood, for the Dewey Stave Co., on the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 30, T. 4, R. 10. The re-

moval of the Dewey industry may be said to have left the village where it was in 1891.

*Woodbury*, noticed in the history of Henry township, had a post office as early as 1835. The name was dropped in May, 1876.

#### CONCLUSION.

There are but few of the pioneers left to relate the stories of early days. Local records, dealing with the township from 1835 to 1870, are equally scarce, but a determined effort has been made, by both the historical and biographical workers, to bring forth the story of the old settlers. When the vanguard of the pioneers located here, Findlay, to the south, and Waterville, to the northwest, were the nearest signals of civilization. Liberty township was truly a wilderness.

The Indian came to the Portage to hunt or to scan the faces of the whites, who were gradually spreading over their former territory. Sometimes they would camp within sight of the pioneer's cabin, as they did when Haskins located here in 1825; generally they would appear suddenly, spend a few days in conviviality and disappear as suddenly. The remnants of once powerful tribes, bowed down under inherited and acquired vices, felt that there was no place for them here, and in a few years were transported westward, never to return. Their successors, as claimants to the land, suffered many bitter trials and hardships; but came out of the ordeal stronger and better people to enjoy a beautiful land, which their labor reclaimed from the swamp and forest.

## CHAPTER XXXVI.

### MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP.

ITS SURVEY AND EARLY HISTORY—MEN OF 1839—THE PIONEERS—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—SCHOOLS—CEMETERIES; MILTONVILLE—HULL PRAIRIE—DUNBRIDGE—ROACHTON—DOWLING—SUGAR RIDGE—HASKINS—POST OFFICES—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES, ETC.

**T**HE survey of the exterior lines of this township was made by I. T. Worthington in the west part, and by Holmes brothers in the east part, in 1819, while the section lines were surveyed in 1821 by Worthington and Kellogg. The population in 1890 was 1,606.

This division of the county was established December 3, 1832, within the following described

boundaries: Commencing at the river on the line between River Tract, No. 55, and Sec. 16, T. 1, U. S. R., thence east to the line between T. 1 and 4, U. S. R. of twelve miles square; thence to the S. W. corner of T. 4; thence east to the S. E. corner of that township; thence south to the S. E. corner of T. 5, R. 11; thence west to the S. W. corner of T. 5, R. 10; thence north



to the Maumee river, and along the river to the place of beginning. Waterville township, established December 6, 1830, included Grangers (now Dodds), Roche de Boeuf and Missionary Islands, thus cutting off Middleton from any claim to these river formations. On June 3, 1833, that part of Middleton in T. 5, R. 11, and so much of T. 5, R. 10, as lay south of a line drawn between the second and third tier of sections in its northern half, were attached to Portage township, and subsequently other changes in boundaries were made, until the irregular lines of to-day were confirmed. On December 3, 1838, the commissioners refused to consider a petition for attaching this township to Washington. In June, 1839, Secs. 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36, of Fr. T. 6, were attached to Perrysburg; while on March 3, 1840, River Tracts 56, 57, 58 and 59, with the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 16 in original survey of U. S. R., and Fr. Secs. 16, 17, 20 and 21 of Washington were attached to Middleton township; but in June, 1841, all this territory, except Fr. Secs. 17, 20 and 21, was set off to Perrysburg township. Again, in 1844, Middleton lost the south  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 36, T. 6, R. 10, set off to Plain, and the south  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 31, T. 6, R. 11, set off to Center township.

In traveling down the river road, from Miltonville to Perrysburg, one may look across the river and see the site of the home established by Count Pierre Louis La Point, who left France in boyhood to take part with La Fayette in aiding the Continental army under Washington. He did not return home, but selected a spot west of Presque Isle hill for a large residence, surrounded himself with male attendants, and held two receptions there annually until his death. He was buried in the orchard, with an apple tree for a headstone. Joel Foote states that he was much beloved by the settlers.

*Men of 1839.*—The male inhabitants of Middleton, in 1839, over twenty-one years of age, were Andrew Hood, Andrew Hood, Jr., James Robertson, James Robertson, Jr., John Robertson, John Nicholson, Epaphroditus Foote, G. W. Baird, Moses Decker, Isaac Allen, Abraham Yount, Henry Hanford, Andrew Race, John W. Ulrich, H. H. Smith, Silas W. Reed, William R. Peck, George Loomis, William Ewing, W. L. Fowler, Samuel Pierce, James Fowler, Guy Nearing, James Pierce, Emileus Nearing (deaf and dumb), John White, L. E. Ellsworth, Richard Foster, Joseph Zerbe, Johnston White, Gabriel Yount, Nathan and John White. Joel Foote was then in Perrysburg. They with their families were the pioneers who

cleared away the forest, and converted the township into one of the richest agricultural districts of the county, almost sixty years before the oil men came to create a new industry, and ten years after Michael Sypher made his temporary home a half mile above Miltonville.

*The Pioneers.*—The pioneer arrived in 1810, from New York State, traveling overland to Buffalo, thence by schooner to Port Clinton, thence overland to Orleans, where he halted at Aurora Spafford's house, while exploring the country. The name of this adventurer was Jesse Skinner, who selected what was afterward known as River Tract, No. 50. Samuel H. Ewing, Andrew Race, Samuel Merritt, Jesse Murray, Cyrus Hitchcock, Robert Race, David Race and others accompanied the pioneer to Orleans, but did not select land in this township. Samuel Ewing selected land three miles away. Some returned to New York State the same year; but in June, 1812, the majority of them brought their families to settle in the wilderness. His fellow travelers assisted Skinner in building a cabin (just east of the south approach of the Waterville bridge), and, with Ewing and a French-Canadian trader named Lumbar, who lived at the mouth of Tontogany creek, occupied the south side of the river above the site of the Spafford settlement. The British, in 1813, ordered the Indians to drive the settlers on the Maumee from their homes. In 1815-16, most of them returned to find that their homes had been destroyed. In 1822, David Hull, also a New York man, located some one and one-half miles north of the present village of Haskins (afterward the eighty acres owned by Epaphroditus Foote). Some years after, the sheriff called to levy on his property, and seized on a favorite pony. This act grieved the pioneer, who proceeded to cut his throat. The sheriff sent for Dr. Conant, the unfortunate man's life was saved, but his reason was gone. Years afterward he died in a lunatic asylum, one of the martyrs to pioneer times in this county.

The tragedies of early days, enacted near the township line, were the murders of Ewing and Richardson about the time that immigration had set in, and that of Bill Ironsides (a Canadian half-breed), in 1835, by the Griffin brothers—Orrin and Henry. That cruel and unprovoked murder of the trapper took place at the foot of Mission Island. The perpetrators were sentenced to a short term in the penitentiary. Some time after Ewing settled in the Valley, a dance took place at the mouth of Tontogany creek, during which a young Indian named Nauquazike stabbed and killed Pamquak, another young savage who

dared to be courteous to Nauquazike's girl or squaw.

*Township Organization.*—The first election was held at Guy Nearing's house November 17, 1832, Guy Nearing being moderator; Isaac Van-Tassel, clerk; Johnston White, Sidney L. Brewster and James Rutter, judges; and Epaphroditus Foote, assistant clerk. Guy Nearing, Sidney L. Brewster and Michael Sypher were elected trustees; Isaac Van Tassel, clerk; Epaphroditus Foote, treasurer; Jacob Bernthisel and James Rutter, overseers of the poor; and John Wade and Jesse Bough, fence viewers. On January 21, 1833, Nearing, Sypher, Rutter, Van Tassel and Brewster, with Mrs. E. Foote, A. G. Skeed, Lewis King, A. Hamilton, Hiram Wade, Noah A. Reed, Silas W. Reed and Elias Crago, subscribed twelve and a half cents each toward purchasing a record book. That book was found in the calaboose at Haskins May 22, 1895, looking aged, of course, but strong and intact. The first work of the trustees was to divide the township into four road and school districts. School District No. 1 was to elect directors at Guy Nearing's; No. 2, at the mission station; No. 3, at Barone's house; and No. 4, at the house of Thomas Cox. These orders were made January 1, 1833, and on March 4, that year, a tax levy of one mill on the dollar was ordered for township purposes. In April, 1833, there were 36 votes cast, James Johnston receiving 28 for senator; John E. Hunt, 25 for representative; and Guy Nearing, 28 for commissioner. In March, 1834, the officials donated their services for the past year to the township. At the same time an orphan, named John Rice Cassity, was apprenticed to William Culver, a blacksmith, to serve until September 1, 1839. In 1835, the chopping and clearing of a road from Miltonville to Maumee Station was awarded to Joseph Logan on his bid of \$27.46. In April, 1838, the work of ditching one mile, on the Findlay road, was awarded to W. P. Alexander, John Howard and Moses Shallenbarger; but, they failing to do the work, it was given to Robert Motley and William McLain, on their bid of fourteen cents a rod.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Trustees.*—The trustees elected since April, 1833, are named as follows:

1833—Guy Nearing, Michael Sypher, Robert Black.  
 1834—Robert Black, Epaphroditus Foote, Horace Hamilton.  
 1835—Amasa Ballou, Jacob Crom, Isaac Van Tassel.  
 1836—Samuel Silsby, George W. Baird, Robert Cowen.  
 1837—David Whitney, John Crom, Epaphroditus Foote.  
 1838—David Whitney, Geo. W. Baird, Epaphroditus Foote.  
 1839—Henry Hanford, Gabriel Yount, Epaphroditus Foote.  
 1840—Henry Hanford, Seneca Sterling, Epaphroditus Foote.

1841—William Fowler, Seneca Sterling, David Whitney.  
 1842—John W. Ulrich, Harry Hanford, David Whitney.  
 1843—John W. Ulrich, Harry Hanford, Joel Foote.  
 1844—John W. Ulrich, David Whitney, Henry Hood.  
 1845—John W. Ulrich, Robert Dunlap, Henry Hood.  
 1846—Seneca E. Sterling, Robert Motley, Amos Robertson.  
 1847—Seneca E. Sterling, Henry Hanford, Benjamin Downs.  
 1848—Seneca E. Sterling, J. W. Austin, P. H. Durfey.  
 1849—David Whitney, J. W. Austin, P. H. Durfey.  
 1850—George W. Baird, William Wickham, Darius Bridges.  
 1851–52–53—James Maginnis, William Wickham, Patrick McIsaacs.  
 1854—James Maginnis, William Wickham, Amelius Robertson.  
 1855—J. W. Ulrich, Wooster Fay, Amelius Robertson.  
 1856—J. W. Ulrich, W. H. Ewing, Amelius Robertson.

The first record book covers the transactions of the board down to March, 1857, together with the records of ditches Nos. 1, 2 and 3, and the records of ear marks and estray notices. Book No. 2 was found in the old Cunning building, now the Woodford store, among many old volumes, and owing to this fact the list of trustees, clerks, treasurers and assessors, from 1857 to 1895, can be continued. The trustees from 1857 to the present time are named as follows:

1857—J. R. Rudolph, Samuel Bridges, Orrin Smith.  
 1858–59—J. W. Ulrich, James Maginnis, William Wickham.  
 1860–61—J. W. Ulrich, M. G. Wetmore, F. E. Meagley.  
 1862–63—J. W. Ulrich, William Wickham, Henry Hood.  
 1864—Amos Tribble, James Miller, David Wallace.  
 1865—F. E. Meagley, D. W. Wallace, William Wickham.  
 1866—F. E. Meagley, William Wickham, David Newton.  
 1867—S. F. Bridges, Rezin Skinner, David Newton.  
 1868—William Atkinson, F. E. Meagley, Rezin Skinner.  
 1869—F. E. Meagley, R. Skinner, David Newton.  
 1870—Thomas Yount, W. H. Wetmore, F. E. Meagley.  
 1871—F. E. Meagley, Gurdon Pitcher, Thomas Yount.  
 1872—Robert Pargellis, J. S. Ellis, Thomas Yount.  
 1873—Robert Pargellis, John Hanney, Thomas Yount.  
 1874—William Roller, Gurdon Pitcher, Thomas Yount.  
 1875—James Savory, Gurdon Pitcher, Thomas Yount.  
 1876—James Savory, Charles Moore, Thomas Yount.  
 1877—James Savory, Charles Moore, Gurdon Pitcher.  
 1878—Charles Moore, Gurdon Pitcher, John Current.  
 1879—F. E. Meagley, Gurdon Pitcher, John Current.  
 1880–81—Thomas Yount, Oscar Lyon, Geo. C. Stevenson.  
 1882—J. D. Smith, Oscar Lyon, Anthony A. Cogley.  
 1883—S. S. Smith, L. C. Wilson, Anthony A. Cogley.  
 1884—A. A. Cogley, L. C. Wilson, Gurdon Pitcher.  
 1885—M. M. Maginnis, Henry Apel, Isaac Sutton.  
 1886—Henry Sternaman, L. C. Wilson, Oscar Lyon.  
 1887—Henry Sternaman was elected trustee for a long term; in 1888—Oscar Lyon; 1889—Thomas Yount; 1890—John Current; 1891—L. P. Thomas; 1892—Adam Beil; 1893—William Yount; 1894—L. P. Thomas; 1895—Adam Beil; 1896—Thomas J. Fuller.

*Justices.*—The justices were Michael Sypher, who qualified July 8, 1833, and Guy Nearing, September 4, 1833; Amasa Ballou and Michael Sypher, 1836; Jeremiah Ward, 1837; William Fowler, 1837; Jeffrey Nearing, 1838; Guy Nearing, 1839; Seneca Sterling, 1840–49; George W. Baird, 1840–43; Epaphroditus Foote, 1841 (no notice of qualification); James Robertson, 1843; James Hood, 1847; Jeremiah Case, 1849; William Ewing, 1850 to 1865; Amelius Robertson, 1856 to 1868; Cyrus Gibbs, 1858; Sidney War-

ren, 1859-62; A. V. Perry, 1866-70; Rezin Skinner, 1871; John W. Garrett, 1872; Joseph Collins, 1873; M. G. Wetmore, 1875-78; Robert Pargellis, 1876-79; James Johnston, 1881 to 1890; Henry Russell, 1882; Frank Rodgers, 1885; John C. Yarick, 1888 (resigned in 1890); N. S. Jones, 1890 (resigned in 1892); William Yerkson, 1892; William Cobley and L. A. Trepanier, 1893; William Cobley and L. A. Trepanier.

*Clerks.*—Isaac Van Tassel, 1833; Michael Sypher, 1835; William R. Peck, 1836; William Fowler, 1838; W. R. Peck, 1839; Geo. W. Baird, 1840; William Ewing, 1846-47 and '49; G. W. Baird, 1848; William Ewing, 1850-54 and '55; Galusha Lyon, 1853; William Ewing, 1856-57; Sidney Warren, 1859; Galusha Lyon, 1860; O. B. Brown, 1861; Robert Pargellis, 1864; Rezin S. Skinner, 1865; H. S. Brown, 1866, but Myron G. Brown signs the minutes; J. M. Cuning, 1868; P. J. Feagles, 1869; A. S. Rush, 1870; G. A. Repass, 1871; I. B. Gibbs, 1872; L. P. Tribble, 1874; L. Baughman, 1876; J. P. Fisk, 1877; L. P. Tribble, 1879; D. C. Bemis, 1880; William C. Garrett, 1886; John Bash, 1890; Frederick W. Pinert, 1892. He resigned in April, 1895, and Fred. Pinert was appointed to fill the vacancy. In 1896, V. M. Bradfield was elected.

*Treasurers.*—Epaphroditus Foote, 1833; Jacob Crom, 1834; Robert Black, 1835; William Fowler, 1836; David Whitney, 1842; James Robertson, 1844; David Whitney, 1845; Henry Hood, 1846; David Whitney, 1847; G. W. Hoobler, 1849; Henry Hood (appointed), 1849; Galusha Lyon, 1854; J. R. Rudolph, 1859; Amelius Robertson, 1864; Z. Thomas, 1866; C. Osterhout, 1868; S. F. Bridges, 1869; James Johnston, 1873; Charles Osterhout, 1874; W. A. Williams, 1876; E. J. Greenfield, 1886; L. P. Tribble, 1888-96.

*Assessors.*—James Roberston, 1843; William Ewing, 1845 and 1854; Henry Hood, 1846; W. C. Matthews, 1847; G. W. Baird, 1849; David Whitney, 1851; Henry A. Paine, 1853; William Ewing, 1855-56-57; James Maginnis, 1859; W. A. Webb, 1862; Rezin S. Skinner, 1864; Henry Hood, 1865; S. R. Hoobler, 1866; R. Pargellis, 1868; G. B. Hanford, 1869; Henry Hood, 1870; James Maginnis, 1871; M. G. Wetmore, 1872; William Wickham, 1877; William Wickham, 1880; G. Chase, 1881; F. J. Brand, 1884; Alonzo Keeler, 1886; A. M. Segar, 1886 and 1888; Amos Twining and George Williams, 1887; Gurdon Pitcher, 1888; John Goodell, 1890-96; A. M. Wickham, 1891; John Schutz-

berg, 1892; M. Park, 1893; G. S. Meeker, 1894; L. C. Wilson, and Jas. T. Roller, 1896.

#### SCHOOLS.

In April, 1837, Emilius Wood, Amasa Bal-lou and William R. Peck were elected school examiners, they being the first referred to in the records. In March, 1838, Epaphroditus Foote, William Fowler and Henry Hanford were appointed school directors under the law of that year. In 1848, Sections 19, 29, 30, 31 and 32, were added to Secs. in T. 4, U. S. R., to form a new school district, David Ladd and A. Spafford representing Perrysburg township as trustees. On July 26, 1835, the school trustees employed Guy Nearing to erect a frame house 22 x 15 x 15 feet for \$40; to furnish lumber at \$10 per M.; to put in twelve window frames at \$1 each, and two door frames at \$1.50 each; to make and hang two panel doors at \$3, and to lay the lower floor for \$3.30. This contract refers to the Miltonville school, rules for the government of which were adopted November 10, 1839. William R. Peck, one of the first teachers of District No. 1, made the following list of pupils enrolled in November, 1839: Milton Baird, Daniel Ellsworth, Charles Pierce, each aged ten years; Charles Baird, Benjamin Fowler, William Motley, Nancy Pierce, Lovinia Hyndman, Sarah Austin and Jeremiah Decker, each eight years; Leroy Foote and Walter Sherwin, seven years; Oscar and Fred. Foote, Henry Pierce, Margaret White, Sarah Motley, Theodore Ewing, Sarah L. Peck, Elias Austin, and Isaac Nearing, six years and under. The senior pupils were Epaphroditus Foote, William Nason, Smith Motley, Henry Nearing, Sophia Hyndman, Sabrina Austin and Elisha Hyndman, from thirteen to fifteen years of age; Judith R. Allen, Nancy Sherwin, Allen Austin, Oliver Decker, Martha Motley, each about twelve years, and Merritt Flint, a school urchin of twenty-two winters. In April, 1840, Lucy A. Crosby succeeded teacher Peck; Isaac Van Tassel taught in March, 1841; Lucy A. Crosby in October, 1841; A. C. Davis, 1842; M. L. Bamber, 1843; Jeremiah Case, 1844; S. G. Brown, 1845; W. C. Matthews, 1847; Morris Brown, 1848; Sophia Barlow, 1848; Smith Dunham, 1849; Amanda F. Howland, 1849; Nathan W. Minton, 1850; Sophia A. Barlow, 1850; Henry C. Strow, 1851; Elise Bird-sall, 1851; A. P. Donaldson, 1852; Harriet E. Burkhart, 1852; O. W. Parrish, 1853, and J. Foster, 1854. Oscar Foote was teacher of the sub-district in 1855.

In 1879, F. E. Meagley, Oscar Lyons, Robert

Wallace, G. C. Stevenson, J. L. Stearns, John Taylor, John Parkison, G. W. Yount and M. Klaberger formed the board of education for this township. In 1880, the clerks of eight of the ten districts were J. L. Stearns, John Parkison, John Taylor, Valentine Schwind, F. E. Meagley, R. Wallace, G. C. Stevenson and Alonzo Keeler. In April, 1895, a levy of seven mills for school purposes was authorized. The twelve districts then organized; F. J. Brand was elected president of the board, with L. Lyon, J. P. Tunison, W. Skinner, Val. Schwind, A. Beil, Thomas Fuller, John Sullivan, Robert H. Sutton, L. P. Thomas, W. W. Snyder and L. Williamson, members. In 1896, the following were elected members of the school board: Louis Bowers, Augustus Schaller, Adam Beil, John Callin and John Sullivan. Many of the officers named in the township history have filled positions on the school board.

*Cemeteries.*—A petition of forty-three citizens of Perrysburg township was presented to the trustees of Middleton in 1888, asking that a cemetery be established on five acres of land, belonging to H. B. Shoemaker, in Sec. 33, T. 4, U. S. R. About the same time, Perrysburg, Middleton and Webster townships were interested in enlarging the Bellville Ridge cemetery. In December, 1893, came the election on the prohibition question, when eighty-seven votes were recorded for the sale of liquor and 188 against such sale.

#### MILTONVILLE.

Miltonville was surveyed in August, 1835, for William Fowler and G. W. Baird, who named it Miltonville, after Milton Baird. In 1835, Guy Nearing took the contract to build a sawmill and dam for Fowler & Baird (in connection with their Miltonville town project), a half mile below the town. The building and dam cost about \$5,500. Joel Foote left Hull's Prairie in 1835, moved into Miltonville, bought the Ezra Sanger dwelling and store, refitted the log house and kept the hotel there until 1840, when he returned to his farm. Of the other hotel, it may be said that William Ewing and Guy Nearing constructed the frame; that Ewing furnished it and named it "Uncle Guy House," and that after its sale to G. W. Baird, it was named "Taylor House." The hotel and store of Fowler & Baird were by no means the first houses on the site, for Ezra Sanger, in 1833, erected a log cabin there (the "Foote Hotel"), and James Conway owned a small frame building, which he occupied until his

removal to a farm west of Tontogany. Samuel Silsby and Johnson White were the ferrymen of the place, and, later, Morehouse, William Ewing and Whitcomb Haskins operated the rope ferry prior to 1856, when J. W. Ovitt purchased the interest of Haskins, and was ferryman for a few years, until the first bridge was completed. In 1840, there were only 105 in-lots listed for taxation, all being in the names of ten persons, who were considered responsible for taxes. Miltonville post office was established September 29, 1837, with Epaphroditus Foote in charge. When the D. & M. railroad was completed, in 1859, this office was discontinued.

In November, 1887, a span of the Waterville bridge, 170 feet long, fell, carrying with it six men, one of whom, named Jeffers, was killed. The work of tearing down the old bridge was then in progress, but the workmen did not realize the danger until too late.

#### HULL PRAIRIE.

Hull Prairie was surveyed for John H. Weller, C. W. Carpenter and Joseph H. Gardner, in October, 1861. In the spring of 1831, after two years' residence on Granger Island, Epaphroditus Foote moved to the farm he had purchased, on the north side of Hull Prairie, still known as the Foote farm. This land was once owned by David Hull, who located there in 1822, from whom the prairie took its name, and not from Gen. Hull, as is commonly supposed, Hull, Sypher and Bennett, having resided on the farm previous to its occupancy by the Foot family. James Robertson may be named among the first permanent settlers. In 1836, he and his family camped on the edge of the prairie. Having traveled from Perrysburg, they were fatigued; but sleep was not for them, as shortly after halting, five mounted Indians appeared, who gave the immigrants notice that they wished to burn the prairie. Within twenty minutes the high grass on that treeless tract was reduced to ashes. In 1837, Robertson built a log house on his land which was known as the "Half-way House." Shortly after the Robertson settlement was made, Henry Hood, Sr., and family selected prairie lands, followed by Andrew Pargellis and W. H. Wetmore, the last-named coming in 1840 or 1842. In 1844 a log cabin was erected for school purposes on Section 24, over which Margaret Frazier, just arrived from Scotland, was appointed to preside. There, also, religious services and social meetings would be held, so that it was

the center of the social life of the prairie settlement. In 1848, Ann E. Bruce, now known as Mrs. Frederick, the librarian at Perrysburg, taught the same school. The original Hull log house, owned by Schaller in 1889, was razed that year or the next.

*Prairie Class of the M. E. Church* was organized February 11, 1866, by James W. Boyd, leader; T. N. Barkdull, pastor; and H. S. Bradley, presiding elder. There were twenty-seven members enrolled, namely: James W. and Ma-linda Boyd, B. R. and Maria Mason, John Jr. and Barbara Taylor, Richard and Nancy Carter, Catherine Crook, Sarah and James A. Spafford, Edward, Sr., Reuben, James, Bennett, Frank M., Darius B., Samuel and Caroline Carter, Ann and Sarah S. Smith, John C. and Calista Parkison, David and Rebecca Hackathorn, J. H. and Jane West, and Jairus and Jane Yoeman. In 1869, Richard Carter was leader, and Rev. C. Hong, of Millbury, circuit preacher. In 1875, Rev. J. W. N. Morrison preached here; J. C. Miller, in 1882; L. H. Lindsey, in 1885; L. C. Wilson, in 1886, when John Taylor was leader, who has been leader ever since. The Church is now in the Waterville circuit. With the Presbyterian Society, Prairie class enjoys the privilege of worship in Hood's church.

*The Hood Presbyterian Church* was incorporated January 20, 1877, with Henry Sarvis, R. Pargellis and John Hood, trustees. On the occasion of Henry Hood's death, in April, 1874, it was learned that he had bequeathed \$2,500 for the purpose of erecting a house of worship, to be held by the trustees of the Presbyterian and Methodist Episcopal Societies of the district, for their own use specially, and for that of evangelical Christians generally. On December 8, 1876, the following named members of the Haskins Church were dismissed to form this Church: Sarah E., Maggie E., Elizabeth, Andrew and Robert Pargellis, Jane Hood, Ellen Tracy, Ann E., Geraldine, James A. and Elizabeth Robertson, Addie Rider, Charlotte Barr and Henry Sarvis. Rev. A. J. Hadley, of Haskins, with elders Robert Pargellis and James A. Robertson. Mr. Pargellis has served as clerk since the beginning, and the elders still hold that position. The pastors since Mr. Hadley's time: Messrs. Vance and G. A. Adams have preached here, the latter since 1856, save for the time that the membership was incorporated in the Haskins Church. There are thirty-six members. Forty-nine years ago a branch of the Perrysburg Church was organized, by Rev. J. H. Newton. This society went into the Haskins Church when it was organized. Services

were held at the old log school house, by Mr. Newton and by Mr. Adams.

A union Sunday-school of Presbyterians and Methodists was organized here, which has been running for fifty years. F. R. Miller was secretary and Matthew Rose, superintendent. His successors were A. C. Pargellis, O. B. Brown, John Taylor, J. Boyd, F. E. Meagley (twelve years), A. C. Pargellis, Ann Smith, Jonathan West, Gilbert Jezzard.

*Hull Prairie Grange, No. 746*, was chartered in April, 1874, with Amelius Robertson, master; Robert Pargellis, secretary, and Mrs. Bernthistel, L. A. S. This grange continued in existence for three years, the manager purchasing agricultural implements and goods for the members. The *Patrons of Husbandry* was organized (May 21, 1890), with thirty-seven members; but the lodge dissolved within two years. A. C. Pargellis was first president; William Skinner, vice-president; F. R. Pargellis, secretary, and George Carter, treasurer.

*Middleton Lyceum* was organized December 12, 1856, with H. Crook, president; John Hood, vice-president; A. Pargellis, secretary, and Myron Brown, treasurer. The Carpenters, Taylors, Randalls, O. B. Brown, R. Pargellis, S. Whedon and Jonathan Du Hamel formed the membership. In 1859 a constitution was adopted, when Susan and Elizabeth Rowles, E. W. De Verna, the Woodruffs, Younts and McCaugheys, James Johnston and R. Skinner began to take a part in the debates. Rezin Skinner and James Johnston served as secretaries for short terms, when Robert Pargellis was again elected, and continued secretary to the end of the Lyceum, in November, 1868.

*Hull's Prairie Farmers' Club* was organized January 31, 1870, with Henry Hood (treasurer), Henry Sarvis, Amelius Robertson, James Johnston, Robert Crook, W. T. Barr, Alfred Robertson, Rezin Skinner (president), Frank Powell, Robert Pargellis (secretary), and John Johnston. In the record book of this club, the ideas of the members on every agricultural subject are given, sometimes with wonderful precision. On March 28, 1870, the last meeting appears to have been held.

#### DUNBRIDGE.

Dunbridge was surveyed by Ferdinand Wenz for Robert Dunn, November 10, 1882. The *Sentinel* suggested the name Dunn-der-burg, but the owner adopted the three first letters of his own name and the six last letters of the name

Trowbridge, joined them, and christened his new village. William Davis opened the first store, and built the first mercantile house; a saloon was opened about the same time. Six years ago John Current opened a general store in Dr. Pope's building, where Spafford Brothers opened their store. The first hotel was opened by Charles Beauprey shortly after the town was platted, Lafayette Hale succeeding him. When the village was established, the report that John Watts, of Haskins, would establish a mill; Trowbridge & Co., a stave factory, and the railroad company, a station, drew the attention of many to the village.

*The Presbyterian Church* was incorporated May 7, 1887, when the following named formed the society: Frank and Melvina Rogers, E. W. and Cecelia Taylor, William and Elza Clour, Oscar and Alice Moag, N. S. and Josephine Jones, Edith Wallace and Flora Taylor. The pastors of the Church have been Revs. C. L. Bevington, George Gerlach, W. H. Cross and C. L. Herrold. The seven elders include Messrs. Rogers, Taylor and Moag (named above), with E. W. DeVerna, George Stevenson, Joseph E. Pope and Lewis Spafford. The church building, erected in 1887, cost \$1,650.

*Robert Stewart Post, No. 690, G. A. R.*, was chartered January 31, 1889, with the following named members: Reuben Stevens, M. Burgemeister, Anthony Himelesback, J. D. Smith, E. W. DeVerna, Samuel Clowd, George Bell, Henry Sternaman, J. Aplin, J. H. Callin, Frank Rogers, John Current, William Grover, Lafayette Hale, N. S. Jones, John E. Yauck, James Place, Hugh Stewart, G. B. Jenkins, Joseph Shepard, G. C. Stevenson, S. B. Gorrill, Matthew Park, George Burket, Thomas Partidge, W. Beck, Peter Aldrich, David Beard and F. Philo. Noah S. Jones was the first commander. Hugh Stewart, 1890; S. B. Gorrill, 1891; N. S. Jones, 1892; George Stevenson, 1893; and Hugh Stewart, 1894 and 1895. George Stevenson, the first adjutant, was succeeded in January, 1890, by Frank Rogers, who has held the position down to the present time, except in 1892, when Hugh Stewart was adjutant, and 1893, when J. H. Callin held that office.

*Women's Relief Corps, No. 306*, was chartered June 14, 1890, with Eliza Johnson, president; Kate Ruble, secretary; Melvina Rogers, treasurer; and Minerva Bell, chaplain.

*Camp No. 372, S. of V.*, was chartered April 26, 1889, with C. C. Manley, F. W. Jones, H. S. Brown, D. C. Seger and twenty others, members. This camp has practically ceased work.

*Middleton Lodge, No. 786, I. O. O. F.*, was chartered May 23, 1890, and instituted August 14, 1890. The following named members appear on the charter: W. W. Hampton, W. J. Dennis, N. S. Jones, L. A. Trepanier, William Remgar, Leroy Thompson, C. F. Seger, G. W. Robinson, James B. Cordrey, J. E. Ward, John Current, David Whitmore, O. C. Grover, C. M. Keeler and S. B. Gorrill. W. W. Hampton was the first noble grand, followed by W. J. Dennis, L. A. Trepanier, John Current, O. C. Grover, J. B. Cordrey, Leroy Thompson and S. B. Cordrey, the present grand; J. H. Bush is the present recording secretary. There are now sixty-three or sixty-four members. The lodge purchased the two-story frame school building in 1895, and remodeled it for lodge purposes. The new school house, erected in 1895, east of the railroad, takes the place of the older building sold to the Odd-fellows.

*Lida Rebekah Lodge, No. 381*, was chartered May 17, 1893, with the following members: Malinda Hampton, Martha Hilt, Mary A. Dennis, Jane Sternaman, Marietta Ward, Sarah A. Nixon, Addie Griner and Mary Roper, with nine male members.

#### ROACHTON.

Roachton is the name given to a railroad and postal station southwest of Perrysburg. John S. Ellis and W. C. Perrin established a store here about twenty years ago, and Mr. Perrin was appointed postmaster. On the Lydorf farm, two wells were drilled for oil, but little show of oil was made. B. F. Clark, who has managed the post office and store for the last eight years, came here about sixteen years ago.

In 1847-48 and 1852, Anthony Weaver, Joseph Heidelman, the Cobley family, John Klaberger, George Shutz, George, Andrew and Sebastian Schipel, John Wershon, George Nabel, John and Martin Dumminger, Joseph Dreps, Wolfgang, Jacob and Michael Kazmire, Geo. Teinlun, F. Steinlun, Matthias Klephart, Frederick Getz, Peter Bower, and a few other natives of Germany selected the rich land east of Roachton for their homes. In 1848, Anthony Weaver deeded to the Rt. Rev. Amadeus Rappe sixty acres of land for Church purposes, and shortly after a small frame building was erected.

*The Church of Our Mother of Sorrows*, near Roachton, had its origin in the settlement referred to above. The little building, erected in 1851 or 1852, was burned in 1866. In 1868, forty acres of Weaver's grant were sold, and the

proceeds expended in building the present church in 1868. In early years the mission was attended by the resident priest of Maumee, but, since the establishment of Perrysburg as a separate parish, Roachton has been attached to it.

*Fort Meigs Sub-Association, No. 2223, P. O. I. of N. A.*, was organized at the Loesch school house, May 12, 1890, with B. F. Pratt, Sr., president; Joseph Schipel, vice-president; John Schwind, secretary; Frederick Schaller, treasurer; Geo. Schwind, sentinel; and B. F. Pratt, Jr., guide. They, with the following named, were the first members: G. A. and Frank Schipel, Adam (Jr.), Ernest, John and Denis Hoffman, F. B., August and Simon Schaller, Thomas, James and John Warren, John and Anna Mosier, George Mahler, John H. Schmidtt, Herman Barz, Henry Edwards, Wm. Slater, Jerome Rutapaugh, and F. F. and John Loesch. John Schwind, Joseph Schipel and F. F. Loesch have followed the first president, while B. F. Pratt, Jr., G. A. Schipel, Sam. Schaller and J. J. Kleeberger have followed the first secretary. The association is now presided over by John Schwind, with G. A. Schipel, secretary. There were fourteen active members in July, 1895.

#### DOWLING.

The village of Dowling, on the line between the townships of Perrysburg and Middleton, is said to carry on its religious enterprises on the Middleton side.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* was organized, in 1861, by Enos Bellville. A class book found at Stony Ridge, dated 1867-68, calls it the "Bellville Ridge Church," and credits it with the following named members: Elijah Hopper and family, Reuben Egbert, Henry Shoemaker, Alexander Beard, V. E. McCreary, Perry Beard, Erastus Lynam, Rebecca Bellville, Susan Johnson and Martha J. Clague. James M. Brown, the recording steward, writing under date June 22, 1895, states that Rev. Jason Wilcox was pastor in 1861, and Elijah Hopper was the second recording steward. The class used the old school house until 1888, when the thirteen members then enrolled built a house for worship. The present pastor, Rev. C. M. Myers, reports seventy members, including the following named officers: William Roller, D. M. Shoemaker, D. J. Shoemaker, J. A. Hite and J. M. Brown, trustees; Mary Shoemaker, steward; D. M. Shoemaker, chorister; and Mary Roller, organist.

*The Evangelical Lutheran Christ Church*

was organized and incorporated October 18, 1890, with Henry Lendemeier, Thomas Lehmann, Emil Christen, John Janssen, John A. Dauer and W. M. Brinker and their families, members. The pastors have been Revs. Eugene Schmidt and Paul Hensge; C. Lembke is the present pastor. The first clerk was P. R. Van Ewegen, and the present clerk is J. A. Dauer. There are thirty-five voting members, who own the church building on the east side of Dowling.

*The United Brethren Church* was organized by Rev. D. O. Tussing, in 1887, and a house of worship erected in 1888 at a cost of \$1,500. The original members were Cynthia, W. W., Emma, George and Persilla Shoemaker; Alexander, Mary, Euritta and Anna Beard; Mary Jameson, Milton and Delia Egbert, and L. Parker. The pastors have been Revs. W. W. McCurdy, Wells, L. Sharp, C. B. Fletcher, T. J. Engle and J. W. Hicks; and the clerks, W. W. Shoemaker and Alex. Beard. The membership, on June 12, 1895, was seventy.

#### SUGAR RIDGE.

Sugar Ridge was surveyed for Frank and Sarah Meeker, in 1882, by Ferd Wenz. The village is in Center and Middleton townships; but the limekilns, school, church and principal business houses and dwellings are north of the township line. The Sugar Ridge Stone and Lime Company's works employed, in July, 1895, twenty-five men, while the capacity is 400 barrels a day. The works were established in 1889 by Frederick Van Fleet and J. W. Urschell. The Snowflake Lime Co. have a branch of their works at Sugar Ridge, where thirteen men are employed. From 1891 to December, 1893, Worst, Wierman and Meeker owned it.

Sugar Ridge post office was established in 1883, with Gilbert S. Meeker, master. Jacob Wierman succeeded, in 1890, *vice* G. S. Meeker resigned, who was again appointed in 1893. The business of the office is rated at about \$200 annually.

The first store was built in 1883, by G. S. Meeker; Samuel Cooley built a store room the next year; Jacob See and John Stacy erected a building for saloon purposes the same year; then Cooley erected a second building for saloon purposes; Cleugh & Van Buskirk put up a saloon building, in 1887, on the Center township side; D. T. Richardson built a fourth saloon, close by, the same year; while the "Last Chance" saloon was built for George Cleugh in 1888. Fire de-



stroyed the Van Buskirk concern in 1887, the Richardson building in 1892, and the "Last Chance" in 1888.

Sugar Ridge Methodist Episcopal Church was organized some years ago, with Mrs. Kate Meeker, Eliza Johnson and a few others. The present church was erected in 1893. The present society came into existence in June of that year, when Rev. W. N. Spencer organized it. Bertis Urschel was appointed class-leader in 1894, and he with J. W. and Helen Urschel, Eliza Johnson, Gilbert S. Meeker, Catherine and Myrta Meeker, James and Della May, Lucy Crane and Isabell Patterson were members. In October, 1893, W. S. Brackney became pastor, and in October, 1894, Rev. C. M. Myers was appointed. The church building was practically completed, in 1893, at a cost of eleven hundred dollars. The number of members enrolled in July, 1895, including probationers, was forty-five. The trustees are J. W. Urschel, James May and F. W. Van-Fleet.

#### HASKINS.

The settlement of Haskins is so closely allied with that of Hull Prairie it is sometimes difficult to distinguish between their claims to institutions, incidents and old settlers. When the town was surveyed by D. D. Ames for William King, July 23, 1862—a few years after the railroad was completed—it was the idea of the owner to make it the shipping point and post-office village of a growing agricultural district as well as the Mecca of church-goers for miles around. The Baptist and Methodist Societies were already organized, and commercial beginnings made, so that by the close of 1863 the village was a well-known point on the Bowling Green and Waterville road, eclipsing the older hamlet of Hull Prairie. In 1870 there were 243 inhabitants credited to Haskins, while in 1880 the enumerators found 381 persons within the village boundaries. Since that time the famous Sucker-rod oil field has been opened and the population of the village is subject to the fortunes of that narrow field. In the spring and summer of 1895 there were but few busier spots in oildom than in and around this village. Many agreeable surprises and many heavy disappointments were chronicled. The village benefited largely from the activity of the oil operators, imports and exports grew in volume, trade was prosperous, the population increased, and in every way the year was a golden one in its history.

*Post Office.*—Prior to 1862 or 1863 Hull

Prairie was the postal village for this part of the county. About the time the village was surveyed a petition for an office was presented at Washington, and in response thereto William King was commissioned postmaster. He was succeeded by J. M. Cunning and he by P. J. Feagles, who filled the office for twenty years, or five terms. William Copley was appointed in 1885, and served until 1889, when Fred Peinert was appointed. On July 29, 1893, Charles S. Woodford was commissioned.

*Incorporation of the Village.*—The village was incorporated January 1, 1869, the petitioners being Jonathan Ames, D. D. Ames, Howard Piper, Thurstin Tibbets, William Bear, Philip Meyer, George Miller, David P. Knapp, H. C. Worley, George Pitcher, R. H. Alexander, M. G. Wetmore, G. J. Pitcher, A. Knapp, George F. Sherwood, J. M. Cunning, and others. The mayors and councilmen, elected from April 12, 1869, to April, 1879, are named as follows:

- 1869—Hezekiah N. Rush; A. V. Perry, S. F. Bridges, P. J. Feagles, J. S. Pope, Jacob Davis, D. D. Ames.
- 1870—Hezekiah N. Rush; D. B. Gedney, George Pitcher, G. C. Miller, H. Halbert, P. G. Garrett, D. D. Ames.
- 1871-72—Hezekiah N. Rush; George Pitcher, A. S. Rush, Joel Repass, W. Chandler.
- 1873—A. V. Perry; George W. Yount, J. A. Wilson, D. D. Ames, Elwood Garrett, H. Halbert, P. G. Garrett.
- 1874—J. A. Watts; J. B. Thomas, John Wice, John Slauson (died in 1876).
- 1875—J. A. Watts; G. Chase, L. P. Chase, Jacob P. Shide, George Pitcher, C. Parker, *et cetera* Slauson.
- 1876—J. H. Wice; G. Chase, L. P. Chase, Jacob P. Shide, George Pitcher, C. Parker, John Pope.
- 1877—J. H. Wice; G. Chase, L. P. Chase, William Garrett, George Pitcher, C. Parker, John Pope.
- 1878—J. H. Wice; G. Chase, L. P. Chase, William Garrett, George Pitcher, S. F. Bridges, J. Casler.
- 1879—G. A. Repass; G. Chase, F. Zimmerman, J. A. Watts, G. Pitcher, S. F. Bridges, L. A. Baughman.

The record-books of the corporation since 1880, in possession of the village clerk, are said to be well kept, and to them the reader is referred for the names of citizens who have served as councilmen. The clerks and treasurers of the village, during the first decade of its existence, held sinecures. The officers in 1895 were W. P. Copley, mayor; A. M. Wickham, clerk; William Copley, treasurer; E. L. Jones, Thomas Yount, A. F. Chase, Jacob Casler, George Hoagland and C. Osterhout, councilmen; W. H. North, marshal; and J. L. Wilson, street commissioner. The clerks were A. V. Perry, 1869; S. E. Manahan, 1871; L. P. Tribble, 1873; A. Baughman, 1874 (election invalid); L. P. Tribble, 1874; L. A. Baughman, 1875; I. P. Fisk, 1877; and L. P. Tribble, 1879. The office of treasurer, for that period, was filled by S. F. Bridges, 1869; James Johnston, 1873; S. F. Bridges, 1874 (election invalid); and C. Osterhout, elected in 1874.



The members of the school board elected in 1895 were: A. F. Chase, E. L. Jones and Jacob Casler.

In January, 1870, the Good Templars petitioned the council to close saloons and tippling houses. In December, 1875, the order to build a calaboose, 16x24 feet, was issued. In March, 1876, it was completed. In 1876, sidewalks were constructed by order of the council. Beyond the lighting of the village, keeping sidewalks in repair, and adopting ordinances for government, the council has not gone.

No less than seventy female votes were cast in April, 1895, for school directors.

*Churches.*—The Baptists may be said to be the first of the denominations to establish themselves at this point. On February 8, 1862, the society was organized as a branch of the Perrysburg Society. In the winter of 1863-64 Elder G. D. Ovitt received six members. In the winter of 1866 Elder A. Brown and G. N. Thornton labored here, and on May 12, 1866, the Perrysburg Society disbanded, and on that day "Haskins Church" was adopted as a name. It was subsequently called "Middleton Church." G. N. Thornton was chosen clerk, and A. Brown, pastor. The society signed articles of incorporation September 6, 1873, and elected Ellwood Garrett, Henry Bernthisel, Henry Parker, Rezin Jewell and W. Atkinson, trustees, and Amos Twining, clerk. On July 3, 1875, a building, 30x55, with basement, was authorized. The house was completed in February, 1876, and in May congratulations were conveyed to the Maumee Baptist Association, wherein Rev. G. N. Thornton is praised for his attention to the building and interests of the society. Rev. S. L. Gray was ordained in 1882; Elder N. Clouse was here in 1884; C. A. McManus, in 1887; J. H. Palmer, in 1889; and in March, 1890, Rev. H. D. Osborne, the present pastor, occupied the pulpit. The clerks have been: Amos Twining, who succeeded G. N. Thornton; Elam Norris, in 1874 (when steps to build a church were taken); R. Jewell, 1878; J. H. Le Gally, 1880, succeeded by A. R. Perry the same year; W. H. Garrett, 1882; William Armitage, 1888; M. Vanaken, 1889; E. Piper, 1891; Sarah Roadarmel, 1892; Carrie Thomas, 1892; Mrs. E. J. Bernthisel, 1893; and Miss Carrie Thomas, elected in 1895. There are 131 members.

German Reformed Emanuel Congregation was organized December 11, 1867, with Anthony Opperman, Jacob Dauer and Philip Meyer, trustees; and Eli Keller, clerk. Fred Brand, one of the county commissioners, is a trustee of

this Church, which to-day is one of the leading societies of the denomination in the county.

The First Presbyterian Church, as organized July 25, 1869, elected Samuel F. Bridges, W. Chandler, John Fox, William King and John Hoagland, trustees. On January 14, 1872, the church building was dedicated. The three first named, with Mrs. Emma Fox, Mrs. Chandler, Sarah Hoagland, Roxanna Perry and Lucy Chandler, were the constituent members, and Rev. Perry C. Baldwin, the pastor. The latter's successors were Revs. J. E. Vance, S. D. Taylor, A. J. Hadley, N. C. Helfrich, H. G. Denison, and Thomas J. Dague, the present pastor. Messrs. Bridges, Chamberlain and Fox, with John Taylor, Sr., and F. E. Meagley, are the elders of this small Church.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1862 by Rev. Thomas N. Barkdull. When Mr. Poucher had charge of the Bowling Green circuit, the building of a house of worship was commenced, but it was not completed until 1872. At that time, Sidney Warren was leader of the class, with David L. Knapp, George C., Elizabeth, Sarah, George G. and Lucinda Miller, James W. and Malinda Boyd, Eliza Treadwell, Caroline Seger, Sarah Knapp and Mary Hoobler, members.

The German Lutheran Church was organized by Rev. C. F. Kaeding, in 1868, and named St. Paul's. Two years prior to that date, he organized a class at Custar, and worked earnestly in the interest of Lutherism.

*Fires.*—The village escaped serious loss from fire down to September 25, 1895, when a blaze started in the Burleigh cottage, spread to Dr. Greenfield's office, thence to P. G. Garrett's dwelling, and westward to the meat-market, and blacksmith and wagon shops, which were destroyed. The bucket brigade, the only fire department of the town, could not prevent the progress of the fire.

*Secret Societies.*—Roche de Bœuf Lodge, I. O. O. F., or as it is written on the charter, "Rush-ta-boo," No. 530, was chartered May 16, and instituted November 7, 1872, with John W. Ovitt, F. Zimmerman, M. G. Wetmore, A. J. Ovitt, A. J. Orme and George Downs, members. The office of noble grand has been filled by the following named members: J. W. Ovitt, 1872; F. Zimmerman, 1873; A. J. Orme and M. G. Wetmore, 1874; Thomas Yount and Thomas Johnson\*, 1875; L. A. Baughman and Jacob Dauster\*, 1876; J. H. Wice\* and James Johnston\*, 1877; H. O. Nearing and J. Casler\*, 1878; D. C. Bemis\* and J. A. Wilson\*, 1879;

Gurdon Pitcher\*, 1880; Thomas Spiers and J. M. Daniels\*, 1881; A. A. Cobley\* and J. F. Robertson\*, 1882; J. M. Decker\* and E. L. Jones\*, 1883; L. P. Tribble\* and A. M. Wickham\*, 1884; E. L. Jones\*, 1885 to 1888; A. M. Wickham\*, 1885 and 1886; D. C. Bemis\*, 1886; W. Frank\*, 1887; G. A. Fisher\*, 1888; P. J. Feagles and E. C. Thornton\*, 1889; A. J. Ovitt\* and W. Cobley\* (4), 1890; W. W. Bernthisel and J. O. Robinson\*, 1891; Robert Dawson and M. K. Manley, 1892; N. A. McCombs\* and Charles S. Woodford\* (2), 1893; W. R. Cole and John Ollige, 1894; Joseph Wilson, 1895. The first secretary was A. J. Orme, followed, in 1873, by S. E. Manahan, and he, in 1874, by J. B. Gibbs, G. Ewing, L. Carpenter, Homer Daniels, W. Frank, A. C. Wickham, J. N. Easworthy, John Bash, E. M. Lathem, Harvey Twining and W. H. Twining, elected in January, 1895, filled the position of secretary, but not that of noble grand, while the twenty-four other incumbents, who were promoted to the grand's chair, are denoted above by the star after their names. There were fifty-eight members (of the 144 initiated) in May, 1895.

Columbia Lodge, No. 387, Daughters of Rebekah, was chartered August 6, 1893, with the following named members: William Cobley, E. C. Thornton, J. O. Robinson, Jacob Casler, A. J. Ovitt, H. P. and W. W. Bernthisel, A. M. Wickham, C. M. Keeler, M. K. Manley, Gurdon Pitcher, P. G. Garrett, Frank Cobley, Missoria Robinson, Mary Casler, Sophia Ovitt, Mrs. H. P. Barnthisel, Mrs. M. K. Manley, Electa A. Pitcher, Mary A. Yount, Katie Garrett, Jennie Woodford, Anna Smith and Anna Keeler.

Harry Carter Post, No. 56, G. A. R., was chartered April 16, 1881, and named in honor of Harry Carter, who volunteered in the first Wood county company, served with the 21st O. V. I., and afterward in the 67th O. V. I. until his death. The original members of this command are named, as follows: Wilber A. Williams, W. T. Barr, David Bash, Shepard Bemis, John Current, James Carter, Clark Cummings, James M. Cuning, Lewis Downs, Perkins G. Garrett, Moses S. Graves, Ephraim Johnson, Alonzo Keeler, Clark M. Keeler, Mahlon K. Manley, William H. North, Robert Pargellis, Andrew Pargellis, Napoleon B. Plotner, Gurdon Pitcher, Girard A. Repass, Reuben Stevens, George C. Stevenson, Valentine Schwind, F. Joseph Shepard, Amos Twining, Robert Wallace, McDowell Wilson and Lyman C. Wilson. The commanders, since 1881, are named as follows: W. A. Williams, 1881; J. M. Cuning, 1882; G. C. Stevenson, 1883; W.

A. Williams, 1884; L. C. Wilson, 1885; Alonzo Keeler, 1886; N. S. Jones, 1887; G. I. Cooper, 1888; Gurdon Pitcher, 1889, and 1891-92; Amos Twining, 1890; Robert Wallace, 1892; Jacob Casler, 1893; J. O. Robinson, 1894; and Clark Cummings, 1895. The adjutants in order of appointment, are named as follows: M. K. Manley, 1881; G. A. Repass, 1882; J. M. Cuning, 1883; A. Twining, 1884; G. C. Stevenson, 1885; McDowell Wilson, 1886-87; J. M. Cuning, 1888; Alonzo Keeler, 1889; H. B. Apper, 1890; J. O. Robinson, 1891; W. H. Garrett, 1892-96. The number of members in May, 1895, was eighteen of the eighty-two mustered in since the Post was established. David Bash died in 1883, and William Wickham in 1889. The Waterville and the Dunbridge Posts are detachments from this organization.

Harry Carter Relief Corps was chartered November 20, 1889, with twenty-seven ladies, of whom Electa Pitcher was chosen president.

Wickham Camp, No. 188, Sons of Veterans, was chartered June 4, 1887, with fifteen charter members.

Wickham Camp, No. 188, Ladies' Aid, was chartered August 10, 1891, with seventeen ladies. This organization is in active work.

The Tent of the Order of Maccabees is a recent organization, being No. 149 in the order of charters. It was instituted with twenty-two members, of whom N. A. McCombs was elected first commander. William Cobley was elected in 1895. F. W. Peincrt, the first record-keeper, was succeeded by Thomas F. Enright, in 1895.

Excelsior Hive, No. 123, L. O. T. M., was organized in February, 1893, with Amy Cummings, Jennie Woodford, Carrie Bridges, Susie Rupp, May Daniels, Martha Enright, Nettie Decker, Emma Tibbits, Mina Peinert, Alice Decker, Emma Ousterhout, Frank Cobley, Artemesia Bemis, Virginia Greenfield and Clara Bowers. Mrs. Greenfield was past commander; Mrs. Cummings and Mrs. Woodford, the commander and lieutenant-commander, and Mrs. Rupp, record-keeper. The hive, not having the twenty-five members, has not yet received a charter.

#### CONCLUSION.

The township is one of the richest agricultural districts of the county, and its inhabitants are among the most progressive agriculturists in Ohio. The development of the oil field was conceived in 1861, after the Ballou well, at Turkey Foot, was drilled one thousand feet to rock. The Waterville well was drilled 1,125 feet, and forty feet deeper into the Trenton, in 1889. It

was then that the Sucker-rod belt was explored, and shortly after developed. The field has added largely to the wealth of the township and county, and has given to Middleton first-class oil opera-

tors in addition to her first-class farmers. Most of the northern part of Middleton lies within the U. S. Reserve of twelve miles square, ceded to the United States at Wayne's Treaty, 1795.

## CHAPTER XXXVII.

### MILTON TOWNSHIP.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS—POPULATION—FIRST ELECTIONS—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—PIONEER LAND BUYERS—A REMINISCENCE—PIONEER ARCHITECTURE—HUNTERS—MEN OF 1839—NAMES AND INCIDENTS—FIRST WHITE CHILD—SCHOOLS; MILTON CENTER—CUSTAR—OFFICIALS—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES SOCIETIES, ETC.

**T**HIS division of the county was almost a *terra incognita* a half century ago. In 1850, there were only 244 inhabitants, or less than seven to the square mile, while in 1890 there were 2,287 inhabitants, or 63.5 persons to the square mile. In 1860, the population was 675; by 1870, it increased to 1,464, and by 1880, to 2,181. The lumberman and stave manufacturer stripped the rich land of its forest covering. After the close of the Civil war settlers were attracted; then the drainage system was extended, and a township, which for over thirty years was the home of a few pioneers and their children, became one of the richest and most populous districts of Wood county. The surveys of Milton were made in 1819 and 1821, as shown in the chapter on "Land Titles."

*First Elections.*—Milton township was established June 11, 1835, embraced Tps. 3 and 4, in R. 9, the voters of which were to assemble at Morrison McMillan's house on the second Saturday in July, of that year. At the first meeting there was not a sufficient number of voters present to hold a legal election, and among the number borrowed from the parent, Weston township, were Samuel Dull and Joseph Ward, who received seventy-five cents each for their vote. There were two others brought in, making four imported voters, who represented four sick and absent ones. At the State election, held in October, 1836, there were only six votes cast for Joseph Vance, and seven for Eli Baldwin, candidates for governor. The names of the thirteen voters are: Morrison and Daniel McMillan, Alvin Clark, Samuel, Daniel and John Barton, Samuel Clark, Abraham and Jonathan Crom, James and Andrew Hutchinson, Thomas Taylor and William

Hill. The justices of the peace of Weston township appear to have administered justice in Milton, until her own justices-elect qualified in 1837.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Justices.*—The justices of the peace, elected since 1837, were Daniel Barton and Morrison McMillan, who qualified in February, 1837, re-appointed in 1839; Alex. Morehead, 1841; Morrison McMillan, 1842; Isaac Van Tassel, 1847 to 1859; Rudd McMillan, 1850; Ezra Morgan, 1854; Morris Brown, 1856 and 1859 (did not qualify in 1859); George W. Hill, 1862, 1865, 1874; Daniel Barton, 1862 to 1868; F. C. Taft, 1868, 1871; B. E. Sheldon, 1871; J. B. Hill, 1874; O. H. Jones, 1877, 1880; Peter Laney, 1877, 1880, 1886; George W. Downs, 1883, 1886; C. M. Walling, 1889, 1892, 1895; Orson H. Jones, for the same terms, and H. Mannhardt, 1896. The dates given are those of election.

*Trustees.*—The records of this township are in a condition similar, in many respects, to those of Liberty, Portage, Jackson and Henry. Little or nothing of the trustees' journal prior to 1879 could be learned; but, more fortunate in the county auditor's office, the searcher was enabled to compile a list of trustees from 1842 to 1878.

1842 Ephraim Lewis, William Hill, Jr., Thomas Taylor.  
1844—Alvin Clark, Samuel Barton, Thomas Taylor.  
1845—Alvin Clark, Thomas Buck, Thomas Taylor.  
1848 Alvin Clark, Thomas Buck, Andrew Hutchinson.  
1849 Andrew Hutchinson, Andrew Morehouse, Thomas Buck.  
1853 Daniel Barton, Thomas Taylor, Andrew Morehouse.  
1856 Edward Campbell, Samuel S. Clark, Joseph Kieffer.  
1859 A. L. Hutchinson, Joseph Henning, W. Kirk.  
1860 Jacob Harts, Joseph Henning, Joseph Kieffer.  
1861—George Dague, J. B. Kieffer, the third not named.  
1862 63 J. C. Simmons, M. S. Harrod, George Dague.

1864—George France, Joseph Kieffer, George Dague.  
 1865—H. F. Lewis, Joseph Kieffer, James F. Dubbs.  
 1866—H. S. Hunter, Joseph Kieffer, D. L. Campbell.  
 1867—H. S. Hunter, Joseph Kieffer, S. D. Stearns.  
 1868—H. S. Hunter, J. T. Dean, S. D. Stearns.  
 1869—R. H. Ralston, Josiah Smith, John McMaster.  
 1870—R. H. Ralston, S. Starr.  
 1871—R. H. Ralston, James F. Dubbs, E. Baldwin.  
 1872-73—R. H. Ralston, W. O. Keeler, T. Burson.  
 1874—R. H. Ralston, Orlando Ferrell, Sam. Starr.  
 1875—R. H. Ralston, H. A. Hunter, Daniel Barton.  
 1876—R. H. Ralston, H. A. Hunter, Henry Baldwin.  
 1877-78—R. H. Ralston, Anton Long, Enoch Campbell.  
 1879—William Kirk, W. F. Mercer, Samuel Bear.  
 1880—Enoch Campbell, W. F. Mercer, Joseph Kieffer, A. J. Rickard, *vice* Kieffer.  
 1881—Enoch Campbell, Fred. Wismer, A. J. Rickard.  
 1882—John Berry, Fred. Wismer, A. J. Rickard.  
 1883—Enoch Campbell, Matthias Schneider, John Lance.  
 1884—A. J. Rickard, William Kirk, Matthias Schneider.  
 1885—Enoch Campbell, J. C. Lance, William Kirk.  
 1886—William Bacome, William Kirk, John Wirtz.  
 1887—William Bacome, William Kirk, John Wirtz; Henry C. Strow, *vice* Kirk, deceased.  
 1888—Daniel Barton, William Buck, W. O. Keeler.  
 1889—Lorenz Weihl, William Buck, D. Barton.  
 1890—Joseph Johann, Daniel Barton, Lorenz Weihl.  
 In 1891, A. J. Rickard, Jr., was elected; in 1892, G. W. Bradshaw; in 1893, Orlando Ferrell; in 1894, W. W. Sockman; in 1895, G. W. Bradshaw, W. W. Sockman and O. Ferrell; in 1896, Orlando Ferrell was elected.

*Clerks.*—The clerks have been: Morris Brown, 1839-44; Rudolph McMillan, 1851; H. C. Strow, 1855; N. F. Campbell, 1856; G. W. Hill, 1857; H. C. Strow, 1858; G. W. Hill, 1859; J. M. Waggoner, 1861; N. L. Besanson, 1863; F. Lewis, 1864; H. C. Strow, 1865; Joseph B. Hill, 1866; R. W. Pool, 1867; L. L. Delano, 1868; J. M. Waggoner, 1870; C. M. Hathaway, 1872; J. B. Hill, 1873; George W. Downs, 1874; L. S. Baker, 1881; George W. Downs, 1882; C. M. Walling, 1884; A. C. Aubrey, 1886, and E. A. Ballmer, 1888, while William M. Leaming, elected in 1894, was re-elected in 1896.

*Treasurers.*—This office has been filled by the following named citizens: Samuel Barton, 1841; William Hill, 1842; Thomas Taylor, 1845; George Rethinger, 1879; John Kistner, 1883; E. W. Schooley, 1884; W. O. Keeler, 1886; T. L. Bult, 1889; L. F. Hull, 1893-96.

*Assessors.*—The incumbents of the assessor's office have been: David Hill, 1842; William Alberti, 1844; Thomas Taylor, 1847-51; Jacob Flickinger, 1851; A. L. Hutchinson, 1852 to 1859; (no records or documents 1859 to 1879); L. S. Baker, 1880; C. M. Hathaway, 1881; William Buck, 1882; Jacob R. Huff, 1883; C. M. Hathaway, 1884; Daniel Barton, 1885; John Gribben, 1888; L. A. Lathrop, 1889; G. W. Downs, 1891; Emory Burson, 1892; and G. W. Richmond, 1894, with Joseph Metzger, elected in 1895.

In July, 1892, bids were asked for the erec-

tion of a town hall and the contract awarded to B. B. Richardson for brick and stone work for \$934, and the contract for carpenter work to P. W. Rickard. The town hall stands in the Park at Milton Center, south of the council or village building.

*Pioneers.*—The pioneer land buyers and pioneers of T. 4, R. 9, include all the families credited to the township in 1839. The first purchasers of United States lands were:

Thomas Taylor, E. N. W. and N. W. N. E. S. 2, April 16, '34.  
 John Clark, S. of N. E. S. of S. E. and N. E. of N. E. S. 2, Nov. 4, 1834.

Keeler & Hollister, S. W. 1/4 S. 2, Sept. 28, 1835.

Alvin Clark, N. S. E. 1/4 S. 2, July 19, 1836.

Moses Moore, N. pt. N. E. S. 3, Nov. 4, 1835.

Andrew Morehouse, S. W. S. E. S. 3, Dec. 19, 1836.

T. R. Culver, W. N. W. S. 12, Oct. 12, 1835.

John Thompson, E. N. W. S. 12, Oct. 30, 1835.

Henry Dubbs, S. E. S. W. S. 13, Oct. 21, 1833.

Samuel Barton, S. S. E. S. 14, June 20, 1834.

Reuben Van Tassel, S. S. W. S. 15, Oct. 27, 1836.

Horace Potter, S. W. and S. E. S. 17, Feb. 1, 1836.

William Hill, W. N. W. S. 21, Dec. 30, 1835.

James Hutchinson, S. N. W. S. 22, March 24, 1836.

Isaac Van Tassel, 2nd E. S. E. S. 22, Oct. 27, 1836.

Morris Brown, N. S. W. 1/4 S. 23, March 24, 1836.

Joseph Badger, S. E. S. E. S. 24, Oct. 27, 1836.

Samuel Birdsall, N. E. S. W. S. 25, June 9, 1834.

William Williamson, S. E. S. 25, Sept. 23, 1836.

Andrew Hutchinson, S. N. E. and E. N. W. S. 26, Nov. 27, '33.

James Hutchison, Sr., S. E. S. E. S. 26, Nov. 27, 1833.

David W. Pugh, N. W. N. W. S. 26, May 2, 1836.

Morrison McMillan, N. E. and S. W. of N. W. S. 35, Feb. 19, 1834.

And Jonathan Crom, E. N. W. S. 36, Jan. 30, 1836.

*A Reminiscence.*—A son of Henry Dubbs, named above, writing in 1895, says:

About the middle of April, 1834, Henry Dubbs settled in Section 19, Liberty township, near the west line. At that time there was but one family, James Birdsall's, in Wood county, west of Portage, until we came. They lived about a mile from us through the woods. A few weeks after, Wm. Lathrop built a cabin between us and the Birdsalls. During the summer and fall of 1834, a number of families the Hutchinsons, James and Andrew, Morrison McMillan, Samuel Barton, and possibly one or two others, moved in. In the spring of 1835, Milton township was organized. On counting noses it was found that a few votes were lacking, so a few were borrowed from neighboring townships. People in those days of sparse settlements were very obliging in the matter of borrowing and lending, or else Milton would not have been organized that spring. The Indians at that time had not yet been removed to the Far West, and were almost daily visitors in our little settlement. On one occasion several of them came to our cabin; the spokesman drew his hunting knife and pointed to the hog pen where we had our fattening hog for our winter's meat. We thought sure they were going to butcher our hog, for we were unable to understand a word they said. Directly the Indian ran to the pen by which stood our grindstone, and soon made us understand that they wished to sharpen their knives, which quieted our fears concerning our fat hog. One fall our neighbor, Mr. Lathrop, had to go to Perrysburg to pay taxes. His wife had but recently died, and his children were too small to be left alone at the house, so my brother and sister and I went to stay over night with them, making a family of seven children at the cabin. We had a good time, but in our thoughtlessness we neglected to provide wood for the night; the wood-pile was out next to the corn-crib, and when about 8

o'clock, our wood was gone, we were afraid to venture forth in the dark for more. The woods at that time were infested by various kinds of wild animals. Finally my brother, John O., who afterward fell in the war of the Rebellion, said he was not afraid to go out; but just as he was lifting up some wood he saw a large bear in front of him at the crib, eating corn, at the same time snarling as if offended at the boy's presence. John rushed in badly scared, and we threw out fire-brands to drive the beast off, but it paid no attention to us. We went to bed, after first covering up the fire. Bruin's tracks next morning, in the snow, showed plain enough that there had been no mistake as to the kind of caller we had the night before. How vastly different it is in Milton township now; children and women do not fasten their doors against prowling wild animals, but, unfortunately, they have to provide against prowlers of their own species! In 1836, the old Revolutionary soldier and missionary, Rev. Joseph Badger, built a cabin and settled on a ridge at the west end of the Wadsworth prairie, overlooking the great marsh.

*Pioneer Architecture.*—The early cabins were primitive indeed. The first one built by the Hills, in 1835, was an eight-cornered shanty, made by splitting logs into slabs, about three or four inches thick and about ten or twelve feet long, and set upon the edges and notched at the ends, forming a building, having eight corners, and about ten or twelve feet high, and covered with clapboards or shakes, as the Yankees call them, no floor except the ground; in one corner the fireplace was made, by what we called clay jams, on either wall, and the chimney was a simple opening in the roof at the corner; in this they lived about one year. Others were built of round logs and clapboard roof, round poles for joists and sleepers, and puncheon floors. The cracks daubed with mud and moss, and the fire place in one side long enough to take in a log four or five feet long, and from one and a half to two feet in diameter, called the back log, and then the forestick, and when a fire was completed it looked like a log heap. Sometimes the houses were made with two doors, one on either side, and large logs were drawn in on sleds to build fires. No windows; light was let in by cutting a log out at one side, and some greased white paper pasted over to keep out the cold.

*Men of 1839.*—The male residents of Milton, aged twenty-one years or over, in 1839, were: Samuel Barton, Daniel Barton, Samuel Bowman, Morris Brown, Alvin Clark, Samuel Cark, John Dubbs, Henry C. Dawson, John Green, William Hill, David Hill, James Hutchinson, Eli Hockenbury, Andrew Hutchinson, Moses More, Morrison McMillan, Andrew Morehouse, Daniel McMillan, George McAbberty, Alanson More, Alexander Morehead, James Russ, Thomas Simons, Thomas Taylor and Matthew Walling. All were not here when the township was organized. Thirteen of the number were present at the fall election of 1836; the others came in between that time and the spring of 1839.

*Names and Incidents.*—From a sketch published in the *Scutinel* of April 21, 1881, signed "H.," the following is taken:

Among the first settlers of 1834-35 along the creek, we might name the Rowlands, Robert and James; John Sturgeon, David Murdock, Sowers and Macklin, in Henry county; and coming to Milton township, we find the names of James Hutchison, father of A. L. Hutchinson; Samuel Barton, father of Daniel Barton; Morrison McMillan, Morris Brown, William Hill, Alvin and Samuel S. Clark, Thomas Taylor, Jacob Gift (killed by a falling tree), the Morehouses and Moreheads and a few others; and just over the line in Liberty, we find Henry Dubbs, and—Lathrop, and following these, only a few years, came the Bucks and Lewises; few of the younger members of the families still survive; Andrew L. Hutchinson, Daniel Barton, Lewis F., James F., and Frank M. Dubbs, and some of the Hill boys, and a few others. We had no roads; we just went zig-zag through the woods, around trees, over and around fallen timber, through the water, fighting the mosquitoes, to a neighbor's with a sack of corn on our backs, to grind it on a handmill, to get corn meal to make johnny-cake for the family. We had no water-mills nearer than Perrysburg, and not much to get ground when we got there. And it took us from four to five days to go and come; the only conveyance was ox-teams and a cart. Old Billy Hill had a hand-mill, which was kept going from morning until midnight, people coming from miles and miles around. Dozens of men and women have been there at one time, waiting to turn the mill, and sometimes, when so thronged, some would leave their corn and go home to their hungry families, and come again to take their places at the mill. Of course this mill was a rude structure; four upright posts framed together, and the stones set in them, and the propelling power was applied by an upright shaft, with an iron spout placed in a thimble in the upper bulfr, and the top held by passing through a hole in a board, and then two men taking hold of this upright shaft and turning the buhr. It was a slow process, but it was the only alternative we had. This was afterward changed, so as to make it more convenient; it was arranged so four men could take hold of cranks like a grindstone, and made to grind much faster. Then we all thought that we had found a paradise.

*First White Child.*—The first white child born in Milton township was Maria Hutchinson, daughter of Andrew L. Hutchinson; and the first couple married in Milton township were Daniel Barton and Martha Hutchinson. They were married on the 8th day of October, 1840; by Morrison McMillan. Barton and his wife have long since been gathered home. Dr. Burritt, of Gilead, a rough-spoken but thorough physician, cautioned married people against locating in Milton, giving many reasons why he did so; but with all this the pioneers ventured in there, braved the old Doctor's anger, and carved beautiful farms out of the wilderness.

*Schools.*—The history of the common schools of this township may be said to date back to 1837, when a log cabin, 18 x 20 feet in area, was built on the Otsego pike (on the farm owned in 1876 by Nelson Campbell). William Woodward presided over the first regular school in that building during the winter of 1839-40, his students being John, Orlando, Morrison, Nancy and Charlotta McMillan, Mary, Maria and Nancy Hutchinson, George and William Alberti, Ru-

dolph and Levi McMillan, Augustus Bowerman, Sophia and John Lewis, William Hill, Richard Day, Charles Walling, John Amos, David Michael and Clark Barton.

David Hill taught a school in his own house, that or the next winter. A year after, a log cabin was erected in the center of Sec. 20, known as the Morehead school, in which Alex. Bennett and Rudolph McMillan were Hill's successors.

A third cabin was erected on the Samuel Clark clearing, where Daniel Barton lived in Centennial year, now the White farm.

In 1849 or 1850, the second school was changed, and a new cabin, hewed on the inside, was erected by Matthew Hill for \$40, on the southwest corner of William Hill's farm. Among the teachers who presided therein were H. C. Strow, Isaac Van Tassel, G. W. Hill, E. Hubbard, Sarah Kuder, Louisa Fox, Carrie Wood, Evaline Elliott and Mary Jane Powers. It was known as "Hill's School House."

The Buck's school house, built by James Martin, appeared in 1852 or 1853. Among the old teachers of that district were Marion Forest, Elisha Martindale, Maria Martindale, Henry Crane, Mary Avery, Eunice Foote, Mary M. Bullis (who married Reason Whitacre in 1863 or 1864), Lydia Perrin, Isaac Van Tassel, Mary Jane and Helen Powers, and Sarah Kuder. About the beginning of the Civil war, a new building was erected at the Corners, by Wm. Dallahan, and in it the following teachers presided: Sophronia Harbaugh, H. C. Strow, Sarah Crom, Kate Osborn, L. L. Delano, Polly Kerr, John Justice, Cora Hood, Dell Newell, W. P. Catlin, Helen Van Tassel, I. N. Van Tassel, Lucy Cass, Mina Beach, Mollie Guyer, Hattie Hurtz, Frank Huff, Dela Mead and Olivia Steinshour.

There were two established school districts November 20, 1837, when Daniel McMillan, then township clerk, reported that the school section, value for \$1.25 an acre, was not producing any revenue; that no school examiners were yet appointed; no directors elected, and no tax for school purposes levied. He could not state the number of children in District No. 1, but did state that there were fifty children, between the ages of four and twenty years, in District No. 2.

The resident tax-payers of School District No. 2, in April, 1853, were Daniel Barton, Andrew L. Hutchinson, James H. Hutchinson, Matthew Walling, Morris Brown, Clark and Amos Barton, John Ringleka, Daniel McMillan, George Beyers, Nathaniel L. Badger, Charles Sheward, Joseph F. Wade and Thomas Snell. The board of education, in April, 1853, comprised Daniel Barton,

Thomas Buck, Thomas Hill, Alvin Clark and John Buntly, with Isaac Van Tassel, clerk.

The record of the board of education begins April 17, 1854, when H. C. Strow, as township clerk, made the minutes of a meeting. Alvin Clark, Daniel Barton, Thomas B. Hill, John Bentley and Isaac Van Tassel, clerks of the five districts, were present. The area comprised in the south half of Sections 30, 29, 28 and 27, with Sections 31, 32, 33 and 34, was established as a new district. In 1855 a three-hundred-dollar school house was erected in Sub-District No. 1, Francis Muzzy was appointed librarian-in-charge of the eighty State books, an office afterward held by Joseph Ward, W. C. Lathrop, Nathaniel F. Badger and Isaac Van Tassel. In 1859 there were 113 male and 104 female pupils enrolled, together with seven males and six females in joint Sub-District No. 8. District No. 7 was subsequently established, and Elijah Main elected director or clerk in 1860. In October, 1861, there were 146 male and 137 female children of school age enrolled, while in 1865 the respective numbers were 198 and 205, or a total of 403, and, in 1871, 241 males and 235 females. In 1867 a sum of \$700 was appropriated toward building a school house in Sub-District No. 9; in 1871 moneys were granted for houses in Districts No. 3 and No. 10. In 1874 there were thirteen school districts, in the last one of which a temporary house was built in the fall of 1874. There were fourteen districts in Centennial year, L. S. Baker being the clerk of the Fourteenth (or new) District. Among the members of the board in the "seventies" were Charles Heally, M. L. Groff, J. W. Swartz, Thomas Burson, W. Bacome, S. W. Hunter, H. Mannhardt, W. W. Ellsworth, Adam Neiffer, E. H. Van Tassel, Samuel Bretz and C. M. Guild. In 1881 there was a new school house erected; in April, 1882, District No. 9 was set off as the special district of Custar.

#### MILTON CENTER.

Milton Center was surveyed by Hiram Davis for Andrew Hutchinson and Lewis Dubbs, February 2-6, 1857. The village was surrounded by swamp land, which was famous for miasma and mosquitoes, but when the era of drainage dawned, Milton township farmers were among the first to inaugurate a system of artificial ditches. The Jackson cut-off, which is said to be the largest artificial waterway for purely drainage purposes in the State, passes south, giving the town excellent sewerage facilities.

The petition for incorporation was presented to the commissioners, March 25, 1869. The territory, for which municipal privileges were demanded, is described thus: The N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21; the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 21, and the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  and the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 16, T. 4, R. 9. On June 8, 1869, the order incorporating the village was made and recorded. The petitioners were James M. Marks, Charles M. Walling, Daniel H. Hill, D. S. Hindley, Charles Greeley, John Zimmerman, J. M. Dancer, William Robinson, E. W. Schooley, A. C. Robinson and twenty-four others.

*Councilmen.*—The councilmen, elected since 1870, have been named as follows:

- 1870—J. R. Huff, W. Robinson, E. W. Schooley, C. Greeley, H. Hathaway, A. Hostler.
- 1871—J. M. Dancer, W. Robinson, E. W. Schooley, C. Greeley, H. Hathaway, J. R. Huff.
- 1872—J. R. Huff, Daniel Hill, F. R. Whitney.
- 1873—Charles Greeley, C. M. Hathaway, John Zimmerman.
- 1874—F. C. Taft, J. R. Huff, P. Hutchinson, F. R. Whitney.
- 1875—Charles Greeley, J. M. Dancer, E. W. Schooley.
- 1876—F. R. Whitney, J. M. Beach, W. C. Mullally.
- 1877—E. W. Schooley, D. H. Hill, F. C. Taft.
- 1878—W. C. Mullally, C. M. Hathaway, F. R. Whitney.
- 1879—E. W. Schooley, D. H. Hill, John Kieffer.
- 1880—W. C. Mullally, A. A. Sheats, Carson C. Fails.
- 1881—D. H. Hill, E. W. Schooley, B. F. Waggoner.
- 1882—W. C. Mullally, W. O. Keeler, F. R. Whitney, J. M. Beach.
- 1883—C. M. Walling, F. R. Whitney, F. M. Dubbs.
- 1884—William C. Mullally, F. R. Whitney, D. H. Hill, T. M. Dubbs and C. M. Walling.
- 1885—E. W. Schooley, S. E. Higgins, J. B. Kieffer.
- 1886—Milo H. Wade, Peter Woodruff, William York, F. Grippen, Thomas Hill.
- 1887—C. M. Walling, A. C. Aubrey, J. R. Huff, E. A. Ballmer.
- 1888—A. C. Aubrey, W. H. Sutter, C. L. Rosenberger, W. L. Yerk.
- 1889—E. A. Ballmer, N. D. Rickard, W. C. Marks, C. Greeley.
- 1890—Thomas Hill, Ed. Beeman, Charles Mallotte.
- 1891—F. R. Whitney, C. M. Walling, N. D. Rickard.
- 1892—Charles Hudson, David Harris, John Schmyr.
- 1893—C. M. Walling, Ed. Beeman, F. R. Whitney.
- 1894—E. H. Spoors, A. Rosenberger, F. Drummer, Thomas Hill.
- 1895—M. Espen, J. H. Ward, Charles D. Hill, Eli Flemming, *vice* Spoors, resigned. In May, 1895, L. Ralston was elected, *vice* Spoors.
- 1896—A. L. Dicus, L. F. Hultz, and F. R. Whitney were elected.

The mayors of the village have been: F. C. Taft, April, 1870; C. M. Hathaway, 1874; J. B. Hill, 1878; H. D. Baker, 1880; L. S. Baker, 1884; Daniel H. Hill, 1885, chosen by lot in 1888; A. J. Rickard, 1890; E. A. Ballmer, 1892; G. E. Hill, 1893; J. R. Huff, 1894; A. J. Rickard, 1894; G. E. Hill, elected 1896.

*Clerks.*—J. B. Hill, 1870; H. D. Baker, 1878; J. B. Hill, 1880; S. E. Burson, 1881; A. H. Beach, August, 1883; E. W. Schooley, March, 1884, *vice* Beach; S. E. Higgins, March 24, 1884; Bert Buck, 1884; W. H. White, 1886; J. B. Hill, 1887; B. F. Waggoner, 1888; Elmer C.

Greeley, 1889; L. F. Hull, 1892; W. C. Marks, 1894; and R. W. Buck, *vice* Marks, resigned in May, 1895.

*Treasurers.*—William Buck was elected treasurer in 1870. In 1878 the name of Charles Greeley appears upon the record. The incumbents, from 1886 to the present time, are named as follows: Benjamin Waggoner, 1886; Thomas Hill, 1888; O. C. Mitchell, 1889; W. O. Keeler, 1891; William Buck, 1893; R. H. Ralston, 1894; and William Buck, 1896.

*Marshal.*—L. Cretsinger, 1896.

*School Trustees.*—L. F. Hull and J. W. Cole were elected in 1896.

*Fires.*—The fire of February 11, 1885, destroyed William Mullally's drug store, John Beverstock's hardware store, and Joseph Goodfriend's saloon. During the succeeding five years, the village was fortunate in escaping with a few small blazes. The fire of 1890 resulted in the destruction of A. J. Rickard's saw and planing mill, and entailed a loss of \$6,000.

*Railroad Accident.*—The collision on the C., H. & D. railroad of December 16, 1895, was the most serious since that of 1863 on this road. Thirty-seven passengers and trainmen were injured.

*Old Traders.*—William Buck, who established the first dry-goods store in 1861, and R. H. Ralston, the undertaker, who conducted many funerals here from 1862 to March, 1895, are unquestionably the pioneer business men, who are yet engaged in trade. W. O. Keeler, an old merchant, died in October, 1892, or a year after he built the elevator; Mrs. Mary Cretsinger has carried on a general store for almost twenty-three years, while the modern business men, such as A. J. Rickard, Michael Epton, Charles Korta, James T. Dean, Eli Fleming, Singer & Henderson, L. A. Dicus, Chester Rosenberg (who succeeded Daniel Hill as postmaster), and O. H. P. Wright (present proprietor of the "Enterprise Hotel"), established their houses here within the last decade. In the summer of 1895, D. M. Marshall established a small opera house, the drop curtain and scenery of which were painted by Karl B. Steers.

*The First Presbyterian Church* was organized June 21, 1868, with Isaac Van Tassel, Silas Rowland, J. M. Dancer, John Zimmerman, F. C. Taft and Perry C. Baldwin, trustees. The present house of worship was erected in 1868, at a cost of \$1,500. The membership in the summer of 1895 was fifty-four, and the average Sunday-school attendance fifty. Rev. T. J. Dague, of Deshler, is the pastor of this society.



and E. E. Dancer, superintendent of the school. The first members were Isaac, Louisa and Helen Van Tassel, John L. and Flavia L. Barton, Sarah Ann Marks, Susan Hill, Jane Huff, Louisa Zimmerman and Mary Ann Dague. Mr. Baldwin, the first pastor, was followed by Revs. W. Trimble, C. H. Hadley, Mr. Taylor, C. L. Beavington, H. C. Denison, H. W. Cross and T. J. Dague. The clerks were F. C. Taft, E. H. Van Tassel, P. Hutchinson and W. M. Leaming, while the present clerk is E. A. Ballmer.

*The Christian Church* was organized in 1850, with George Lewis, Catherine Lewis, James E. and Sarah Greene, G. W. Hill and D. E. Hill. The pastors are named in the order of their coming—Michael Hill, Z. F. Greene, G. W. Hill, William Dowling, Josiah Wright, Q. A. Randall, G. W. Cline, G. M. Kemp, D. C. Call, W. F. Morrison and O. L. Thompson. The number of members in June, 1895, was 120, and the average Sunday-school attendance seventy. The house of worship was erected in 1868.

*The Farmers' Anti-Hunter Association* was organized in November, 1890, with William Bacome, president; J. R. Huff, vice-president; H. B. Dubbs, secretary; Antoine Louy, treasurer; H. C. Strow, game warden; J. C. Lance, Dickison Bowles, Daniel Guyer, Silas L. Swartz and P. C. Bowman, members of executive committee. The object of the association was to prosecute violators of the game laws, and prove also to visiting hunters that farmers had some rights which must be respected.

*Live Oak Grange* has been one of the instruments which kept alive the work of the Patrons of Husbandry in Wood county. The officers chosen in December, 1895, are: M., T. W. Lewis; O., Jacob Seitz; L., Mrs. Julia Dubbs; S., John Lyons; A. S., Sam Walling; Chap., Myrtie McMaster; Treas., S. L. Swartz; Sec., Jay McMaster; G. K., Lewis Dubbs; Pom., Sarah Smith; T. L., Aura Walling; Cer., Lizzie Seitz; L. A., Leona Dubbs; Trustees, Josiah Smith, B. F. Rumler and William Walling.

*Duel Lodge No. 598, I. O. O. F.*, was instituted Aug. 19, 1874, with the following members: Thomas Burson, first noble grand; Richard Brinkerhoff, Solomon Roberts, D. V. Gilbert, James T. Dean, Frederick Wismer, John Racely, Aaron Smith, C. M. Hathaway, S. Greeley, James Salisbury, J. B. Ward and Barnett Older. It may be said that all the men named in the sketch of the Encampment have passed the chairs in the subordinate lodge. Judd Smith was elected N. G. in December, 1895; P. Laney, recording secretary; while J. D. McMaster, A. J. Rickard, P. Blasius,

Al. Bowles, George Beckmyer, George Richmond and Charles Wismer, were chosen to fill the other offices.

*Enterprise Encampment, No. 224, I. O. O. F.*, was instituted August 17, 1881, with eight members, namely: Thomas Burson, E. W. Schooley, Samuel R. Junkins, William Oliver, C. M. Walling, Charles Greeley, John Ward and S. E. Burson. The high priests elected since that time have been Samuel R. Junkins, 1881; H. Mannhardt, 1882; H. D. Baker and J. B. Smith, 1883; Peter Laney and E. W. Schooley, 1884; E. H. Van Tassel and A. J. Rickard, 1885; Peter Laney, 1886; Thomas Burson and A. J. Rickard, 1887; Charles Greeley, 1888; E. Burson and J. A. Bumgardner, 1889; J. A. Bumgardner and E. Burson, 1890; Dan Triem and H. Mannhardt, 1891; J. B. Smith and L. Wiehl, 1892; J. A. Bumgardner and L. F. Hull, 1893; L. Wiehl and John Singer, 1894; John Spoor, January, 1895; E. W. Schooley was the first chief patriarch, and the high priests filled the chair subsequently. Walter Culver was patriarch in 1884—E. W. Schooley, Thomas Burson, C. M. Walling and S. E. Burson. H. D. Baker, H. Mannhardt, J. B. Smith, A. J. Rickard, Charles Greeley, J. McLaughlin, J. A. Bumgardner, H. Mannhardt, J. A. Bumgardner, N. T. Foster, D. Triem, W. L. Robinson, Sid Greeley, L. F. Hull, S. M. Hartraupt, John Spoor, L. A. Lathrop, George Bickmire, E. L. Beeman and Thomas Hill, filled the patriarch's chair down to July, 1895. The first scribe was Peter Laney, followed in 1883, by A. J. Rickard; in 1884, by H. Mannhardt; in 1885, by C. M. Walling; in 1886, by L. Wiehl, and in 1887 by Peter Laney, who has since occupied the office. The number of members, in June, 1895, was forty-one.

*Pamy Lodge, No. 138, Daughters of Rebekah*, was instituted May 13, 1882, with the following named members: Madams Maria Schooley, E. Laney, Martha Hill, Mary Walling, Elizabeth Barber, M. A. McKindree, Eliza Roberts, Emma Burson, Mary Greeley, Susan Henry, and ten male members. The noble grands elected since the organization are named as follows: Peter Laney, Eliza Roberts, Maria Schooley, E. A. Baker, M. A. McKindree, Mary Walling, Martha Hill, Mrs. J. M. Dancer, May Greeley, Emma Rickard, Sarah Richmond, Alice Beeman, Lizzie Zimmerman, Nana Ballmer and Anna Noble. The recording secretaries have been Maria Schooley, M. A. McKindree, Mary Walling, Martha Hill, Nell Crippens, May Greeley, Peter Laney, Alice Beeman, Anna Noble,



Ellen Lathrop, Anna Laney, Nana Ballmer and G. W. Richmond. There were sixty members in June, 1895. In January, 1896, Mae Lance was elected noble grand, and Eliza Roberts, recording secretary.

#### CUSTAR.

Custar is noted among the villages of north-western Ohio for its stately church building, pretty school house, well-mannered inhabitants and prosperous condition. Down to 1870 it was the milling point of a wilderness, and the Mecca of hunters. Improvement followed improvement until it was recognized as a hamlet, and from that stage it merged into a busy village.

Lewisburg, its original name, was surveyed in 1865, and the plat recorded July 15, that year. Frederick Lewis may be called the founder, though his earlier survey formed only a small portion of the village as it is known to-day. In 1864 the Daniel Scheuren sawmill, then the largest mill in the county, drew to the locality a large force of workmen, who cut down the giants of the forest, and literally opened an impenetrable swamp to the hardiest and most self-reliant settlers. The sawmill was burned in 1870, and rebuilt. After the death of Mr. Scheuren, William C. Mullally purchased the mill, which he operated for a year or two, when he moved the machinery to Henry county. The buildings, owned by W. Wilcox, H. E. Horner, Dr. Noble and B. F. Waggoner, now occupy the site of the old mill. The old Scheuren store stood on the same property until fire destroyed it. In 1875 there was \$60,000 worth of lumber, hoops and staves shipped from the village, with valuable shipments of shingles and grain. Then John Louy was railroad agent; Ingraham, Keeler, Black & Co., and Jones & Scheuren, merchants; John Thompson and John Kistner, saloon-keepers; William Bergaman, furniture dealer; Fritz Gundering, brush manufacturer; De Bach & Arkins, Anson Kiser and John Bader, blacksmiths; Jeff Jones, hotel-keeper; J. Weitz, butcher; Worline and Slaughter, physicians; Gus Thompson, lawyer; Thomas Wiley and Hattie Hartz, school teachers, and G. W. Hill, justice of the peace.

It was practically a German hamlet, partly Americanized, where men labored from daylight to dark and earned all they received. During the ensuing few years remarkable progress was made until at last the echoes of the villagers calls for local government were heard throughout the county.

*Incorporation.*—The village of Custar was incorporated August 16, 1881, on a petition signed by forty-one residents, and presented to the commissioners June 8, that year.

*Officials.*—The mayors, councilmen, clerks and treasurers elected since that time are named in the following lists: Mayors—G. P. Thompson, November, 1881; O. H. Jones, 1882; G. P. Thompson, 1883; H. Mannhardt, 1886-96; C. R. Hopkins, elected in 1896. Clerks—H. Mannhardt, 1881-86; George W. Downs, 1886-96; re-elected 1896. Treasurers—O. H. Jones, 1881; August Wentz, 1882-96; D. D. Sites elected in 1896. Marshals—A. G. Barger, 1881; W. Kirk, 1882; A. G. Barger, 1883; W. B. Miller, 1885, who was also elected sealer of weights and measures; William Wilcox and Edwin Murray, 1893-96; re-elected 1896.

*Councilmen.*—The councilmen of Custar elected since November, 1881, are named as follows:

1881—George France, George Rethinger, George W. Downs, George H. Depew, John Kistner, John Thompson.  
 1882—John Kistner, John Maas, B. Older, John Long, G. Rethinger, G. H. Depew.  
 1883—G. France, Thomas Butt, Benjamin Richardson.  
 1884—B. Older, G. W. Downs, M. Espen.  
 1885—J. Maas, John Kistner, George Rethinger.  
 1886—Peter France, George Arkins, Joseph Debacher.  
 1887—John Kistner, John Maas, George Rethinger.  
 1888—Daniel Barton, Elias Main, John Long.  
 1889—J. B. Doughty, O. H. Jones, John Kistner.  
 1890—Peter H. France, Joseph Metzger, Elias Main.  
 1891—John Long, Joseph Debacher, O. H. Jones.  
 1892—E. C. Main, Benedict Metzger, Jacob Lehmann.  
 1893—L. L. Erick, J. B. Smith, E. J. O'Hearn, P. H. France.  
 1894—William Wilcox, P. H. France, Thomas Metter, L. J. Myers, E. Pohle, N. Schuster.  
 1895—Joseph Metzger, B. B. Richardson, Jacob Hufer, W. Wilcox, P. H. France, Thomas Metter.  
 1896—John Kistner, William Wilcox, Joseph Metzger, Jacob Hufer, C. G. Thurstin, H. N. Bretz.

The village has not yet taken action on matter of water supply. On May 1, 1895, the council authorized the purchase of chemical fire apparatus.

*Postmasters.*—W. O. Keeler is said to have been the first postmaster, followed by G. P. Thompson, who held the office down to 1885, when O. H. Jones was appointed. In September, 1889, H. E. Horner was given the office, and in October, 1893, George W. Downs (the present incumbent, 1896) was appointed.

*Common Schools.*—The first school houses were erected by the early settlers, and paid for out of their own labor, and not by public taxation. The fuel was furnished by the parents taking turns hauling and chopping the wood, or by the scholars, at noon and night. The seats were long benches hewn out of trees. It was in these school houses that the pioneers' sons and daughters received their college education.

On March 23, 1882, all the voters of Custar, forty in number, declared that Sub-District No. 9 should be organized as a village district, and, in April following, elected H. Mannhardt, A. Wentz, George France, John Kistner, G. W. Downs and John Rudolf, directors. A tax of two mills for tuition, and three mills for contingent expenses, was ordered. W. P. Bender was elected teacher at \$1.50 a day, and Miss Patterson at \$1.25 a day. Nannie Berry was employed as teacher in 1883, and L. Waltz in 1884. In 1885, Charles Rhoda was elected a member of the board, and in August of that year, 60 single seats and 60 single desks were ordered for the pupils. In 1888, T. L. Bult was elected a member, and in 1889, Joseph Metzger. In the latter year, Mrs. Lathrop was employed as teacher at \$25 a month. In 1890, W. W. Wilcox and Elias Main appear as new members, and in 1891, O. H. Jones. At that time a building committee was appointed to obtain plans of the Waterville school house, but this being impracticable, E. O. Fallis was employed to furnish plans and superintend the building. His estimate of cost was \$7,500, and in December, 1891, the district gave 59 votes for and 22 against the question of issuing bonds for that amount, and on March 6, 1892, the bid of Spitzler & Co. to purchase the bonds at par, and \$104, was accepted. On March 30, the bid of Bright & Goodman, \$6,874.48, for building was accepted. On January 16, 1893, the architect notified the directors that the building was practically completed. Clay Gaumer and Alice Hughes were employed as teachers as the new school house was dedicated. W. W. Wilcox has been president of the board since 1891, and Dr. H. Mannhardt, secretary since 1882.

The present school building of the village was erected in 1891-92, at a cost of over \$10,000. Of 185 children enumerated, only seventy are enrolled as pupils of the common school. In April, 1895, Madams E. Worline, C. R. Hopkins and Nancy Harbaugh were candidates for membership in the school-board; but Joseph Metzger, John Rudolph and A. Wentz defeated the women, although twenty female voters appeared at the polls. In 1896, H. Mannhardt (clerk), G. W. Downs (treasurer), Joseph Metzger, Wm. Wilcox, and John Rudolph were elected members of the school board.

*St. Louis Catholic School* is a voluntary contribution of a large element of the people, who, for conscience sake, subject themselves to a double tax. The average number of children attending this school is about sixty. The old

frame church building is used for school purposes.

*The German Lutheran School* is conducted on much the same principle as the St. Louis school, the object of its managers being to inculcate in the minds of the youth their duty to the God whom they worship, as well as instruction in the secular branches.

*St. Louis' Catholic Church.*—The beginnings of St. Louis' congregation were made when the first Catholics settled in Milton, Weston and Liberty townships. The old church of Wirtzburg, a mile and a quarter northeast of the present center of the parish, was built early in the "sixties." Among the founders were John Wirtz, John Koch, Peter Blasius, Nicklaus Blasius, Math. Blasius, Joseph Heinze, Math. Getzinger, Math. Maas, John Schmitt, John McCarthy (of Weston), Anton Louy, Edward Gilbert, Fred Gilbert, Thomas Conoway and others. At the same time, however, the founders of the Wirtzburg Church found a rival enthusiasm among the Catholic families living farther west and along the D. & M. railroad. These, unwilling to have the parish centered so far east, resolved also to build a church. The founders of the St. Louis' Church in Custar (then called Lewisburg) were Henry Louy, his sons John and Peter, Joseph Durliat, Martin Schill, Henry Diehl, Edward Byrne, Sebastian Bishop, J. Rochte, Peter Rechner, M. Breiteneicher, Peter Maas and Peter Koebel. Both churches were completed about the same time, and both churches were dedicated on the same day, by Rt. Rev. Amadeus Rappe. In 1860 Father Baur, then pastor of Maumee, now of Fremont, came, as the first missionary, to attend to the spiritual wants of the first Catholic settlers. The Holy Sacrifice was then offered up in a log house standing on the present Wentz farm. After a comparatively short time the Wirtzburg Church was merged into the St. Louis' Church. Father Hammon, the second missionary, came in 1863; Father Griss, in 1866; and Father Reinhart later. Subsequently Revs. Griss, O'Keefe and Best offered the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Father Doerner's untiring efforts were crowned by a parsonage, as also a parochial school. Father Doerner, at present at Findlay, was succeeded by Rev. Joseph Sproll, and he, in 1885, by the present pastor, Rev. Michael Vollmayer.

The congregation had been content with the old building until 1885, nor did Father Vollmayer find much reason for encouragement; for the records showed a debt of about \$1,300.00. Facts, however, soon proved that his coming was the signal and guaranty for material, as well as spiritual, progress. The reverend father, then a

young and newly-ordained priest, soon won, by his zeal and business qualities, the unqualified confidence of his flock. The old church was soon unable to seat the entire congregation, and steps were taken to enlarge the church. Part of the material had already been delivered, when a new brick church was building in the minds of all. In 1889 the corner-stone of the church was placed by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Gilmour, in the presence of a large concourse of people of all denominations. In less than two years, the church was dedicated by Mgr. Boff, vicar-general of the diocese. The occasion was a memorable one, not alone on account of the material achievement, but also for the vigorous activity which the occasion evoked. Non-Catholics, as well as Catholics, joined in observing the day as one for spiritual work. When the church was finished, all debts were paid, both old and new. In December, 1891, three bells were bought. Their first duty was to ring out the old year of 1891, and to ring in the new year of 1892. In 1892, the church was furnished with three altars, made by the Pelzers, of Salem, Ohio. Statues were now all that was necessary to complete the furnishing of the sanctuary, and some works of art were purchased by the congregation in 1893. The beautiful church building is 47x106 feet, in brick with stone trimmings. The style is plain Gothic. The interior decoration is the work of F. X. Hefele, of Cincinnati, a graduate of the Academy of Painting, in Munich. The rich cathedral-glass windows are gifts from the pastor, his brothers and the congregation. Father Vollmayer and Joseph Durlat are the donors of the sanctuary windows. The donors of the other windows are: Joseph Engesser, John Vollmayer, George Rethinger, Charles Korta, Peter Reichert, Anton Louy, Joseph Johann, Peter Diem, Anton Mehnen, Joseph Meurer, Peter Clemens, Nicolaus and Mathias Maas, John J. Vollmayer and George J. Vollmayer. The fourteen Stations of the Cross are paintings from Switzerland, and are a donation of John Vollmayer. The cost of this beautiful church ranges between \$12,000 and \$13,000, exclusive of labor and material donated. It is an imposing monument to the untiring zeal of Father Vollmayer, and to the practical faith of his people.

*The German Lutheran Evangelical Church* was incorporated May 23, 1879, and elected John Rudolph, Theodore Hellmann and E. Pohle, trustees. A frame house of worship was erected, in 1874, in the northern part of the village. Rev. W. Hecke the present pastor, succeeded Mr. Hueter, in 1894, Messrs. S. Kust-

hardt preceding the latter, and Th. Meier preceding him. The society was organized February 2, 1873, with Th. Meier, D. Scheuren, F. Koch, A. Wentz, C. Ohlrich, T. Heltman, G. Lechner, F. Bockhahn, J. Kroeger, W. Koch, F. Rudolph, J. Nickels and E. Pohle, members. William Hecke is the present clerk, and the number of members in June, 1895, was 152. In the records of the Church at Perrysburg, the organization of a German-Lutheran class at this point, in 1866, is credited to Rev. C. F. Kaeding.

*The United Brethren Society* signed articles of incorporation, April 17, 1884, with George France, president; J. W. Eastman, Marion Cox, O. H. Jones, Orlando Ferrell, George H. Depew and William Houtz, members. Steps were at once taken to erect a house of worship, and the present brick building, on Superior street, resulted. Rev. H. Doty organized this society in 1880. Following him came Messrs Eastman, Leonard, Hill, French, Hofaker, Fisher, and the present pastor, Rev. M. Lanker, of Grand Rapids. The trustees are George France, Geo. Depew, O. Ferrell, M. Cox, W. Barber and J. Berry, with William Wilcox, president of the board of trustees, and E. C. Main, clerk. The church building was erected in 1884 at a cost of \$2,200. There were seventy-five members reported in June, 1895.

*Pleasant View Church*, of the Evangelical Association, was incorporated January 3, 1890. It is a township rather than a village society.

*Day Post*, No. 577, G. A. R., was mustered in May 4, 1892, with sixteen members, namely: O. H. Jones, W. L. Yerk, B. B. Richardson, S. R. Salsbury, John Hurley, Jacob J. Strohl, W. Wilcox, George Shaffer, Edward France, M. Worline, James P. Smith, C. V. Woodruff, Eugene Bowry, Peter V. Woodruff, Samuel H. Main and Lorenzo Myers. Of the number, S. H. Main is deceased. The commanders of the Post have been George Shaffer, John Lance, and John Kistner. The Post was named in honor of Gen. Day, of Bowling Green. The adjutants were S. H. Main, 1892; John J. Strohl, 1893; W. L. Yerk, 1894, refused to qualify, when B. B. Richardson, the present adjutant, was appointed. The number of members in June, 1895, was twenty-two.

*Custar Lodge*, No. 604 K. of P., was chartered January 24, 1893, with the following members: B. A. Lebay, J. C. Johnston, J. Strohl, Joseph McLaughlin, S. Greeley, F. J. Lebay, C. Bortel, Geo. Wither, L. M. Williams, J. Funk, Geo. McConnell, J. C. Harbaugh, John Cox, John Lehman, Geo. Wilce, Milton Davis, John

J. Kistner, O. H. Jones, J. Lehman, H. Mannhardt, E. A. Hill, G. W. Downs, W. W. Lebeworth, E. H. Spoors, P. H. France, John Ellsworth, Clay Gaumer, R. O. Keeler, S. O. Felsted, L. J. Meyers, B. B. Richardson, C. G. Thurstin, S. L. Salisbury, Orlando Ferrell, W. W. Ellsworth, Henry Hewett, Lewis Cretzinger, T. L. Butts, G. R. Oblinger, Geo. Bickmyer, S. R. Salisbury, John C. F. Wansitler, Israel Frank, Jacob Huffman, M. Fairbank, Geo. Voegle,

Horace Stiffler, L. A. Lathrop and Frank Muchell. L. J. Myers was installed as past chancellor; J. B. Smith as C. C., and Joseph Lehman as keeper of records and seals. Sidney Greeley, George Bickmyer, B. B. Richardson and P. H. France have filled the chancellor's chair, with John Ellsworth, keeper of records and seals. There were forty-nine members in June, 1895.

The population of the township and its villages is given in the chapter on statistics.

## CHAPTER XXXVIII.

### MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP.

PREAMBLE—OIL AND OIL WELLS—SURVEY—ESTABLISHMENT OF TOWNSHIP—TRANSACTIONS—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—PIONEERS—FIRST RESIDENT LAND BUYERS—MEN OF 1889—EARLY POSTAL FACILITIES—THE MORGAN SCHOOL—FIRST ORCHARD—ROYALTON—TOWNSHIP CHURCHES—COMMON SCHOOLS—LOG-MILL—OTHER MILLS; FREEPORT, OR PRAIRIE DEPOT—BRADNER—RISINGSUN—VILLAGE GOVERNMENTS—PIONEERS—SURVEYS—MILLS—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—CEMETERIES—SOCIETIES, ETC.

THE villages and oil fields of this division of Wood county would lead the traveler to believe that it is an urban, rather than a predial, territory. The busy towns of Freeport, Bradner and Risingsun, the wooden towers or derricks, the engine-houses, tanks and sawmills aid the delusion so thoroughly, that nothing less than a tour of the township can dispel it.

Well cultivated farms, substantial buildings, and stock farms are numerous. A half mile south of Bradner is the Edmonds Brothers' skunk farm. Established in 1893, the owners had gathered about 1,400 animals by the close of 1895.

Over a thousand feet below its surface an ocean of petroleum exists, while limestone, for burning and building purposes, is abundant. In the chapter on the oil and gas fields, reference is made to the explorations for oil here in 1865 or 1866, and to the Bradner well of 1885. In 1886, John Fuher and Charles Villwock, on the latter's land, some three and one-half miles north of Freeport, drilled two wells, one proving a fair gas well, and the other a similar oil well. The gas was piped to Freeport, and used. Later the town of Freeport drilled for gas, but got oil instead. These were early efforts of the Freeport people in the gas and oil line, that were rewarded.

The Leshar, Angus and Horton wells, Nos. 1 and 2, drilled in September, 1890, were among the first great wells of the Freeport field—No. 2 making 300 barrels in twelve hours, and yet producing. A. Leshar, now of the hotel at Freeport, had associated with him Mr. White, and these wells were drilled on the W. King farm, not far from the depot. The Hamilton & Holiday well, north of town, drilled in the spring of 1891, made a tank a day, for over a year, and is yet producing. Dr. Palmer's well, a half mile north of Freeport, was also a tank-a-day well, which, like the Hamilton, yielded largely for a year. The Sage well was another large producer, while hundreds of other wells in Montgomery make it one of the great fields in Ohio to-day.

The survey of the exterior lines was made in 1819, and of the sectional lines in 1821. Eleven years later the pioneers appeared in the forest. In 1840, there were 609 inhabitants; in 1850—922; and in 1860—1,575. During the ensuing decade there was only an increase of sixty-one souls reported, but, by 1880, the population was increased to 2,283. The number of inhabitants in 1890 was 2,856.

The establishment of this township dates back to December 1, 1834, when the territory now known as Montgomery was set off from Perry, and named, on the suggestion of John A. Kelly, in

honor of that gallant soldier of the Revolution, who fell in the assault on Quebec, December 31, 1775. The first election, which followed, in 1835, resulted in the choice of Michael Mogle, Guy Morgan and Abraham Logan for trustees; Michael Brackley, clerk; John Shuman, treasurer; John Bailey, Jonas Carter and Justus Stearns, fence-viewers; Guy Morgan and Asa Adams, supervisors; and Harlow Hill and Charles Smith, overseers of the poor. John A. Kelly and Guy Morgan were elected justice of the peace June 6, 1835; Michael Mogle, Abraham Logan and Jonas Carter being judges, with Michael Brackley and John G. Willard, clerks of election; Guy Morgan and John A. Kelly, received thirteen votes each, one elector refusing to cast a ballot for one of the candidates. The list of voters contains fourteen names—Griswold Morgan, John Shuman, Jr., Charles Smith, Anthony Brackley, Abraham Logan, Michael Mogle, Jonas Carter, Guy Morgan (who did not vote for himself), Michael Brackley, John G. Willard, John Shuman, Sr., George Adams, John A. Kelly and Justus Stearns. Mr. Kelly cast his vote for Morgan, but not for himself.

*Transactions.*—At the first meeting of trustees, they divided the township into two road districts, and in the following year they divided it into two school districts. At the first settlement of trustees in the year 1837, Guy Morgan, supervisor, made returns of the labor performed on the roads. Almiron Rollins, supervisor of District No. 2, presented his list on which there appears a deficit of eight days' labor, for which he gave his note for six dollars, payable to the trustees.

The first payment for official services was a trifling sum to Constable George W. Adams, for serving notice on William Hambleton to leave the township. The Malthusian idea then prevailed, and as William appeared to be on the eve of becoming a charge on the people, he was driven out according to law. The traveling fees of the constable were certified at fifteen cents, and the fees for serving notice, twenty cents. In 1853 the trustees adopted the temperance ordinance, making the fine for selling intoxicants \$10 for each offense. At the same time they permitted the sale of liquor for medicinal purposes; but prescribed a fine of \$25 against the dealer who should knowingly sell it for any other purpose, or against him who would dispose of impure liquor. In April, 1889, the following levies were authorized: Nine-tenths of a mill for soldiers' monument; one-half mill for roads; one-tenth mill for the poor; two-tenths for bridges; and eight-

tenths for general expense, on a total value of \$877,430.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

*Trustees.*—The trustees' journal, from 1835 to recent times, is gone, like the records of many of the townships. From documents in Auditor Gaghan's office, and other authentic sources, the following names were obtained:

- 1835—Michael Mogle, Abraham Logan, Guy Morgan and John A. Kelley, *vice* Logan.
- 1836—John G. Willard, Theodore G. Frisbie, Guy Morgan.
- 1837—Michael Walters, Jacob Kinnaman, Guy Morgan.
- 1838-1844 (inclusive, no record or document.)
- 1845—Buckley Spink, Asa Adams, Michael Walters.
- 1846-48 (inclusive, no record or document.)
- 1849—Buckley Spink, Wilson Holcomb, John Vosburg.
- 1850—Thomas S. Carman, Wilson Holcomb, John Vosburg.
- 1851—Michael Walters, Hiram Brakeman (no record).
- 1852—Henry Buchtel, William Chapman (no record).
- 1853-54—Henry Buchtel, A. Bair, John Adams.
- 1855—P. W. Hathaway, W. Huffman, Henry Buchtel.
- 1856-57—Henry Buchtel, G. W. Adams, P. W. Hathaway.
- 1858—G. B. Hedge, G. W. Adams, J. B. Lockhart.
- 1859—G. B. Hedge, G. W. Adams, J. B. Lockhart.
- 1860—Hiram Brakeman, G. W. Adams, J. B. Lockhart.
- 1861—P. W. Hathaway, G. W. Adams, J. B. Lockhart.
- 1862—John Bair, John Long, F. Ormsby.
- 1863—William McCormick, A. Hyter, C. L. Hoiles.
- 1864—F. Ormsby, A. Hyter, C. L. Hoiles.
- 1865—W. R. Van Voorhis, J. W. Lawhead, Thomas Brown.
- 1867—Michael Bordner, Jacob Stahl, John Reed.
- 1869—James Caskie, William Uhler, S. Morgan.
- 1870—James Caskie, G. H. Feasel, William Uhler.
- 1871—James Caskie, G. H. Feasel, Thomas Brown.
- 1872—H. C. Bacon, G. Bierly, Andrew Peebles.
- 1873—Ezekiel Rice, G. Bierly, A. J. Foster.
- 1874—Charles Jacobs, A. J. Bates, Stanley Morgan.
- 1875—Conrad Shefler, W. Brown, Stanley Morgan.
- 1876—Conrad Shefler, W. Brown, Stanley Morgan.
- 1877—Conrad Shefler, W. H. Kiger, Nelson Wolcott.
- 1878—Stanley Morgan, B. B. Hoiles, Abraham Shoe.
- 1879—R. W. Kelly, D. Knisely, Conrad Shefler.
- 1880—D. Knisely, W. Peterson, C. Shefler.
- 1881—B. B. Hoiles, O. Diver, D. Knisely.
- 1882—J. W. Carter, H. N. Van Voorhis, D. Knisely.
- 1883—J. W. Carter, A. Hyter, O. A. Diver.
- 1884—J. R. Vaneise, H. N. Van Voorhis, A. Hyter.
- 1885—J. R. Vaneise, H. N. Van Voorhis, W. W. Long.
- 1886—James Caskie, Conrad Shefler, W. W. Long.

In 1887 A. A. Stump was elected; in 1888, Frank M. Heminger; and in 1889, William H. Bates. The three trustees named served until April, 1893, when F. Fairbank was elected, *vice* Stump. G. M. Palmer was elected in 1894, and C. F. Wollam in 1895. The trustees in 1896 were George M. Palmer, F. Fairbank and C. F. Wollam.

*Justices.*—The justices elected were Guy Morgan and John A. Kelly, who qualified in December, 1835; Guy Morgan, 1838-41; Michael Brackley, 1858; Wilson Holcomb, 1839; T. G. Frisbie, 1842 to 1848; John A. Kelly, 1842 to 1858; W. R. Bryant, 1850-53; Samuel Bacon, 1856 to 1862; Ezra Morgan, 1857; J. S. Stanton, 1859-62; Jonathan Stanton, 1859; James F. Chilcote, 1865; Edwin R. Sage, 1865 to 1874;

Frederick Bowers, 1868; G. B. Hedge, 1868; Thomas Brown, 1871; Elisha Biggerstaff, 1874; S. A. Angus, 1877; John W. Blessing, 1877, resigned in 1878; M. C. Mowen, 1878; Charles J. Sage, 1880-83; J. Haskel, 1881; John Edmonds, 1884-87; W. S. Sutliff, 1885-88; Stephen A. Angus, 1886 and 1895; O. A. Diver, 1889; George C. Shefler, 1891; Jonathan E. Ladd, 1890-93; Joseph Goudy, 1890, resigned in 1891; Osman A. Diver, 1892; M. C. Mowen, 1894; S. A. Angus, 1895; A. A. Stump, 1896.

*Clerks.*—The office of township clerk has been filled by the following-named citizens: Michael Brackley, 1835; T. G. Frisbie, 1839-48; Arnold A. Moon, 1848; A. Lansdale, 1851; S. Yant, 1856; T. G. Frisbie, 1857; C. W. Marvin, 1858; A. Lansdale, 1859; E. R. Sage, 1860; A. A. Jellison, 1862; J. B. Lockhart, 1863; James Lincoln, 1864; L. F. Chilcote, 1865; James T. Yant, 1867; T. G. Frisbie, 1869; J. B. Lockhart, 1870; S. A. Angus, 1874; L. Edgar, 1876; W. Hamilton, 1877; L. Edgar, 1878; J. B. Lockhart, 1879; C. J. Sage, 1880; C. Yost, 1883; George M. Palmer, 1884; O. N. Bryant, 1887; Eugene West, 1890; and A. F. Basey, appointed September, 1892; Charles S. Sage, elected in 1894, was re-elected in 1896.

*Treasurers.*—The treasurer's office was first held by John Shuman, elected in 1835. He was followed by Michael Walters, 1836; Henry Buchtel, 1837; A. Adams, in 1840; John D. Bailey held the office down to 1845; W. Holcomb, 1845; and E. R. Sage, 1849-59. The records are wanting from 1860 to 1874. Since 1875 the following named have filled the office: S. E. Tilton, 1875; Milton Ashley, 1876; S. A. Angus, 1877; W. Hamilton, 1880; H. L. Hathaway, 1882; S. J. Dern, 1887; O. A. Diver, 1894; H. L. Hathaway, 1895-96.

*Assessors.*—Among the first assessors were Thomas J. Carman, elected in 1842, and John Stephens, in 1844. In 1895, J. W. Coy, J. W. Huffman and Charles Shefler were elected assessors. In 1896, John Harman, Daniel Stahl and Adam Klotz were elected to that office.

*Constables.*—In 1896, the constables were Robert Edgar, H. B. Bierly and William Blackman.

*School Directors.*—In 1896, the school directors were George K. Daily, Henry Wensel, William H. Kiger, Daniel Knisely, Noah Rinebolt, and George H. Feasel.

*Pioneers.*—John A. Kelly was the first settler of Montgomery. He landed on his homestead

on the 19th day of June, 1832. Mrs. Emily P. Carter, writing in 1886 on this subject, said:

He brought with him a man named Henry Sapp, to help dig a well and cut timber for the house—a double round-log cabin with a fire place in each end made of clay mud and sticks—mud stuck together or held together with grass. Sapp worked for him forty days, and Kelly deeded him forty acres of land in payment thereof—an acre for each day's work. The same land Reason Kelly has since bought and paid \$60 per acre for it. It is now the home of Cyrus Kelly, grandson of John A. Kelly. The pioneer went eighteen miles, and got fourteen men to come and help him raise the logs for the cabin. They came in the morning of one day, and remained until the next afternoon. Almost the first thing they undertook to do was to dig a well. They dug fourteen feet and struck hard-pan; after that they could only dig six inches a day, but they persevered until the well was twenty-five feet deep, when they came to the rock, and in this wet, swampy country got only a meagre supply of water. The first meetings held in the township were held in Kelly's house by Revs. Dresser and Harlow Hill. Joseph Asbaugh, an early settler, found a bee tree, and, as was the custom, proceeded to cut it down. When it fell he discovered it contained a swarm of bees, two coons and three bears—a prolific tree and verily "a happy family," which it seemed a great pity to disturb—but he captured the honey, the coons and one bear. Game of all kinds was plenty, and fish so abundant that when Kelly was coming here, as he rode through the east branch of the Portage river, his horse stepped on and killed several large pickerel. The Indians would frequently come to eat, and would pay at the rate of a shilling a meal. One day several came and sat down to eat while Mrs. Kelly fried corn-fritters. They always ate hearty; but this day they seemed ravenous, for the cakes disappeared by the pan full. She mixed another mess, but still the Indians did not appear satisfied, and the mystery was only solved when she discovered by the grease dripping down onto the floor that one of the squaws had a large quantity stowed away in the folds of her blanket.

The marriage of John Shuman and Catharine Brackley is said to have been the first event of that kind in the township.

In Harlow Hill's reminiscences of his coming here in 1832, he speaks of his three-months' stay in Seneca county; of Charles Foster's little store at Fostoria; of McCormick's cabin, and of his reception by John A. Kelly in October of that year. In January, 1833, he built his cabin; in March, Morgan located a mile and a half south; then came Michael Brackley, to a point a half mile northward; and then, Charles Smith. Abraham Shoe began work on his cabin April 21, 1835. About the same time, the Divers came, while, on the site of Bradner, Freeport, Rochester, Royalton and other villages, the pioneers, referred to in the history of such villages, made their homes.

A. McBurney, the first white man who died in this township, came from Ireland in 1775 to aid the Revolutionists, and served in the Continental army to the close of the war. A. J. Brooks believes that the old soldier died in 1837.

Michael Mogle's wife, the first woman who died within the township lines, was buried near McBurney, on Chestnut Ridge.

Rodney Beets was the first Disciple preacher; but Moses Bonham was the first to organize a

class of that denomination here. In 1840, the Methodists held their first quarterly meeting in Frisbie's gristmill, at Freeport.

*First Resident Land Buyers.*—The following names, descriptions and dates are taken from the transcript of original entries, to show the order in which the pioneers made their purchases from the United States:

David Hanline, E. N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 1, April 7, 1834.  
 John Hamilton, S. W. S. E. S. 2, May 11, 1835.  
 John Stephens, pt. of S. E. S. 2, Nov. 10, 1835.  
 G. H. Hathaway, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 2, Dec. 19, 1835.  
 John Segel, S. S. W. S. 3, April 1, 1836.  
 Jesse Stone, N. W. S. 3, April 5, 1836.  
 Alex. McConnell, S. W. N. E. S. 3, taxed in 1853.  
 Guy Morgan, E. S. E. S. 5, Oct. 30, 1833.  
 Francis Smith, E. N. W. S. 5, Nov. 6, 1833.  
 Daniel Hemminger, S. W. N. W. S. 5, May 6, 1837.  
 John P. Bradner, pt. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 6, Nov. 16, 1837.  
 Reuben Bierly, S. W. of S. W. S. 6, Nov. 23, 1838.  
 Philip Shroyer, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 7, taxed in 1854.  
 Harlow Hill, W. S. E. S. 8, Oct. 12, 1833.  
 Anthony Brackley, E. N. E. S. 8, Nov. 20, 1833.  
 Philip Siffert, S. E. of S. 10, Sept. 16, 1833.  
 Michael Bordner, pts. of S. W. and N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 10, Jan. 11, 1836.  
 David Hanline, N. S. E. S. 11, Aug. 17, 1833.  
 Simeon and Dan. Edmonds, W. of N. E. and N. W. S. 12, Nov. 16, 1833.  
 Henry Myers, W. S. E. S. 12, July 5, 1834.  
 Henry Myers, N. E. S. 13, Sept. 13, 1833.  
 Michael Mogle, Jr., N. N. W. S. 14, June 27, 1833.  
 Nathan Wightman, S. S. E. S. 14, Dec. 12, 1833.  
 Seth B. Frisbie, pt. N. W. S. 14, June 8, 1835.  
 David Mogle, N. E. S. 15, June 27, 1833.  
 Henry Buchtel, pt. N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 15, Sept. 16, 1833.  
 John G. Willard, S. S. W. S. 17, June 20, 1833.  
 Alex. McCurdy, E. N. E. S. 17, Aug. 8, 1836.  
 Jonas Carter, S. E. S. 20, Sept. 2, 1834.  
 John McGill, S. E. S. E. S. 21, Nov. 8, 1836.  
 John Graham, pt. S. W. S. 22, May 30, 1835 (died in 1848).  
 George W. Dunn, E. N. E. S. 28, Nov. 17, 1835.  
 Silas Hufford, N. W. S. 29, Sept. 10, 1832.  
 John J. Bowman, S. E. N. E. S. 29, June 10, 1835.  
 Henry Sapp, S. E. S. W. S. 30, May 6, 1833.  
 Abraham Logan, pt. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 30, Sept. 6, 1833.  
 Joseph Ansbaugh, E. S. E. S. 30, April 19, 1833.  
 John A. Kelly, S. E. S. 32, May 28, 1832.  
 Michael Reith, N. E. S. E. S. 34, Mar. 16, 1836.  
 Abraham Shoe, pts. N. W. and S. W. S. 34, May 26, 1835.  
 Jacob Baer, N. W. S. W. S. 36, April 11, 1836.  
 Benjamin Wollam, N. N. W. S. 36, Oct. 25, 1833.

*Men of 1839.*—There were 106 male inhabitants, aged twenty-one years or over, in the township in 1839. They, with their relatives formed the first circle of pioneers, and for this reason their names are given here. John Ash, Joseph Ansbaugh, Asa Adams, George Adams, John Adams, David Adams (2d), Alexander Adams, David Adams, Thomas Adams, Peter Becker, Henry Buchtel, George Buchtel, Michael Bordner, Michael Brackley, Anthony Brackley, John D. Bailey, William Baker, Jacob Baker, Abraham Becker, Samuel Biggerstaff, John Brooks, Alva Burgess, William Burgess, Jacob Bonawittz, Jacob Burns, Reuben Bierly, David Bierly, George Craig, John Craig, Jonas Carter, Thomas

Carman, William Cox, William Cary, David Caldwell, Malhon Dunkel, Thomas Davis, David Earnest, Daniel Edmonds, Seth B. Frisbie, Theodore G. Frisbie, Robert Dake, John Grayham, John Donaldson, Jacob Harsh, Daniel Heminger, Harlow Hill, Elam Henry, David Hanline, Samuel Hanline, David Hanline, Jr., Tobias Hanline, Michael Hanline, Wilson Holcomb, Henry Harsh, George Keefer, John Kyser, Samuel Matthews, Lyman Matthews, Guy Morgan, Griswold Morgan, David Mocktel, John McDowel, John Ostrander, Benjamin Ostrander, James Martin, Caleb Penn, Jacob Rickerprot, Abraham Shoe, Frederick Shoe, Jacob Shoe, David Stevenson, John Stevens, Justus Stearns, John Shaner, John Shuman, John Shuman, Jr., Charles Smith, George Smith, Buckley Spink, Christian Smith, Daniel Shwab, Godfrey Stahl, John Seymour, George Squires, Matthew Stump, Almiron Rollins, John Rombler, Loyd Rombler, Benjamin Scott, John Richards, Benjamin Wollam, Archibald Wollam, John Vosburg, E. B. Gould, Jacob Kinnaman, Leonard Jackson, Abner Smith, John Fritcher, Jacob Gilbert, Beng Keller, James Andrews, Adam Shroyer, Michael Walters, Joseph Walters, Emanuel Walters, and Osman Diver.

*Early Postal Facilities.*—The first post office was at Montgomery Cross Roads, with Guy Morgan, postmaster. The route was from Perrysburg to Bucyrus. Later a route was established from Fremont, connecting with the one at the Cross Roads, and having an office at Freeport. Ezra Morgan was postmaster in 1849, and G. B. Hedge in later years. John Baer carried the mail from 1835 until 1839. He was a boy of sixteen then. It usually required four days to go from Bucyrus to Perrysburg.

*The Morgan School.*—Mrs. Diver, when a girl, taught school in the Morgan school house, a little log cabin about twelve feet square. At one end a mud and stick fire place; around the other three sides pegs about two feet long were driven into a row of logs some three feet from the floor. On these pegs were fastened slabs, which formed the desks; in front of the desks stood benches, three in number, one for each side. The teacher's home was seven miles south of Bucyrus, and when she came to teach she came on horseback, in one day, in company with the mail carrier, who also came on horseback. She afterward made the trip alone, and would ride for miles without seeing a human being.

*First Orchard.*—The oldest apple orchard in the township is still standing on the farm owned by John Adams, adjoining the J. W. Carter farm,



and bears some apples yet, although its best days are over. Jonas Carter brought the seeds from Delaware county, when he moved in 1833 or 1834. He had the trees grafted when large enough, and for many years they bore very fine fruit. As soon as they began to bear so that Carter had plenty of apples, he made a cider-mill which would turn out two barrels of cider a day, and thus he made the first cider in the township.

*Royalton*, on Sections 30 and 32, Montgomery township, was surveyed in July, 1836, by Hiram Davis for Dr. Jacob Kinnaman. Dr. John Kinnaman, a graduate of a Philadelphia college, was the first physician. He was a young man, and a lover of his profession. His coming was hailed with delight by the settlers. He located about one-half mile west of two miles north of Millgrove. A very large walnut stump served him for a laboratory, drug depository and general reception room. He laid out a town at this point and named it Royalton, but it died in its infancy shortly after the demise of its founder. Many times in riding he would cut down a tree, hitch his horse to one of its branches and let him browse until his patient was out of danger, often from eight to ten hours. The following is an instance of this man's nerve and ability in his profession. Swayn, a pioneer of Perry, then living in Bloom, was hurt by a falling tree. In a few days it was found necessary to amputate the leg. Dr. Kinnaman was sent for and arrived. Without any assistance, and with no surgical implements but a razor and an old saw, the doctor amputated the limb neatly and speedily, and the man got well. Dr. Kinnaman died in 1838, a victim of excessive attention to medical study and over work.

*Township Churches.*—Mt. Tabor Evangelical Church, in Section 28, was built in 1870, by Andrew Foster, Andrew Dieter and J. Christian Dieter. The building committee were Jacob Dieter, Adam Bowe and their wives, with Annie Hanline. Wm. Osborn, of West Millgrove, built the house at a cost of \$2,000, on one-quarter of an acre donated by Andrew Dieter. Among the pastors were Rev. Samuel Rife, Thomas George, John Plantz, W. T. Strough, D. Strowman, E. Wingard, Samuel Crocklen, Eli Shoemaker, D. H. Huddle, J. J. Bernhardt, and W. D. Ganertesfelder, the present pastor. He attends the Bradner, Salem (in Perry), Trinity (in Sandusky), and St. Johns (in Seneca county) congregations. J. C. Dieter has been an official of the Church since 1870. He is now trustee; also Levi Shoe, George Arnold, the clerk, John Bowers, and Jacob Dieter. There are about forty members in good standing.

The Union Church, of Chestnut Ridge, is noticed among the Churches of Bradner.

The German Baptist Church, on the west line of Montgomery township, was organized about fifteen years ago. Among the old members were Elder Jonathan Whitmore, George Amos, Andrew Whitmore, Elder J. Whitmore, Jr., Jacob Esterly, the Graybills, and a few others. The trustees are Henry Michael, George Amos, and John Lindower. The membership is small.

The first United Brethren Church was organized, in 1836, by Revs. Jeremiah Brown and Jacob Crom. Abraham Shoe stated some years ago his belief in the date given.

The Montgomery Church and school stood not far from Bower's mill, west of Risingsun. For years the two Longs preached there, as in other parts of the circuit.

*Common Schools.*—The conventional pioneer school was carried on down to the close of the "thirties," when the common-school system began to receive attention. The records, like those of the township, cannot be found. The journal of the board of education, in possession of the clerk, dates back only to April 17, 1882, when W. C. Showalter, G. K. Daily, Thomas Adams, Jr., W. H. Kiger, Jacob Stahl, John Mervin, W. W. Long, Fred Bower and J. G. Heltman qualified as clerks of the nine districts. In May, a tax levy of 5½ mills for school purposes was ordered, a brick school house was erected in District No. 6, by Adam Graber, for \$787.50, and a frame one in District No. 1. A. L. Bordner, Henry Hill, H. N. Van Voorhis, Daniel Knisely, Jacob Bair, B. Inman, Albert Faatz, E. F. Day, James Hoot, James Caskie, H. B. Bierly, George Amos, J. H. Lusk, G. L. McNutt, George Feasel, and others, have been members of the board at intervals since 1885, directing the modern improvements in buildings, equipments and systems of instruction. In 1882 there were 335 male and 262 female children of school age in the township. In September, 1886, there were only 239 male and 185 female pupils enumerated outside the special districts, while in July, 1895, there were 161 male and 132 female children in the six country districts, and six children in joint Sub-District No. 2, adjoining Freedom. The treasurer's record dates back to 1866, when Lucy Strong, H. B. Brown, Minnie F. Lampson, H. Canfield and Ellen Fay were teachers. Sarah Cook, A. E. Hurlbut, Sarah L. Curtis, E. F. Hase, Helen Adams, Lucy Henry, Jerusha Hays, C. W. Lenhart, Mary Smith, Emma Gould, Emma Strong, Maggie Huffman, Nannie Morgan, Louisa Myers, Maggie Davidson,



Annette Rockwood, Jennie Adams, J. B. Jackson, G. W. VanSickle, G. W. McPeck, E. T. Sherwood, Clara J. Lockhart, Albert Everett, Alice Anderson, Marion Muir, John Soule, Lizzie Angus, Ann E. McQuinn, Mary Winklepleck, Anna E. Poe, Jennie Faylor, Martha Colwell, I. N. Van Tassel, Lewis Edgar, Fannie Norris, Nancy Bierly, Kate Haynes, Charity Adams, Anna Forrest, H. H. A. Boyd, Ida Gould, Arienna Cowden, Austin Harrison, and Adie Langdon were teachers here prior to the close of 1871. In 1871, there were 311 male and 382 female children of school age in the township, District No. 5 having 103 of the total for the ten districts.

*Log-Mill.*—A log-mill, where corn was ground, was established at West Millgrove, but the first gristmill was built in 1835, on Section 10, on what was called the Keller farm, north of Freeport. It was run by horse-power. The first sawmill, a water-power, was on the Cox farm, on the out-let of the Freeport Prairie, Section 21. The power was not always sufficient, and a great deal of fun was had at its expense. There was abundance of water, but no fall, and people said the sawyers had to help turn the wheel, until it was called "elbow and water-power." The Adams gristmill, on the McCutchenville road, west by south of Freeport, was built by David Adams, about the year 1838. He dammed the river at that point, and operated the mill until 1857 or 1858. It was a hewed-log structure, with inside frame-work; it had two pair of stones, one pair of French buhrs for grinding wheat and rye, and one pair of stones for grinding corn and buckwheat. This mill was torn down in about the year 1861 by a son, Asa Adams.

*Mills.*—The first sawmill in the vicinity was that built by Tift, on Section 31, in connection with a potash factory. He was also an itinerant pump-maker. An old settler, referring to the man, said wherever there was a pump wanted he would take his tools, then go to the woods and get a small sycamore log and bore it out for a pump-stock, and when finished it was quite cheap and durable. He sometimes suffered from ague. When in the woods he would lie down on a log and shake an hour or more, then go on his way again as if nothing had happened.

The Freeport mill was built by Tift for T. G. Frisbie, where O. N. Bryant's dwelling now stands. In 1860 the frame and roof were standing. A short distance southwest, on the East Branch, was the Adams' mill, which was running, down to the time of the war. The old Diver sawmill passed away before the war. The old

Hedge mill, now replaced by new buildings, and the Ensminger mill were established years before the war, while the Bower mill, on the Risingsun road, and many portable sawmills, have been useful industries. The Hedge saw and planing mill was established eight years ago on its present site, after the burning of the older mill, which stood a half-mile northwest.

#### FREEPORT, OR PRAIRIE DEPOT.

The ground, on which the village stands, was surveyed in March, 1836, by Hiram Davis, for John Bailey and Henry Buchtel. In the summer of 1836, Michael Brackley and T. G. Frisbie built a log cabin (where Mrs. Cook's new dwelling was erected in 1894), in which they placed a stock of general merchandise. About the same time, Michael Hanline erected a larger log-house (east of Dr. Brooke's residence), and established himself as a tavern-keeper. Rochester and Montgomery Cross Roads had postal facilities many years before the department took cognizance of the new village, but in time it was given a post office, and the new name—Prairie Depot.

The first merchants, not satisfied with the water and horse-power mills, referred to in the history of the township, constructed a large mill, introduced good machinery, and inaugurated it as the pioneer steam-gristmill. Michael Bordner had the contract for freighting the boiler from Perrysburg, a work he performed within a week, with two yoke of oxen.

Prior to May, 1852, the United States mail, for the residents of the village and vicinity, was carried from Montgomery Cross Roads, and left in care of E. R. Sage, until the Brookes, Carters, Spinks, Shefflers, Bordners, Shoes, Baileys, Dr. Gorsuch, Dr. Huffman, and others, would find it convenient to call for their letters. T. G. Frisbie was appointed postmaster in 1852; Samuel Angus followed; Dr. Edwin R. Sage held the office in 1863; Mrs. James Lincoln, in 1864; Dr. Sage, in 1865, with Caroline Chapman, deputy and mail-carrier; Edward R. Sage, 1876; Osman Diver, 1885; H. L. Hathaway, 1889; and O. N. Bryant, 1893.

*Village Government.*—The petition for the incorporation of Freeport, dated April 21, 1876, was presented by Edwin R. Sage and Lewis C. Edgar, representing the forty-five petitioners, June 8, 1876, and was granted September 7, that year.

The mayors were W. R. Bryant, elected in 1876; E. R. Sage, 1878; W. A. Pryor, 1879; W. R.

Bryant, 1881; W. A. Tew, 1883; W. R. Bryant, 1885; A. Leshar, 1886; Charles J. Sage, 1887; W. Hamilton, 1889; L. C. Edgar, appointed in December, 1889, *vice* Hamilton, resigned; L. C. Edgar, elected in April, 1890, and J. L. Williamson, 1893. The election of L. C. Edgar was recorded in 1895 and 1896.

Fire and carelessness have played havoc with the village records. After the expenditure of time and labor in research and interviews, a complete list of mayors was made, but the names of councilmen for 1876 and 1877 could not be given with anything approaching certainty. In 1878, W. R. Bryant, C. Bierly, C. Jacobs, M. Bordner, L. C. Edgar and C. J. Sage formed the council; while, in 1879, Aaron Leshar occupied M. Bordner's place. In 1880, E. R. Sage, W. V. Haines and R. N. Crouse were members, and they, with N. W. Goodrick, John Baer and J. W. Graham, formed the council in 1881, while J. W. Hoiles was elected in 1882. The councilmen for each year, from 1883 to 1894, are named in the following list, while those elected in 1895 are mentioned in the report of the election:

- 1883—J. W. Hoiles, George W. Collins, David Lusk, S. A. Angus, E. R. Sage, J. W. Graham.
- 1884—J. W. Hoiles, George W. Collins, John Fuher, S. A. Angus, E. R. Sage, J. W. Graham.
- 1886—John Fuher, C. Villwock, J. M. Lawrence, S. J. Dern.
- 1887—A. W. Herriff, N. J. Wirebaugh, W. Hamilton, J. M. Lawrence, Cyrus Haff, W. Hoiles, *vice* John Fuher, resigned, and L. C. Edgar, *vice* Hoiles.
- 1888—C. Villwock, T. H. Lawhead, F. P. King.
- 1889—T. E. Frisbie, N. J. Wirebaugh, J. D. Kurtz.
- 1890—F. P. King, J. H. Hannan, C. Villwock, E. C. Palmer, J. W. Coy, T. H. Lawhead.
- 1891—J. G. Heltman, N. J. Wirebaugh, J. F. Ross, W. H. Palmer, W. Hamilton, F. P. King.
- 1892—J. W. Graham, B. Hutchins and S. Newcomer.
- 1893—J. W. Calkins, J. Hoiles, J. W. Graham.
- 1894—O. A. Diver, J. W. Calkins, A. Fike.

The officers, elected in 1895, were: Mayor, L. C. Edgar; council, J. F. Ross, M. P. Smith, B. C. Harding; treasurer, C. H. Hoiles; clerk, J. R. Wright; marshal, Levi Holcomb, to succeed F. H. Fike; street commissioner, D. E. Jackson; school board, Mary E. Tilton and Mrs. Hinkley. The entire ticket was Republican. The issue "wet" or "dry" was won by the "drys." In 1896, A. Fike, J. L. Williamson, J. H. Brandon, Wilson Hamilton, J. H. Harman.

The office of village clerk has been filled by A. Leshar, 1877; J. B. Lockhart, 1878; W. Hamilton, 1879; J. A. Stump, 1881; F. H. Fike, 1885; E. E. Frisbie, 1887; F. H. Fike, 1888; M. B. Frisbie, 1889; E. J. Coy, 1891; J. L. Williamson, appointed in March, 1892; J. B. Newcomer, 1893; J. R. Wright, 1895; J. L. Graham, 1896.

Among the treasurers may be named N. W.

Goodrick, 1878; A. A. Simmons, 1881; E. E. Smith, 1889; A. A. Heltman, 1892; and C. H. Hoiles, 1895, 1896.

In 1896, L. Holcomb and M. L. Palmer (ass't) were elected marshals; Wilson Hamilton, R. N. Graham, J. W. Calkins, E. R. Page, Sr., Mrs. S. E. Tilton and Mrs. S. D. Hinkley were elected members of the school board.

In November, 1887, the question of prohibiting the liquor traffic was presented. There were forty votes for and thirty-seven against. In April, 1890, a petition for the annexation of territory was presented to the council. In 1895, the question of selling intoxicating liquors was again presented, when the Prohibition party won. The proposition to pave Main street from the railroad to the west line of the village has been seriously entertained, and it is believed the council will authorize such a necessary improvement.

In school matters, the village is well endowed. A large school building, modern in architecture and furnishings, has taken the place of the small structure, which was a link between pioneer days and the development of the oil field.

*Mills.*—The old Frisbie mill was burned about 1843. At that time Henry Buchtel, John Brooke and Caleb Minkler were owners, as they are remembered by A. J. Brooke. Michael Hanline rented it, and, shortly after, it was burned. Frisbie & Hanline rebuilt the mill and added saw-mill machinery. Prior to 1860, the concern was abandoned, and the old soldier of 1812, Kieffer, occupied it as a tenant, for some years.

The Metcalf sawmill, which stood east of the Frisbie mill, was built by Heller in the "fifties." About the time the railroad was constructed, the house was torn down. The Halliday & Hamilton sawmill took its place, and continued in operation until the oil boom commenced.

Foundries, and boiler and machine shops are the rule to-day, showing that Freeport is in its iron age. The Hedge, the Stiger & Hoiles, and the Bowers mills may be considered village industries.

*Fires.*—Like its sister village of West Millgrove, Freeport had its destructive fire. In August, 1893, the buildings on the corner of Main and Center streets were swept away, including Tilton & Sage's store, John Hart's harness shop, M. Heath's three-story hotel, Hathaway & Heltman's store, and the Leshar building. In the last named house was the council room and the village archives.

*Rebuilding.*—Tilton & Sage built their present store immediately after the fire, and Good-

rick's shop followed in 1893. In 1895, the "Leshner House," a modern concern, was erected, and opened for hotel purposes in the fall of that year. A few of the pioneer business and dwelling houses have come down to the present time intact, but, as a rule, the buildings of the village are modern.

In 1878, Lawrence's blacksmith shop was established where is now the T. J. Chilcote furniture store (near the Edgar residence), and for fourteen years he carried on his trade there. In 1892, Chilcote purchased the lot, and the shop was removed to Center street. Again, in May or June, 1895, he built a large shop next the unused Congregational church house. Later in the year, the Angus building was erected and opened as a gents' furnishing house. Outside the business center, along Main and Center streets, several large residences and well-kept grounds can be seen, while, on the parallel streets, many cottage homes stand in orderly lawns. Shade trees, wanting in the majority of the newer villages, abound here and give to Freeport a warm, comfortable appearance.

*Churches.*—The first Methodist Episcopal class in Montgomery was organized by Rev. Harlow Hill, in 1834, with seven members. Among them was Frederick Shawhan, a soldier of the Revolution, who, when eighty-four years of age, walked to Harlow Hill's house, wherein he preached. Mr. Thrapp was the first circuit preacher, though Mr. Hollopeter is said to have been the first Gospeller to address the pioneers of this section, while Mr. Whitman, who took a part in organizing the Risdon Circuit, was also here. Among the first members were Frederick Shawhan, Rachel Kelly, Mary Rawlins, Mary Carter, Wm. Fancher, Amy Hill, and Harlow Hill, who was class-leader. David Darling Harlow, Henry Darling, John Shaner and wife, John and Melita Graham are said to have become members in 1837 or 1838, when the class was really organized. In 1839 Freeport was in the Bowling-green, Woodville and Elmore Circuit. Thirty years after, Freeport Circuit was organized to include New Rochester, West Millgrove, Jerry City, Greensburg and Rollersville, with the Troy and Webster classes. Among the early preachers other than those mentioned were John Brock, Simon Lee, M. Hollopeter, J. R. Jewett, Elnathan Gavitt, Henry Nicholson, John Graham, M. Riggs, Job Morrow, John Whistler, H. L. Nickerson, John Priddey, M. Cook, Joseph Sims, and H. W. Hill, one of the local preachers. A house of worship was erected in 1867, at a cost of \$1,500, and a parsonage in 1883. There are

200 members in this class. In July, 1893, William Kiger, James Caskie, and J. G. Heltman were elected trustees. Rev. I. N. Kuel is now the preacher-in-charge.

The Congregational Church organized in 1842, by Rev. N. T. Fay, claimed about fifty members. He began holding his meetings in the different school houses, but they finally built the first church in Freeport, a log building, and some years later erected the first frame church which is still standing, but unoccupied. Mr. Fay had a varied experience in the comedy and tragedy of life. For many years weddings and funerals were the only recreation the people had, and he was frequently called upon to officiate at both. Great secrecy was observed with regard to most of the weddings, for if it became known that such an event was about to transpire, a *belling* was sure to ensue, and very few were willing to be the victims. On January 24, 1876, the society was incorporated with Mrs. H. Bacon, treasurer; Thomas Adams, deacon; J. S. Mahoney, J. B. Lockhart and H. Bacon, trustees. In 1887 the society dissolved, and the building left without tenants.

The Disciples Society was formally organized in 1858, and completely organized in 1860, with twenty members. Rev. William Dowling was the first preacher, and the "Old Red School House" the place of meeting. In 1865-66, the present church house was erected. A few years ago the building was moved across the street to its present location, where the 132 members came to worship. Rev. A. McMillan, the pastor, was the publisher of *The Christian Review*, a semi-monthly journal issued from the *Observer* office, down to September, 1895, when the editor left the village. Long before the organization of this society, Rodney Beets preached in the township, and Moses Bonham organized a class, about 1850, with Esther, Maggie and Laura Diver, William Wirebaugh and wife, Melissa Jones, John Baer and wife, William Dowling and wife, and Mrs. Chapman, members. Revs. Wm. Dowling, J. Q. Randall, S. A. Griffin, A. S. Bartlett, J. T. H. Stewart, G. W. Kline, A. P. Frost and A. McMillan were pastors in the order named.

*Societies.*—Prairie Depot Lodge, No. 646, I. O. O. F., was organized at West Millgrove, and chartered July 20, 1876. During the ensuing six years it made remarkable progress, but its decline was noticed early in 1883, and by 1886 the members considered it advisable to surrender the charter. Under such circumstances the Oddfellows of Freeport stepped into the

breach, and asked the Grand Lodge to transfer the charter to them. This was done July 20, 1886, when the back dues were subscribed and paid over by the twenty members then belonging. The noble grand's chair has been filled by the following named members: H. J. Pelton, Asa Baird, O. Stearns (1), T. J. Henry (2), G. W. Zeppernick, Joseph Enos (3), James Brandeberry, A. K. Longaker, R. Swinehart, J. P. Wetmore (8), J. C. Ort (16), B. F. Simons (7), J. M. Dicken (10), A. Hampshire (9), James Dindore (11 and 11 a), M. J. Moffett, S. S. Shank (12 and 13), Levi Worts (15), J. C. Conley (6), J. W. Graham, J. W. Adams, G. W. Hedge (18), W. H. Palmer (23), W. H. Kiger, J. D. Kurtz, W. H. Palmer, F. T. Hedge, R. N. Graham, Eugene West (24), E. J. Coy (25), J. G. Heltman, F. P. King, J. A. Graham, H. C. Pittenger, O. A. Diver, C. S. Sage and W. P. Cessna.

There have been twenty-seven different incumbents of the secretary's office, the numbers given above showing the order in which those promoted to the noble grand's chair served. L. H. Perry was the 4th; A. R. Knapp, the 5th; W. Coontz, the 9th; J. C. Thompson, the 14th; A. K. Wein, 15th a; George Buckingham, 17th; G. A. Bryant, 19th; F. H. Fike, 20th, 21st and 22d; W. R. Tilton, 26th; D. K. Morrison, 27th; Jesse Crowfoot, 28th; H. L. Hinkley, 29th; and A. W. Herriff, 30th and 31st. The membership in July, 1895, was eighty-four.

Crystal Encampment, No. 271, I. O. O. F., was chartered November 22, 1892. The names of charter members are as follows: W. H. Palmer, A. F. Basey, H. G. Walters, A. W. Herriff, F. P. Ross, F. T. Hedge, S. S. Warner, J. W. Coy, W. P. Cessna, James A. Graham, R. N. Graham, Fred. Holcomb, L. R. Jacobs, P. C. Hoiles, C. G. Hovis, N. J. Wirebaugh, William Eckart, Frank Castle and J. W. Calkins. George Myers, Guy J. Johnson and W. Gaines have presided over this encampment down to June, 1895. J. W. Coy, the first scribe, was succeeded by C. A. Thompson. The number of members reported, in June, 1895, was twenty-eight.

Lucy Webb Lodge, No. 285, D. of R., was chartered May 24, 1889, with the following named members: Jerusha Fike (1), Lizzie Heltman (2), Sarah Diver (3), Lucy Fike, Elsie Basey (8), Cora West, Lucy Bryant, Lucy King (5), Mett Lawrence, Lena Hovis, Callie Hedge, Jessie Sage (7), Sarah Heath, Lizzie Harmon (9), Maud Newcomer, Rose Pittenger, Annie Graham, Alice Ayres, Lavina Graham (11), Ida Kurtz, Adelene Coy, Mary Kiger, Minnie Vill-

wock, Lizzie Fuhér, Henry Pittenger, Russell Graham, Osman Diver, Osias Bryant, George Hedge, William Kiger, Abram Fike, Augustus Basey, Melvin Ayres, Eugene West, Frank Fike, Charles S. Sage, Charles Villwock, John Fuher, Joseph Coy, Jacob Lawrence, Joseph Heltman, John Harmon and Frank King. The ladies who have held the position of noble grand since organization are those whose names are followed by numbers in the above list, with Maggie Graham, the fourth in order of service; Emma Herriff, the sixth, and Ella Palmerton, the tenth. The secretaries have been Sarah Diver, Mary Kiger, Maggie Graham, Emma Herriff, Elsie Basey, Lizzie Harmon, Ella Palmerton and Ednetta Calkins. Celia Walters is the present secretary. There were 110 members reported in July, 1895.

Randall Post, No. 53, G. A. R., was chartered April 5, 1881, with the following named members: J. W. Carter (7 and 12), L. C. Edgar, S. A. Augus (1), J. Clary, W. B. Haines (3), J. O. Hess, W. A. Pryor, B. N. Hutchins, J. Gould, Howard Carman (4), J. A. Stump, J. Lusk (2 and 8), I. J. Warner and Charles Jacobs. The commanders among the charter members are numbered above in the order of service. B. Odell was the 5th; Joseph W. Coy, the 6th; A. A. Simonds, the 9th; William Eckert, the 10th, and Daniel Knisely, the 11th. The first adjutant was L. C. Edgar. B. N. Hutchins was elected for 1888; B. Odell for 1893; J. Lusk for 1894, and William Bates for 1895. Of the comrades, Richard Fleming, W. A. Pryor, J. A. Stump and Thomas Smith have died. In January, 1895, the installation of J. W. Carter, A. Simmons, E. R. Sage, W. H. Bates, T. A. Graham, D. Knisely, J. W. Coy, J. H. Lusk and H. Odell, officers in Post rank, took place.

Randall Relief Corps, No. 222, was chartered April 5, 1888, with thirty members, namely: Sarah Diver, Harriet and Elizabeth Gould, Anna, Hattie and Louisa Graham, Ophelia Lusk, Mary Tilton, Emily Carter, Sophronia Riley, Margaret Stump, Ella Palmerton, Emma Herriff, Amanda Palmer, Fianna Odell, Mary Kiger, Carrie Stahl, Caroline Leshner, Adeline Coy, Lizzie Fleming, Barbara Shoe, Rhoda Hathaway, Emma Bryant, Cora Simmons, Lucy King, Sabina Butler, Elizabeth Heminger, Charmina Angus, Jennie Bovie and Sarah Heath. The first president was Sophronia Riley; the second, Ida Edgar, who served two years; then Emily P. Carter, Sarah M. Sage, Harriet E. Gould, Margaret Stump and Jessie Dern. The secretaries, in order of service, were Mary Tilton, Vina Butler, Sarah M. Sage, Emma Yost, Ida

Edgar, Cora West and Emma Carter, the present incumbent. There were forty members reported in October, 1895.

Randolph Palmer Camp, No. 273, S. of V., was chartered April 24, 1888, with E. J. Coy, F. A. Stump, C. J. Finney, J. D. Dicken, W. W. Billman, D. D. Coy, E. E. and M. F. Frisbie, A. J. and L. Heminger, P. M. Valmer, A. A., O. and C. Heminger, W. Saxon, G. Hiser, John Pinney, L. Riley, P. O. Fleming, G. W. Heath, J. L. Graham, Wm. and L. A. Keller, C. Ackerman, H. Algyre, John Hart, T. B. Dailey, G. M. Marsh, D. B. Lusk, H. N. De Wolfe, S. A. Angus and L. Hoiles. The camp holds its charter, but has practically ceased work.

Petroleum Lodge, No. 499, K. of P., was chartered June 8, 1891, and instituted July 16 following. The names of the charter members are: J. W. Stiger, O. A. Diver (1), O. N. Bryant (2), Geo. E. Horton, F. J. Horton (3), J. L. Williamson, L. Lockhart, J. W. Law, E. E. Frisbie, D. D. Coy, E. J. Coy, J. L. Graham, E. C. Zimmerla, D. P. Trumbull (5), Eugene West, F. P. King, G. W. Elliott, L. C. Edgar (4), A. G. Ream, R. B. Morrison, F. A. Pew, W. E. Sage, F. L. Sweet (6), John McMillen, J. D. Barnes, W. H. Jeffrey, J. P. Harndon, S. J. Dern, Frank Hastings, W. A. Harmon, F. M. Heminger, Fred. Hanson, T. C. Haller, C. W. Brice, C. S. Myers, H. E. Blair (8), Walter Deal, F. T. Hedge, H. L. Wirebaugh, T. J. Mason, I. B. Newcomer, D. K. Morrison, L. R. Jacobs, F. B. Adams, S. F. Hopkins, H. N. De Wolfe, Frank Horton and F. E. Taylor. The number after a name in the above list denotes the order in which the promotion to the chancellor's chair was followed, S. M. Adams being the 7th chancellor. The keepers of records and seals have been: Eugene West, D. K. Morrison, E. E. Frisbie (3 terms), J. L. Graham (2 terms), and D. S. Black. There were fifty-eight members recorded in July, 1895.

Excelsior Tent, No. 223, K. O. T. M., was instituted November 3, 1894, with twenty-eight charter members. S. F. Hopkins was elected commander, and J. W. Calkins, record-keeper.

Pansy Hive, No. 105, L. O. T. M., was organized September 13, 1894, and chartered January 7, 1895. The members enrolled were Rachel Biery, Nellie Brooks, Mary Breman, Sarah A. Bierly, Lucinda and Ednetta Calkins, Bertha Deal, Mary L. DeWolf, M. E. Engler, Eunice Fisher, Clara Hoiles, Etta E. Horton, Katie Hovis, Sarah J. Jordan, Alice McDowell, Maud Knowles, Alice Ramsey, Ida Stiger, Hattie Wade, Sadie A. Watson, Mary E. Rounds, Rebecca Goodrick,

Sarah L. Diver, Mary R. Slocum, Laurel S. Frey and Anna L. Shoemaker. Mary R. Slocum and Sarah A. Bierly are past commanders; Rachel Biery served as secretary to January 18, 1895, when Eunice E. Fisher was elected record-keeper. There are twenty-seven members.

#### CONCLUSION.

The greatest boom that ever struck the Buckeye oil field was in 1890, at Prairie Depot and North Findlay, where for a time an average of twenty wells were completed daily. In that year 2,151 wells were completed in Ohio, and the majority of them in the two fields mentioned. Since that time the village has been an important oil center, and the rendezvous of a large body of operators and employes.

#### BRADNER.

The original town of Bradner was surveyed in 1875, for John Bradner and Ross Crocker, of Fostoria, and H. G. Caldwell, who resided in the vicinity of the village. They purchased thirty-four acres, and named the place in honor of the senior member of the little syndicate. Mount Prospect addition was surveyed by W. H. Wood for J. H. Stephens, Charles H. Lightner and Jacob Plantz, and the plat was acknowledged by them February 7, 1876. The projectors intended to make it an ordinary railroad town, having then not one idea that their village was the gateway to an oil field of greater area than that of Pennsylvania.

The pioneers of the district were David Hanline, who purchased land in Section 11, and located here in 1833; the Edmunds (or Edmonds), who arrived March 19, 1834; the Mogles and Fanchens; A. McBurney (a soldier of the Revolution); Godfrey Stahl, and Benjamin Scott. During the absence of David Edmonds, who had gone to Tiffin for a door for his cabin, wolves came prowling around the house, and one night, one, more venturesome, walked boldly in. Of course the family were terribly frightened, but with true heroism Mrs. Edmonds picked up a chair and went for him. The older children followed her example, and they succeeded in driving the intruder out. The first work they did after getting settled in their cabin was to clear off five acres of land, and plant it in corn. They sold about forty bushels, besides having all they wanted to use, and also raised about fifty bushels of potatoes from two bushels of seed. They brought with them in a box quite a quantity of peach pits, and upon opening it found them sprouted, so set them

out around stumps or wherever they could find a spot for them. In three years they had plenty of peaches, and in five years over a hundred bushels rotted on the ground. Then there came a severe winter and killed the trees, and although they tried frequently, they never succeeded in raising another peach. They saw a great deal of sickness. Mrs. Edmonds had the ague during the summer for seven years in succession, and the mosquitoes were terribly bad; for screens were unheard of then, and they just swarmed in the houses.

The veteran, McBurney, was the first to be buried in the Bradner neighborhood, while David Edmonds' daughter, born November 14, 1834, is said to have been the first white child born in this part of the wilderness.

After the survey of the village, J. H. and David Stephens established a grocery store; H. G. Caldwell built the "Bradner House;" Peterson Brothers moved in from Minckler's Corners; the Petersons built a grain elevator in 1877; the post office was established, with Mr. Caldwell in charge; the Railroad and Express Companies appointed Caldwell their agent; church and secret societies came into existence, and in a little while the precociousness of the little town began to attract attention, as her merchants had already attracted trade. In 1877, John Zeppernick moved from New Rochester; J. Bowers erected a drug store; Hill & Tuttle established a boot and shoe store; Richard Abel took charge of the "Bradner House;" Bradner & Mahony built a grain elevator; C. H. Lightner built the "Exchange Hotel;" a two-story school building was in existence, and the old Methodist Protestant meeting house stood within sight of the business center. In 1879, J. W. H. Smith & Co. established the stave and handle factory, wherein 100 hands were employed. He died in 1880, but the work was carried on until the fire of 1885.

The post office was established in the spring of 1877, with T. H. Peterson, postmaster; Jacob Huffman was the next incumbent; in 1885 J. H. Stephens was appointed, and served until 1889, when Jacob Huffman was commissioned; in 1893 David Stephens, the present incumbent, took charge.

In 1885 there was only one oil well drilled in the Bradner field. A reference to the chapter on Oil and Gas will give the reader an idea of the gradual development of this part of the Wood county field. In 1888 an oil refinery was established here, and, in November of that year, the first car-load of oil, refined under the Yargan process, was shipped to Toledo.

Before the close of 1890, no less than seventeen buildings, costing from \$1,000 to \$1,800, were erected—ten costing from \$700 to \$900, and nine from \$500 to \$600—with many smaller houses, were erected. All may be credited to 1890. The Craig storage tank, said to have cost \$6,000, and the Bradner Oil Co.'s tank, \$5,000, were constructed that year. The larger houses were built for J. P. Raab, A. Bordner, M. O. Ladd, P. Shottenberger, John Earnst, M. M. Fowler, C. McCormick, Chester Hamilton, J. V. Huffman, H. Waggoner, John H. Denny, Youngs Bros., J. W. Wyant, Mrs. H. Ayres, D. Hoiles, Welsh & Berenger, Miniger's livery, E. A. James, E. J. Horton, S. E. Entsminger, W. Cribbs, P. H. White, Raab & Thorn, N. Sloan, A. Belknap and Dr. Furste. The work of building still goes forward. In 1895, J. F. Huffman and John Ernst erected the two-story brick block, on South Main street, north of the *Advocate* office. This building, which cost \$7,000, is the first and only business block in the city.

The Globe Building & Loan Association was organized in December, 1894, with M. H. Murray, president; W. C. O'Bryan, vice-president; Orion Kirk, secretary and treasurer; J. E. Ladd, attorney; Daniel Stahl, David Edmonds, W. L. Cribbs, W. B. Gregg, J. M. Cribbs and D. H. Runneals, directors.

The foundries and machine shops of Bradner give it the air of a manufacturing center, while derricks, and crowds of lively oilmen, tell unmistakably that it is a center of oil production.

*Civic Affairs.*—The petition for the incorporation of Bradner, signed by forty-one residents, was presented to the commissioners December 2, 1889. This was followed by the usual remonstrance, and both were considered February 4, 1890, when the petition was granted and made of record February 10, that year.

The first election was held April 22, 1890, when eighty-two votes were cast. J. E. Furste, was chosen mayor; Jonathan E. Ladd, clerk; J. H. Stephens, treasurer; Potter C. Clay, marshal; John F. Miller, Edward Jamison, Peter Plantz, O. J. Mitchell, M. L. Stevens and D. H. Bryan, councilmen, with M. O. Ladd, sealer of weights and measures. Mr. Ladd has served as clerk down to 1896, when J. H. Cahill succeeded him. Mr. Stephens was treasurer down to 1894, when John W. Wyant succeeded him, and J. F. Huffman succeeded Wyant in 1896. R. S. De Witt was elected marshal in 1896.

The mayors elected since April, 1890, are named as follows: J. E. Furste, 1890, resigned in July, 1890; David Edmonds, appointed July

10, resigned August 6, when Silas Ralston was appointed; N. Wolcott, December 3, 1890, elected in April, 1891. J. S. Ashbrook, 1891; N. Wolcott, December, 1892, elected in April, 1893; A. A. Stump, 1894; W. B. Gregg, 1896.

The councilmen elected annually are named in the following list:

- 1890—O. J. Mitchell, M. L. Stephens, E. Jamison, D. H. Bryan, P. Plantz, John Miller, John W. Wyant and John Conley, elected to fill vacancies.
- 1891—O. J. Mitchell, E. J. Horton, P. Shottenberger, M. L. Stephens, D. H. Bryan, John Miller.
- 1892—M. L. Stephens, Milton Ashley, W. B. Johnston, D. Youngs, D. H. Bryan, M. L. Stephens, O. J. Mitchell, E. A. James, appointed in July, 1892, *vice* Youngs resigned, and W. A. Stump, in December, 1892, *vice* Stephens.
- 1893—D. H. Bryan, W. B. Gregg, J. H. Stephens, J. W. Beam, M. Ashley, W. B. Johnston.
- 1894—W. B. Johnston, M. Ashley, C. L. Broyles, J. H. Stephens, W. B. Gregg, J. W. Beam.
- 1895—W. B. Gregg, S. N. Sloan, with Messrs. Ashley, Johnston, Broyles and Fowler.
- 1896—S. N. Sloan, A. J. Fowler, C. Eckert, O. W. Delo, C. Whalen and H. Hartman.

The question of water supply was discussed in 1894, and adopted in 1895. In May, 1895, the bid of the Bradner Supply Co., for furnishing 10,000 feet of water pipe, was accepted. The system of fire protection embraces an 800-barrel tank; a Howe chemical engine; a pump with steam engine; a hose-cart; and an active fire department.

The names of the members of the school board, elected in 1896, are J. H. Westerfield, M. M. Fowler, J. E. Ladd, David Edmonds, J. C. Hartman, and A. W. Reese.

*Schools.*—The records of the special district of Bradner date back to April 11, 1876, when William Hartman, A. Earl and John H. Stephens were elected members of the board of directors. Among the teachers named in the record book are Helen and Alice Canfield, Nancy Bierly, A. J. Munsell, Alma Adams, Nora Peoples, Hannah Mason, Clara Mahoney and L. C. Merchant. In 1879, E. A. James, James Peebles, J. F. Huffman and William Brown were elected directors; M. L. Stephens and Daniel Stahl are named in later years. On September 22, 1883, an election was held for directors of the special district, and John Edmonds, Abram Hyter and J. F. Huffman were chosen directors. Wiley Peterson was treasurer of the district in 1884, and John T. Shippey, teacher. In 1889, M. L. Stephens, A. Hyter, D. Stahl, J. Hartman, J. Walters and J. Hutchinson formed the board. In 1883, M. M. Fowler was appointed teacher; Gilbert Benton in 1886; J. E. Ladd succeeded him in 1887, and taught here until 1892, and F. H. Bowers from 1892 to 1895. In April, 1893, there were sev-

enty-nine votes cast for and thirty-five against the question of building a school house, and March 5, 1894, six bonds for \$1,000, one for \$2,000, one for \$1,500, and one for \$500, were issued. The present two-story building, 57 x 84 feet in ground area, was erected and equipped at a cost approximating \$15,000, to meet which a tax levy of seven mills in 1894, and eighteen mills in 1895, was made. The board of 1895 comprises J. H. Westerfield, M. M. Fowler, E. A. James, J. C. Hartman, David Edmonds and J. E. Ladd. There are 281 children in the district.

*Accidents.*—The development of the place has not been carried forward without some rude shocks. The explosion of the Bradford Glycerine Company's magazine, a half-mile south, on January 9, 1891, damaged several buildings in the village. The collision, on the C., H. V. & T. railroad, one and one-half miles south, November 9, 1893, resulted in the death of S. H. Jones, engineer of the passenger locomotive; Charles Jones, his fireman; James C. Gresh, expressman; and W. Kerlin, engineer of the freight locomotive. Three others were injured. The oil field has furnished a full quota of accidents, but little notice is taken of them.

*A Big Shot.*—The field aims at large things. In August, 1895, 400 quarts, or 1,333½ pounds, of glycerine were used in shooting the Van Vleck & Stowe well. This is said to have been the largest shot ever used in the Bradner field, or, as far as known to the writer, in any other division of Wood county oildom.

*Churches.*—The Methodist Protestant Society of Mt. Prospect, is said to have been the first religious organization in the Bradner neighborhood, and the builder of the first house of worship, Rev. A. D. Horney, is pastor. Since the little society came into existence, wonderful changes in the temporal and spiritual affairs of the people have taken place, so that to-day there are at least four denominations and representatives of many more.

The Methodist Episcopal Society erected their present house of worship in 1891, at a cost of \$3,000. Rev. I. N. Kalb, named in the history of the Church at Freeport, is pastor.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church, of which Rev. Mr. Gamertsfelder was pastor in 1895, is an off-shoot of the older Lutheran classes of the vicinity. Many of its members belong to the pioneer families of the Bradner district.

The Presbyterian Church was organized June 14, 1895, by Rev. Dillon, of Bowling Green, Elder Ward, of New Rochester, and Rev. Syl. Hauptert, with F. Kirk, T. Martin (elders), E.



M. Kirk, J. M. Cubbs, and their wives, Mattie, Jennie and Pearl Kirk, Charles Kirk, Mrs. Delo, Mrs. Black (Risingsun), and Geo. Murray. This society purchased the old school building for a nominal sum, and fitted it up as a place for worship. Rev. Sylvanus Hauptert was pastor at the beginning of 1895.

Union Church, on Chestnut Ridge, east of Bradner, may be considered a local institution. The original deed of the land was made to the Reformed Presbyterian Society, which merged into the German Lutheran Society some years later. Among the early members, as remembered by Mrs. Minkler, were Jacob Plantz, Ben Plantz (who died in 1895), Peter Bovie and son, and William Cox. Mrs. Minkler, who has resided near the church for over forty-eight years, states that the log house of worship was torn down sixteen years ago to make place for the present church house, which is now used only on funeral occasions.

*Cemetery.*—Chestnut Ridge Cemetery may be said to have been established in 1836, as related in other pages. It is certain that the Shevely child was buried there in 1837. The oldest headstone observed by the writer is that which tells of the death of Christina Zimmerman, July 26, 1846.

*Societies.*—Bradner is well endowed with secret and benevolent societies, the greater number in working condition and thoroughly alive to the interests of members.

Acme Lodge, No. 676, I. O. O. F., was chartered May 16 and instituted July 18, 1878, with fourteen charter members, of whom Morris Reese was noble grand. The lodges at Risingsun, Freeport and Pemberville are offshoots of No. 676. The first members were C. Bryan, M. Ashley, W. C. Glover, Tobias Hanline, John Peoples, J. F. Hutchinson, Elverson Peoples, G. W. Foster, A. W. Reese, W. Bell, M. Reese, and S. W. Smead.

The Daughters of Rebekah organized here in later years with thirty members, of whom Hattie E. Ayers was noble grand.

Hamilton Post, No. 90, G. A. R., was chartered June 15, 1881, and named in honor of a soldier, who, in 1861, enlisted at Perrysburg in Co. K, First United States Chasseurs, afterward known as the 65th N. Y. V.; was wounded at Spottsylvania, and died in 1872. The original members of this Post were: Richard Angus, E. R. Beach, W. Crossman, H. Dobson, M. Eckert, E. Evans, Geo. D. Evans, William Ensminger, T. M. Hill, Caleb Minkler, J. Fry, J. S. Mahoney, J. F. Hutchinson, J. M. Jones, J. Heath,

J. W. Hoiles, William Gregg, J. Timmons, W. Peterson, C. Walters, A. Shively, E. A. James and J. M. James. E. A. James was the first commander, and John Mahoney the first adjutant; J. Hutchinson succeeded James; J. F. Huffman was the third to command; B. Langell, the fourth. Wm. M. Basore succeeded adjutant Mahoney in 1883, and I. V. Shell succeeded him in 1884, the number of members at that time being fifty-four.

Hamilton Women's Relief Corps is made up of the wives, daughters and sisters of the members of Hamilton Post, G. A. R.

Bradner Lodge, No. 429, K. of P., was chartered May 8, 1890, with thirty-six members, namely: J. W. Wyant, E. Evans, M. O. Ladd, V. B. Langell, A. A. Stump, J. F. and J. V. Huffman, John Edmonds, J. E. Ladd, Martin Eckert, J. P. Evans, J. M. Stephens, J. E. Furste, M. Hathaway, M. J. Cleary, W. G. Nicholls, B. F. Hart, G. W. Walters, C. E. Cornman, M. M. Fowler, T. J. Sullivan, G. W. Eckert, T. J. Clements, M. H. Brasher, C. E. Hyter, H. G. Hartman, C. L. Broyles, R. Timms, David Edmonds, A. J. Fowler, W. B. Gregg, J. J. Pratt, W. L. Dunn, S. H. Curry, J. F. Nepton, and J. M. Cribbs. The office of chancellor has been filled by the following named members: W. B. Gregg and J. W. Wyant, 1890; J. E. Ladd and J. E. Furste, 1891; C. E. Hyter and A. A. Stump, 1892; J. M. Cribbs and D. H. Youngs, 1893; G. W. Walter and J. V. Huffman, 1894; and N. L. Covell and C. L. Broyles, 1895. The keepers of records and seals, since organization, are named as follows: J. E. Furste, 1890; C. E. Hyter, 1891; W. B. Gregg, 1892; J. M. Stephens, 1893; W. B. Gregg, 1894; and A. A. Stump, 1895.

I. O. U. A. M. Council, No. 270, was chartered May 4, 1892, with W. W. Stevens, N. J. Hartman, E. F. Huffman, John M. Williams, J. O. Ladd, J. L. Fleming, Fred Huffman, M. P. Colt, W. White, J. W. Meek and J. S. Newman.

Shuey Hive, No. 100, L. O. T. M., was chartered September 8, 1894, with Lucy Furste, L. C., and the following named officers in Tent rank: Carrie Lamb, Etta Graham, Ida Collins, Emma Morris, Anna Fowler, Ada McHenry, Blanche Rhoades, Adda Ladd and Fannie Ladd.

Bradner Tent, No. 119, K. O. T. M., was chartered December 13, 1892, with the following named officers in Tent rank: C. E. Hyter, W. S. Morris, William Clark, F. H. Lamb, William White, Thomas Daily, J. E. Furste, Charles Allen, Robert DeWitt, William Knowles, F. Shefler, William Daily and Frank Daily, with



twelve unofficial members. The Tent now claims sixty-five members, the names of the twelve members referred to being J. F. Miller, A. Leslie, B. W. Graham, E. J. Horton, G. A. McAlpine, C. E. Herriff, E. L. Bordner, T. Clements, W. M. Chamberlain, J. F. Turk and J. H. Lapp.

White Division, No. 5, U. R. K. O. T. M., was organized March 19, 1895, with the following named members: F. B. Allen, George Coyle, W. White, D. H. Runneals, M. H. Overocker, F. H. Lamb, C. E. Allen, William Summers, J. O. Wiles, E. T. Welsh, W. Gaines, George McAlpine, R. DeBrant, E. A. North, M. P. Long, M. H. Murray, George Murray, B. W. Graham, C. A. Herriff, John H. Lapp and Patsie Molchy. The officers were George Coyle, past captain; F. B. Allen, captain; D. H. Runneals, record keeper, and W. White, finance keeper. There are twenty-one members.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union was organized in May, 1895, with Mrs. F. H. Bower, president; Mrs. A. L. Bordner and Mrs. F. Kirk, vice-presidents; Mrs. Beam, secretary; Mrs. M. Ashley, Mrs. E. James and Mrs. D. I. Dale, superintendents.

The Y. M. C. A. was organized in May, 1895, with F. H. Bowers, president; Rev. Sylvanus Hauptert, secretary, and W. S. Frees, treasurer. The association's hall is in the second story of the old school house, now used as the Presbyterian church.

#### RISINGSUN.

The first settlement made within the vicinity of this village was that by Benjamin Wollam, who purchased land in Sec. 25, in 1834, built a pole shanty with the aid of an Indian, and then fled from the wild animals which infested the place. Within a few years, Benjamin and Archibald Wollam are found here. In 1837, Straub located on the site of the village, where he constructed a log cabin. A cabin for school purposes was built prior to that time, and Arnold Moon installed as teacher. David Phillips settled in the village in 1844; Conrad Shefler, the same year, while Adam Bates, David Shoe, David Bierly and others, named in the history of the township, must be considered among the pioneers of the district. In 1849, George Strause built the first frame dwelling house, and in 1851 the first frame barn. In 1866, William Shoup erected a small house for mercantile purposes, near the Prentiss sawmill (constructed in 1857, and, later, operated by J. W. Blessing). The

place was at first known as St. Elms, but this being too polite for a spot in the wilderness, the residents went to the other extreme and named it "Coon Town." The limestone outcrop suggested "Stony Battery," which name it bore until July 4, 1874, when David Earl's motion to baptize the place "Rising Sun" was adopted. It is now spelled as one word — "Risingsun."

The village was surveyed by W. H. Wood, in June, 1876, for Luther Wineland, John Mervin, J. W. Bonawit, Adam Grover, J. W. Blessing, John Carey, E. Bolinger, Conrad Shefler and their wives, and E. F. Day and Thomas Mervin. Henry Baker, John Mervin and John Carey were the original owners of the land; John W. Blessing was the first postmaster, and Enos Williams the first carrier of the mail between the village and Fostoria in the ante-railroad days.

Prior to the close of April, 1877, there were established here: Frankfether Bros.' general store, Gregg, Wyman & Co.'s lime kilns, John Baker's hotel, and two drug stores. The school house then sheltered about fifty pupils, while a brick house, for church purposes, was in process of building, and ground was broken for over twenty dwellings. In 1886, there were three hotels, two dry-goods houses, two hardware houses, one flour and feed store, one grocery, one saloon, two schools, two physicians, four preachers, the lime works, and two churches, found here.

*Village Officers.*—In November, 1878, a petition was signed by forty-one inhabitants asking the commissioners to incorporate them as a village. This was presented December 16, 1878, but the order creating the village was not signed until March 13, 1879.

The mayors were E. F. Day, 1879; Charles E. Sabin, 1882; W. S. Sutliff, 1883; Chauncey E. Houston, 1890; A. H. Emerson, 1893; G. C. Shefler, appointed in July, 1893; E. F. Day was elected in 1894, and was the presiding officer of the village in October, 1895, when the records were summarized. In 1896, he was re-elected.

The office of clerk has been held by Ray Gilmore, 1879; S. G. Sheller, 1879; Martin Shively, 1881; J. H. Ream, 1888; Charles R. Shefler, 1889, re-elected in 1896.

The office of treasurer has been filled by Conrad Shefler, 1879; E. F. Day, 1886; George H. Baker, 1892; and H. C. Sass, 1896.

The councilmen elected since the beginning are named as follows:

1879—H. B. Houston, J. W. Miller, J. W. Reese, J. W. Bonawit, Daniel Ragon, L. M. Mosely.

1880—John Mervin, M. C. Mowen, J. W. Blessing, H. B. Houston, A. Graber, J. W. Bonawit.

- 1881—G. M. North, John Mervin, M. C. Mowen, E. H. Kirk, A. Graber, J. W. Bonawit.  
 1882—Lewis M. Mosely, W. Bates, A. Graber, M. C. Mervin, C. Heplir, G. M. North.  
 1883—G. M. North, L. M. Mosely, A. Graber, J. H. Miller, D. F. Myers, J. W. Bonawit.  
 1884—William Wollam, E. F. Day, H. L. Byington, L. M. Mosely, G. M. North, A. Graber.  
 1885—William Wollam, E. F. Day, H. L. Byington, J. H. Burnett, J. W. Blessing, G. M. North.  
 1886—J. W. Reese, Conrad Shefler, H. K. Byington, J. H. Burnett, J. W. Blessing, G. M. North.  
 1887—G. H. Baker, Conrad Shefler, H. L. Byington, J. H. Burnett, Ed. Bollinger, J. W. Reese.  
 1888—G. G. Myers, N. Wirebaugh, H. L. Byington, J. H. Burnett, Ed. Bollinger, J. W. Reese.  
 1889—G. H. Baker, Charles Day, H. L. Byington, J. H. Burnett, L. C. Windull, G. G. Myers.  
 1890—G. H. Baker, Charles Day, George Buck, J. H. Burnett, Noah Swope, G. G. Myers.  
 1891—Martin Shively, Charles Day, E. S. Shefler, Noah Swope, B. F. Bates, G. G. Myers.  
 1892—Martin Shively, Charles Day, E. S. Shefler, E. F. Day, B. F. Bates, W. Wolf.  
 1893—Jesse Graham, Charles Cook, E. F. Day, J. H. Burnett, W. Wolf.  
 1894—Jesse Graham, J. H. Burnett, H. Voglesang, E. Graham, S. Hengsteler.  
 1895—J. M. Koons, Jesse Miller, H. Voglesang, E. Graham, S. Hengsteler.  
 1896—C. S. Shefler, J. F. Myers and William Wolf were elected.

*Common School.*—The school directors of 1876 employed L. C. Edgar to take charge of their schools, established two rooms in a public hall, and guarded the interests of the district so well that in 1880 they were enabled to build two brick school houses. At that time the graded system was adopted, and G. C. Shefler employed as superintendent. In 1892 the present modern school house was erected, at a cost of \$12,000. On May 11, 1891, Risingsun organized as a separate district, with J. W. Blessing, L. C. Winchell, W. W. Long, John Phillips, William Myers and E. E. White, directors. An election on the question of building a new school house was held June 5, 1891, when sixty-four votes were recorded for and twenty against, and August 28, 1891, the contract for building was awarded to Ricker & Mayer. On September 3 the sum of \$10,025 was received from the sale of bonds. In October, C. A. Kline succeeded J. W. Blessing as president, and in April, 1893, G. G. Myers succeeded him. E. E. White has served as clerk of the district since its organization. G. W. Hengsteler and Emma Byington have been members of the board in later days, and Mr. Shefler has held the position of superintendent since 1891. The enumeration made in July, 1895, shows 103 male and seventy-two female pupils.

*Post Office.*—The records of the post office date back to July 17, 1873, when John W. Blessing was commissioned postmaster. H. B.

Houston was appointed in 1876; J. K. Plantz, in September, 1881; C. E. Sabin, in 1883; F. J. Aldrich, in July, 1884, to succeed W. H. Wight, who served a short time. In May, 1887, Samuel Milligan was appointed; on May 1, 1889, O. A. Bigley was commissioned; and in August, 1893, G. H. Baker was appointed. When the name was remodeled, in September, 1894, a new commission was issued to Mr. Baker. L. L. Pop, his courteous deputy, attends to postal affairs.

Faith post office, four miles southeast, was discontinued in 1893, Wm. L. Shupe, the postmaster, losing a sinecure of small value.

*Fires.*—The fire of October 30, 1894, resulted in the destruction of the Arcade, and a few small buildings. It was the introduction to the greater fire of February, 1895, which reduced to ashes the Phillips-Shefler building (occupied by C. E. White's drug store, and J. D. Goodman's grocery), and Miller's blacksmith shop.

*Churches.*—The United Brethren Society was organized in 1854, under the name "Montgomery U. B. Church." On January 30, 1858, the Union Church trustees purchased a small tract of land from Benjamin Wollam, in the S. W. corner of Sec. 25, but what interest the U. B. Society had in it then is not known. It is, however, understood that the frame building, used by them down to 1878, made way for the brick house of worship. The first pastors were Samuel Essex and George Stewart. The society signed articles of incorporation February 10, 1881, H. E. Smith, John Carey and Amos Bigley, trustees, representing the seventeen members then belonging. Rev. A. H. White is pastor, and E. E. White, superintendent of the Sunday-school.

The Radical U. B. Society is a recent organization, of which Rev. J. W. Witham, of Fostoria, is pastor. The thirty-five members purchased one of the two old brick school houses, filled it up as a place of worship, and dedicated it January 27, 1895.

The Church of God was organized, in 1860, by J. W. Wilson and R. H. Bolton. The members worshiped in the Basswood school house until 1876, when they purchased a house from the school district, in which they held meetings until 1881, when their present frame building was erected on the Sandusky side of the county line. Rev. W. E. Fuller is pastor, and G. W. Hengsteler, superintendent. There were eighty-five members reported in October, 1895.

*Societies.*—Onward Lodge, No. 329, K. of P., was chartered January 29, 1889, and instituted March 7 of that year. The original mem-

bers were James Carmichael, P. Stump (3), Joseph Riegler, J. W. Bierly, S. S. Mowen (4), F. Bower (2), G. H. Baker, William Wolf (5), C. G. Myers, C. R. Shefler, G. W. Dunlap (6), E. E. White, W. S. Lyon, H. L. Byington (1), S. B. Vandersol, H. Rubart, P. Byers and L. Swope. The chancellors have been the charter members after whose names the figures 1 to 6 are given, with A. C. Wolf, N. Rinebold, J. H. Ream, H. A. Blackman, G. C. Shefler, A. L. Ferster, A. F. Plantz, and C. E. Pew, who was serving in June, 1895. C. G. Myers was the first keeper of records and seals, M. Shively the second, and F. Bower the third. The number of members in June, 1895, was sixty-three.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 788, I. O. O. F., was chartered August 15, 1890, and instituted August 20, with the following named members: J. H. Ream, C. G. Myers, C. A. Houstin (1), J. M. Koons (5), W. S. Sutliff, L. A. Taylor, William Wolf (4), F. Glasscott, J. H. Rease, S. Bodie, N. Rinebold (2), P. Byers, G. Gephart, J. H. Burnett (6), and L. Swope (3). The members, after whose names the figures are placed, served as noble grands in the order given, with William Myers the seventh, and E. L. McCrory the eighth, incumbent. J. M. Koons was the first secretary; W. Myers, the second; J. H. Ream, the third; and E. M. Martin, the fourth. There were forty-four members reported in June, 1895.

The P. O. S. of A. was organized here January 15, 1889, with thirty-nine Sons, and had at one time seventy members, but in recent years the membership has fallen very low.

Whitman Post, 604, G. A. R., was organized in September, 1888, but not chartered until 1892. The original members were O. A. Bigley (2 and 4), and Samuel Plantz, Stephen Shoe, Conrad Shefler, Henry Voglesang (3), Jesse Miller, Jacob Phister, Martin Shively (1), Adam Miller, A. N. Byers, A. Putman, Daniel Ragon, Enos Williams, Jacob Sidile, Titus Beck, B. Inman, Joseph Stohl, Moses Wymer, Jacob Boyd, Thomas Mervin, W. L. Shupe. Three of the number have served as commanders, while Henry Voglesang is the adjutant. There were sixteen members reported in October, 1895.

Whitman Relief Corps, No. 179, was chartered February 12, 1893, with the following named members: Lizzie Wirebaugh, Ida Ferster, Jane Bollinger, Sarah Voglesang, Clara Cook, Angie Bower, Nettie Miller, Lizzie Burnett, Mary Rouglet, Catherine Miller, Hattie Klotz, Minnie Graham, Anna Bigley, Emma Inman, Cynthia Cline, Ida Day, Ida White and Rose Aldrich. The office of president has been filled by Mrs. L. Burnett, Lizzie Burnett and Tina Covill, and that of secretary by Ida Ferster and Minnie Graham, Mrs. Ferster being secretary in 1895. There are twenty members.

## CHAPTER XXXIX.

### PERRY TOWNSHIP.

SURVEY—POPULATION—TOPOGRAPHY—A PIONEER WEATHER BUREAU—ORGANIZATION—EARLY OFFICERS—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—FIRST LAW-SUIT—PIONEERS—EARLY LAND BUYERS—EARLY MILLS—MEN OF 1839—COUNTERFEITERS—THE STONE HOUSE—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES; WEST MILLGROVE—HATTON, FOSTORIA AND LONGLEY—SURVEYS—VILLAGE HISTORIES—POST OFFICES—VILLAGE OFFICERS—TRADERS, ETC.—CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, CEMETERIES, SOCIETIES, ETC.

**T**HE survey of the exterior lines of this township was made by Alexander and Samuel Holmes, in 1819, and that of the interior or sectional lines, in 1821, by S. Bourne.

The population in 1840 was 559; in 1850, 888; and in 1860, 1,292. The increase during the thirty years, ending in 1890, cannot compare

with that of the tri-cennial period, ending in 1860. In 1870 the population was 1,323; in 1880, 1,474; and in 1890, 1,449, or a fraction over forty persons to each square mile. The decrease in the last Census period must be ascribed to the fact that the oil fields of the neighboring townships won many of the young men of Perry, while Fostoria, Bowling Green and other thriving towns

won over a large contingent of both young and old, who preferred urban to agricultural life.

The village of West Millgrove, near the northwest corner, was credited with 207 inhabitants in 1890, while the northwestern addition to Fostoria, in this township, was left unnoticed, though surveyed as early as 1887, and built up within a few years.

The soil, derived from the drift and from the decomposition of geologic conformations, is rich in everything that constitutes good land. It is a durable soil, which has made large returns to its cultivators, and is still capable of yielding greater rewards to the laborers.

*A Pioneer Weather Bureau.*—The weather of pioneer days is well described in a record kept by John Crocker, of Fostoria, from January, 1826, to January, 1838. The little book, as summarized in 1884 by the writer, gives the following data :

January 26, 1826—Twenty-one degrees below.  
 April 10, 1826—Five inches of snow.  
 April 23, 1826—Maple buds green.  
 January 20, 1827—Thirty-one degrees below; squirrels destroyed wheat and corn in 1827.  
 October 30, 1827—Snow fell six inches.  
 March 29, 1828—Great flood.  
 April 25, 1829—Two inches of snow.  
 February 2, 1830—Snow thirteen inches deep.  
 December 22, 1830—Forty-one degrees below.  
 February 7, 1831—Forty-two degrees below.  
 April 8, 1831—Two inches of snow fell.  
 May 3, 1831—Apple trees in bloom.  
 July 25, 1831—Portage high; wet summer.  
 October 10, 1831—High flood.  
 November 21, 1831—Winter commenced.  
 January —, 1832—Great thaw.  
 February 14, 1832—High water; price of corn, 3 shillings; wheat, 6, and rye, 4 shillings.  
 May 8, 1832—Apple trees in bloom; some planted corn three times.  
 June 1, 1832—Cold summer; corn barely ripened.  
 January 25, 1833—Wild geese going toward lake; forward spring.  
 April 11 to 26, 1834—Heavy frosts.  
 February, 1835—Coldest weather ever known here; hay \$10 a ton.  
 February 24, 1836—Snow eleven inches deep.  
 May, 1836—High water.  
 February, 1837—Fifteen inches of snow fell; great production of sugar.  
 May 11, 1837—Corn rotted in ground.  
 January 2, 1838—Very warm weather.  
 January 6 and 7, 1838—John Morrison plowed two days.

This reminder of early days is not the least valuable of the Crocker papers in possession of Mr. Foster, for it is certainly a history of the weather of pioneer days—a sketch of atmospheric conditions not often obtainable.

*Organization.*—This extreme southeastern division of the county, as set off from the older township of Portage, March 4, 1833, included Townships 3 and 4, in Range 12, and Township 3, in Range 11, or, in municipal language, the

townships of Perry, Montgomery and Bloom.

*Early Officers.*—The first election was held at Isaac Kelly's house on April 1, 1833, when the following-named officers were elected: Trustees, William Shawhan, Samuel P. Cory and Isaac Kelly; clerk, Uzal M. Cory; overseers of the poor, James K. Atkinson and A. Weaver; fence viewers, James K. Atkinson, A. Weaver and Israel Nestlerode; treasurer, Samuel P. Cory; constable, Gideon Jones; supervisor, William Shawhan. On March 3, the trustees divided the township into three road districts, and in December, 1835, into four school districts.

At the first general election, held October 8, 1833, twenty votes were cast. The names of the persons voting, as appear by the poll-book, were: Frederick Shawhan, John A. Kelly, Charles Smith, Isaac Kelly, John Cameron, Samuel S. Palmer, Uzal M. Cory, Moses Kelly, Samuel P. Cory, James McCormick, James Jones, Gideon Jones, William Shawhan, William Moore, Abraham Weaver, Henry Sapp, John Johnston, Laban Radway, M. J. Wilkinson, Israel Nestlerode. The judges of election were Samuel P. Cory, James McCormick and Isaac Kelly; and clerks, Uzal M. Cory and Samuel S. Palmer. In 1834, Isaac Kelly, James Jones and Asa England were elected trustees; Uzal M. Cory, clerk; John Y. Fish, William Shaw and John Clark, Jr., supervisors; Samuel S. Palmer, George Wilson and Charles Kelly, Jr., fence viewers; Moses Kelly and Israel Nestlerode, overseers of the poor, and Moses Warner, treasurer. The amount of the treasurer's bond was \$200, with Samuel P. Cory as surety.

On April 6, 1835, the township election was held at the house of Samuel M. Chilcote. The officers elected were: Trustees, Asa England, Samuel S. Palmer and Rufus D. Keeney; treasurer, Israel Nestlerode; constables, John Y. Fish and John F. Kiser; overseers of the poor, James Jones and Harvey McCormick; fence viewers, Samuel P. Cory, Samuel Solomon and Jacob Baker; supervisors, William Shawhan, James K. Atkinson and George Swain. No clerk seems to have been elected at that time; but a few days after the trustees appointed Uzal M. Cory. As there were not so many aspirants for office then, probably the clerkship was forgotten at the election. In 1836 and 1837 the elections were held at the house of George Wilson.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Trustees.*—The trustees' journals, except these of modern times, are things of shreds and patches. Township Clerk Smith made a thorough

effort to learn the whereabouts of the old books, and did succeed in a few instances. The following list of trustees and clerks, down to the close of the war, is, however, based on documents in Auditor Gahan's office. The names and dates were compared with the township records, as found at West Millgrove:

- 1833—William Shawhan, Samuel P. Cory, Isaac Kelly.
- 1834—Asa England, James Jones, Isaac Kelly.
- 1835—Asa England, Rufus D. Keeney, Samuel S. Palmer.
- 1836—Asa England, Rufus D. Keeney, James Jones.
- 1837—John Bradner, Samuel S. Palmer, James Jones.
- 1838—William Shawhan, Samuel E. Burns, John Best.
- 1839—Joseph Chilcote, John Chilcote, George Boyer.
- 1840—Samuel M. Chilcote, Samuel P. Cory, Norman Russell.
- 1841—Samuel M. Chilcote; Samuel P. Cory, Samuel T. Palmer.
- 1842—George Wilson, Ozra Baldwin, Ezekiel Kelly.
- 1843—George Wilson, Norman Russell, Ezekiel Kelly.
- 1844—Jacob Kinnaman, Fred Febbe, Hosea Hudson.
- 1845—Jacob Kinnaman, James Jones, John Clark.
- 1846—A. G. McClellan, James Jones, Alfred Brown.
- 1847—A. G. McClellan, James Jones, James Cuthbertson.
- 1848—A. G. McClellan, S. M. Chilcote, John Norris.
- 1849-51—John Norris, Samuel E. Burns, W. B. Ketcham.
- 1852—D. E. Coe, Samuel E. Burns, I. H. Bucher.
- 1853—A. Keefer, William Rees, D. E. Coe.
- 1854—A. Keefer, A. G. McClellan, D. E. Coe.
- 1855—A. Keefer, W. B. Ketcham, D. E. Coe.
- 1856—Isaac Brandeberry, Josiah Richardson, Jr., W. B. Ketcham.
- 1857—Isaac Brandeberry, Josiah Richardson, Jr., A. G. McClellan.
- 1858—Isaac Brandeberry, George McCormick, J. S. Hatfield.
- 1859—J. W. Nestlerode, George McCormick, A. J. Baird.
- 1860—J. W. Nestlerode, R. Swinehart, A. J. Baird.
- 1861—A. Keefer, S. A. Bishop, Israel Everett.
- 1862—A. Keefer, S. A. Bishop, Tobias Bossler.
- 1863-64—S. A. Bishop, Josiah Kiger, John Richard.
- 1865—Henry Padgham, Josiah Kiger, John Richard.
- 1866—D. J. Daly, Josiah Kiger, H. Padgham.
- 1867—W. B. Ketcham, Thomas Johnston, H. S. Williams.
- 1868—W. B. Ketcham, David E. Coe, W. McCormick.
- 1869—Wm. McCormick, D. E. Coe, Sam Hyter.
- 1870—Wm. McCormick, John Norris, J. S. Hatfield.
- 1871—R. Swinehart, John Norris, A. Keefer.
- 1872—R. Swinehart, Justus Stearns, A. Keefer.
- 1873—R. Swinehart, Justus Stearns, H. Lambright.
- 1874-75—C. F. Munger, G. L. Ketcham, Thomas Johnston.
- 1876—Edward Risser, Samson Switzer, Taylor Hale.
- 1877—David Baird, W. McEwen, Edward Risser.
- 1878—David Baird, Daniel Yates, D. E. Coe.
- 1879—John Foreman, Daniel Yates, D. E. Coe.
- 1880—Levi Wirt, W. E. Smith, D. E. Coe.
- 1881—Levi Wirt, W. E. Smith, Orrin Stearns.
- 1882-83—T. J. Henry, C. Keefer, A. P. Cory.
- 1884—T. J. Henry, David Baird, F. Culbertson.
- 1886—E. R. Risser, David Baird, J. W. Brandeberry.

The trustees, elected since 1887, are named as follows: W. Johnston, 1887; C. Keefer, 1888; James Daum and T. J. Henry, 1889; J. D. Stearns, 1890; Messrs. Stearns, Daum and Henry, in 1891; James Dindore, 1892; Alexander S. Brown, 1893; Luther Stewart, 1894; James Dindore and A. P. Cory, 1895; and Moses W. Simons, 1896.

In 1837, J. Chapman was elected trustee, but John Bradner took his place. In 1838, John Best was appointed, *vice* Bradner, and in 1840

James Hays took the place of Samuel M. Chilcote. In April, 1843, the people voted a school tax of two mills, the majority, however, being very small, and the minority very determined.

*First Lawsuit*—The election of justices of the peace did not take place until 1834. Immediately after the election, two of the pioneers determined to supply work to one or both justices. A writer in the *Sentinel* of April 26, 1877, whose *nom-de-guerre* was "Eph," gives the following description of the cause and effect: "It appears that John Miller and Asa England, who came in the settlement about that time, traded horses. As a natural result, some one in a horse trade will get the better bargain. Horses were horses in those days, and as Miller rather beat England in the trade, the latter must needs have a lawsuit. Miller employed Kinney, a pettifogger, to see him through, while England stated his own case. The trial came off in due time, and Miller was beaten because his witnesses, before giving their evidence, became disgusted with the affair, and went out in the woods to bring in a lot of deer that had been shot that morning. Beef was a scarce commodity, hogs unknown, and the prospects of a juicy steak of venison proved Miller's defeat."

*Justices*.—The justices elected were: Samuel P. Cory and Jacob Rine, 1834; John G. Willard and James Jones, 1837; Benjamin Brown, 1840; John G. Willard, 1840; James Jones, 1842; Norman Russell, 1847, 1850 and 1852; S. M. Chilcote, 1846, 1849 and 1855; Reason W. Kelly, 1855; A. G. McClellan, 1857 and 1860; W. H. Jones, 1858; John Norris, 1863; Daniel Hall, 1861 to 1870; Alfred Everett, 1867; J. R. Phillips, 1870 to 1877; Orrin Henry, 1873, 1876; John McMahan, 1876; David Burns, 1879; Lewis Whitman, 1880; O. P. Norris, 1882-85; C. C. Kelly, 1888, resigned in 1890; S. F. Lambright, 1891 to 1892, and 1894, and T. J. Henry, 1895.

*Clerks*.—The office of clerk has been filled by the following named citizens: Uzal M. Cory, 1833; George Wilson, 1836; Benjamin Brown, 1838; U. M. Cory, 1841; John Norris, 1845; Ezra Brown, 1848; S. M. Chilcote, 1850; S. Jones, 1851; W. H. Jones, 1855; S. D. Stearns, 1858; James F. Chilcote, 1860; O. J. Cory, 1862; Henry S. Williams, 1864; Simpson Jones, appointed 1865; A. D. Stewart, 1865; Simpson Jones, 1866; R. J. Jackson, 1868; Orrin Henry, 1871; W. Werner, 1873; Moses Legron, 1875; J. S. Enos, 1879; J. W. Smith, 1882; W. T. Kelly, 1883; S. L. Shanks, 1884 and 1890; J. S. Harman, 1887; M. Legron, 1888; William Werner

and J. W. Smith, 1893-96; J. W. Smith, re-elected in 1896.

*Treasurers.*—The list of treasurers embraces the names of Samuel P. Cory, 1833; Moses Warner, 1834; Rufus D. Kennedy, apptd. January 17, 1834; Israel Nestlerode, 1835; Uzal M. Cory, 1838; Gideon Jones, 1840; Israel Nestlerode, 1841; S. P. Cory, 1842; Joseph Chilcote, 1845; James Cuthbertson, 1848; John Norris, 1854; Simpson Jones, 1856; Ambrose Cory, 1858; I. Bernard, 1859; James Brandeberry, 1861; Simpson Yant, 1863; Dr. C. R. Rosendale, 1867; G. L. Ketcham, 1870; A. Keefer, John Foreman, Daniel Hall, O. P. Norris, I. Phillips, 1887, died, when J. R. Phillips was appointed, and served a short time; J. H. Stearns, 1892; L. Whitman, who would not qualify, J. H. Stearns appointed, and W. L. Ketcham (elected), 1894-95.

*Assessors.*—The office of assessor has been filled by many of the officials named. Charles D. Stearnes and F. C. Burdick were elected assessors in 1895; F. D. Burdick and Howard Cory, in 1896.

*School Board.*—In 1896 Moses W. Simons, Charles H. Stearns and George Brandeberry were elected members of the school board.

*Pioneers.*—\* The first land entered in Perry township was the east half of the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 36. Henry C. Brish, of Seneca county, an Indian agent, received a patent for it March 7, 1831, and on September 30, 1831, sold it to John Gorsuch. This tract is now owned by the heirs of M. P. Skinner, and a part is in the town of Fostoria.

The first actual settlers were Oliver Day and his brother-in-law, John Johnson, who, with their families, moved into the township in November, 1831. They cut a road from the Gorsuch settlement (now Fostoria) wide enough to pass with their oxen and wagons, down along the east branch of the Portage river to a point opposite a tract of land which Day had previously entered in Sec. 25, what is now known as the Alvah Thomas farm. They lived in their wagons and cooked beside a log until a cabin was built. The women and girls slept in the wagon, and the men and boys on the ground. The cabin was built, and ready for occupancy in about a week after their arrival. This was the first house in the township. In that cabin the first sermon was preached, the first prayer-meeting was held, and the first marriage performed in the township. Day remained until the following spring or sum-

mer, when he left the county. Johnson stayed a while longer.

In September, 1831, Israel Nestlerode bought the E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 24, from Gorsuch, whom he met at the land office in Tiffin, where Gorsuch had probably entered the land that day or the day before. Gorsuch was a land speculator, and acted as a pilot in showing land hunters the best tracts of land in the country which were subject to entry. Nestlerode built a cabin on his land, which was completed, except as to doors and windows, on the 31st day of December, 1831, and on the 27th day of February, 1832, the owner arrived with his family. Both Day and Nestlerode used sheets for doors, and table-cloths for sash and glass until the wolves and porcupines became so bold that they were compelled to make doors, which Day made out of clapboards, and Nestlerode out of his wagon-box. Porcupines were very plentiful and troublesome. Their quills were in every dog's mouth, and in every cabin loft where the chinking didn't shut them out.

The Wyandotte Indians made the settlement a stopping place on their trail to Tiffin and back, where they went to trade. The Indians were in the habit of taking in a plentiful supply of "fire-water" at Tiffin, and taking well-filled flasks with them on their journey home. At times Mrs. Nestlerode could hear them coming for a distance of two miles, whooping and yelling. Some of the Indians got so drunk that they would fall from their ponies to the ground, and, being unable to rise and remount, the less drunken ones would build a fire near them and leave them in the forest to sober.

One night shortly after dark, a party of Indians rode up to Nestlerode's cabin (the remainder of the party being scattered along the route to Tiffin, drunk and lying by their little fires). Some of the braves were too drunk to get off their ponies, and Mrs. Nestlerode had to go out and help them. After getting into the house they began to brandish their tomahawks and knives, and kick the tables and chairs over, whooping and yelling, when Nestlerode and an Indian went and disarmed them. They finally settled down on the floor and slept till nearly daylight, when they silently stole away, leaving their parcels and packages, which they had purchased at Tiffin, in the house. Within the next few days they returned, one at a time, each selecting his own package and taking it away. Nestlerode and his wife lived on their farm about twenty-five years, when they removed to Fostoria. Mr. Nestlerode died in the "seventies," and Mrs. Nestlerode

\* From paper by Mr. Robert Dunn.

died early in the "eighties," at the advanced age of eighty-three.

In November, 1831, William Shawhan entered the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 25, and in April following moved with his family to this new land.

In September, 1831, Isaac Kelly entered the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 14, and moved into the township at the same time as Shawhan. Shortly afterward Rev. Elam Day and Abraham Weaver became residents, and from that time Perry settled up very rapidly. In June, 1832, John A. Kelly cut a road along the east side of the east branch of Portage river, through the land on which the town of West Millgrove now stands, and settled on land just across the township line, in what is now Montgomery. This was the first road cut through Perry township, and soon after what is known as the McCutchenville road was located on or very near that cut by Kelly.

Abraham Weaver located on the farm later owned by Orrin Stearns, in April, 1835, and on April 1, 1833, the first white child born in the township saw the light of day in his cabin. Her name was Nancy Weaver, who married Nathaniel Hiestand, of Fostoria.

In June, 1832, William Moore settled on the farm now owned by Mrs. Girton, in Section 10, but having committed a flagrant crime against the laws of the land, fled to Canada, leaving his wife, who had been stricken with paralysis, and his children, a township charge. Under the law at that time they were yearly sold at public auction by the overseers of the poor to the party who would keep them for the least money.

Some time during the year 1832, John Fletcher, who had been educated for a doctor, and lost his fortune in England, found his way into the wilds of Wood county and entered eighty acres in Section 36, the farm now owned and occupied by Myron Fletcher. Being unaccustomed to clearing land, he hired hands and had about forty acres deadened the same year. Going back to Licking county, Ohio, he married Emeline Newcomb. In the spring of 1833, he returned with his wife, and built a small log cabin of one room, on his land, within a few feet of where the brick residence of Mrs. Fletcher now stands.

Uzal M. and Samuel P. Cory, whose names appear among the first township officers, were brothers. Uzal M. emigrated from Greene county, N. Y., bought a tract of land from Wm. Shawhan, in Section 23, and soon after entered another piece adjoining it. In August, 1832, he built his cabin on the tract purchased from Shawhan, and the following month, with his wife,

located here. Mrs. Cory says at that time she thought their new home in the woods was one of the most beautiful places she had ever seen. No windows, door or chimney were in the cabin when first occupied, and for some time the young wife was afraid of bears and wolves becoming inmates of the cabin with herself and husband. Samuel P. Cory joined his brother, and bought and entered land adjoining that of Uzal M. He became a permanent resident of the township in October, 1832. Abel M. Cory, son of Uzal M. and Eliza Cory, was born July 23, 1833, and was the first white male child born in the township.

James Jones made entry of the E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 25, where the late Isaac Brandeberry lived. The entry was made in November, 1831, but Jones did not become a resident until 1833. He was *the* wolf hunter of that part of the country. He bought all the old worn-out horses in the country for wolf bait. The number killed by him within a small territory is stated upon good authority to be seventy-two.

John Y. Fish settled in the township on the McCutchenville road near what is known as Stearns' Corners, in 1833. His sons, John, Daniel, James, Henry and William, are all now living in Freedom township; while the daughter, Mrs. Brandeberry, died a few years ago.

Samuel E. Burns moved from Ashland county, Ohio, and settled in the township in February, 1833. He lived to see the wilderness "blossom as the rose," and October 4, 1874, died on the land which he had entered.

The first settlers in the west part of the township were Asa England, Richard Loman, Sr., John F. Keyser, Geo. A. Swain, George Clark, Jacob Rine, Francis Rummel and Henry Hays. England, Loman, Keyser, Swain, Rine, Rummel and Clark, all came in the spring and summer of 1833; Hays on what is now the Eagleville ridge road.

In the central portion of the township, George Wilson and Samuel M. Chilcote were among the pioneers. George Wilson located on what is known as the T. D. Stewart farm, in Section 22, later owned by Drs. Edwin and Allen Chilcote. In their cabins town meetings were held for many years.

Levi England, a son of Asa England, died a few years ago. During his fifty-years' residence in the township, he was never compelled by sickness or any other cause to stay in the house all of any day.

Swain, who entered the land where Asa Baird now lives, remained on it three or four years, sold it to John Slaughterback, and moved into



Bloom township, on the Weaver farm. While engaged in clearing land, a tree fell on him breaking his leg, which had to be amputated. This accident discouraged him from any more attempts at clearing land, so he moved to Illinois, out of the reach of falling timber. John F. Keyser went with him.

Richard Loman, Sr., died more than forty years ago. His son, Richard, Jr., lived on the old homestead ever since the entry, until about 1882, when he moved to Iowa, where he died. George Clark died in February, 1837, this being the first death among the pioneers in the western part of the township.

Asa England and Henry Hays were neighbors and intimate friends. In April, 1837, England went to the Maumee river for fish, and learning on his return that his friend Hays was sick, hastened to visit him. The only greeting Hays was able to give him was, "you are too late," and died about half an hour afterward. Henry Hays came from Beaver county, Penn., with his wife and six boys, a wagon containing all his earthly goods. On April 1, 1834, he started toward the setting sun to look for a new home, and to give the boys a chance to grow up with the country. Leaving his family a week in Richland county, the father went to the land office at Bucyrus, and entered three eighty-acre tracts; one where his son Andrew now lives; one where Edon Wells lives, and the other lying south of them.

Samuel S. Palmer came into the township about a month before the McCormicks did, and entered the land on which R. W. Kelly now lives.

James McCormick settled in the township in April, 1833. He was anxious to enter a piece of land with a mill site on it, and the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 4, was duly entered by him. In the spring of 1832, he sent two of his sons and a mulatto, named James Brock, to clear up a patch and build a cabin. This they did on a spot where the Indians previously had a camp known as "Snobbletown."

John Gorsuch, one of the early land-buyers here, and one of the founders of Fostoria (Risdon), shot and killed himself, three miles north of Longley Station. Rev. Wesley Brock preached the funeral sermon of that enterprising pioneer and land speculator.

*Early Land Buyers.*—The early land purchasers, such as Oliver Day and a few others, have already been named. In the following list of entries the names of many of the pioneers will be found:

Jacob Baker, S. of S. W. S. 1, Nov. 18, 1833.  
 John Bradner, S. W. of N. W. S. 3, Dec. 14, 1836.  
 James McCormick, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 4, Nov. 3, 1831.  
 Robert McCormick, N. W. of N. E. S. 4, Aug. 19, 1835.  
 James Connelly, pt. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 5, June 22, 1832.  
 Archibald Wollam, N. W. of N. W. S. 5, Nov. 24, 1835.  
 John Vosburg, W. N. E. S. 5, April 5, 1836.  
 Andrew Donaldson, S. S. E. S. 5, March 24, 1835.  
 Osman Diver, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 5, Dec. 5, 1835.  
 William Kiger, S. W. S. 6, Dec. 13, 1833.  
 Jacob Kinnaman, N. N. E. S. 6, July 3, 1834.  
 John Swinehart, N. S. W. S. 8, May 7, 1834.  
 Norman Russell, S. W. S. E. S. 8, Jan. 11, 1835.  
 William Moore, E. S. W. S. 10, Nov. 4, 1831.  
 James Atkinson, N. E. N. W. S. 10, Oct. 29, 1832.  
 Israel Nestlerode, S. W. S. W. S. 12, Oct. 22, 1834.  
 Isaac Kelley, S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 14, Sept. 13, 1831.  
 Joshua Kelley, W. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 14, Oct. 29, 1831.  
 Justus Stearns, E. N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 14 (no date).  
 Fred Zepernick, pt. of N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 15, Oct. 17, 1831.  
 Moses Kelley, E. S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 15, Oct. 29, 1831.  
 George Free, W. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 15, June 13, 1832.  
 Alexander Weaver, N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 20, April 22, 1836.  
 Thomas Shawhan, N. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 21, Dec. 13, 1833.  
 Mordecai Chilcote, N. W. of S. E. S. 21, Dec. 8, 1836.  
 Samuel M. Chilcote, S. E. S. W. S. 22, July 19, 1836.  
 Samuel P. Cory, W. S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  S. 24, Aug. 18, 1835.  
 Daniel Zepernick, E. N. W. S. 27 and W. N. E. S. 28, Oct. 7, 1831.  
 Sam. E. Burns, W. S. W. S. 27, Jan. 11, 1833.  
 Samuel Sheets, N. S. W. S. 29, Oct. 26, 1836.  
 John Carr, S. E. S. E. S. 33, Jan. 30, 1835.  
 John Norris, S. E. of S. E. S. 35, Oct. 28, 1833.  
 Samuel Younker, W. N. W. S. 36, Oct. 25, 1833.

The John Norris, named above, is not the old trustee of Perry now residing at Fostoria, but a settler of 1833.

*Early Mills.*—James McCormick had been engaged in milling near Gallipolis, Ohio. He brought his raccoon buhr with him, and immediately went to work to build a gristmill, in the fall of 1834. It was a hewn-log structure, and Robert, who was a blacksmith by trade, under the instruction of Benjamin Brown, a mill-wright, made the iron work. In the year 1835, the mill was completed, being the first gristmill erected in the south part of the county. It is said that every able-bodied man in the township, besides a good many from other townships, was present at the raising. John A. Kelly bossed the job at the raising, and Isaac brought the first grist (corn) to the mill. Previous to that time, the settlers had to go either to Lower Sandusky or Fort Ball to mill. The time occupied in the trip was anywhere from two days to a week, according to the condition of the roads and character of the team. Even after the building of this mill, when the water was low, the settlers had frequently to go to Tiffin or Fremont. He built a sawmill shortly after, using logs in the construction. William Reis built a frame mill on the site, which, later, was converted into a steam sawmill, and, later still, into the woolen factory.

Robert McCormick, a hale, hearty man of seventy-two years, in 1884 was a resident of



West Millgrove. From the time he came into the township until 1854, he worked at his trade, and was justly entitled to the distinction of being the pioneer blacksmith of Perry township. It fell to his lot to make the hoes for the early settlers, and he was very handy at repairing guns for hunters. James McCormick died August 28, 1839. The raccoon buhr, previously mentioned, is still doing service as a door step to a house in the village.

*Men of 1839.*—The names of the ninety-nine male inhabitants in 1839, who were then twenty-one years of age or older, are given as follows: James Atkinson, Amanda Baldwin, Luther England, Samuel M. Chilcote, John Chilcote, James Conley, John Conley, James Conley, Jr., John G. Fish, George Wilson, Nathan Hatfield, James Worley, Jeremiah Smith, Samuel E. Burns, Samuel Solomon, John Shrader, James Solomon, Daniel Heaton, James Wilson, James Jones, Gideon Jones, Beryamire Brown, Moses Kelly, Jacob Atbert, John Fletcher, William B. Welch, John Becker, John Donaldson, George Walter, John McCrory, Bela Evitts, Robert Watson, John G. Willard, Jacob Foreman, Thomas Hofstater, John Best, Obit Harvey, Isaac Kelly, Samuel P. Cory, Jonathan Wells, Joseph Chilcote, David Wells, John Welch, James Welch, John W. Welch, Onissimus Lawrence, Israel Nestlerode, Josiah B. Wells, Abraham Weaver, Z. M. Cory, Peter Losa, Samuel Palmer, Hosea Henry, Abraham Cross, Norman Russell, Thomas Dysinger, Daniel Dysinger, Chrystopher Dysinger, Samuel Bear, Joseph Rickard, Joseph Tyler, James McCormick, Robert McCormick, George Swinehart, George McCormick, John Bradner, Nicholas Rumbaugh, Jacob Kinnaman, Robert Leavitt, Thomas Beach, Moses Freese, William McCuen, Peter Weaver, John M. Hoover, Enoch Henry, George Henry, John Collar, Jeptha Brown, Richard Loman, Richard Loman, Jr., James Loman, Adam Clark, Richard Clark, James Hays, John Wade, Alexander Weaver, John Clark, Joseph Drake, Jacob Rine, John Slaughterback, George Boyer, John T. Kiser, John Swinehart, Thomas Armstrong, Thomas Wisner, Joseph Davis, Nicholas Hiles, Abraham Hiles and William Shawhan.

*Counterfeiters.*—Among the money founders and engravers who located in the Fostoria neighborhood, prior to 1837, was John Brooks, who, it is said, moved out of Perry that year, and built a frame house at Fostoria. Other men of that class found temporary homes in this township, but, as the clearings grew in number and area, they sought newer fields.

*The Stone House* was erected in the "forties" by Benjamin Brown, who sold it many years ago to Justus Stearns, the postmaster at Brown's Corners. Prior to 1877, it was disintegrated, as the owner built a modern brick mansion at that point, a little south, into which he moved.

*Schools.*—The history of the first schools, written by Robert Dunn (1884), tells, very clearly, of the humble beginnings of the common-school system, and, incidentally, of the social and industrial systems. Mrs. Fletcher taught the first school in the township, in the spring of 1833. She had about fifteen regular scholars, whose tuition was paid by subscription. Her pay was about two dollars a week. Among her scholars, as she now remembers them, were Bia Johnson, Lotta Caples (mother of Mrs. Dr. Longfellow), Junius V. Jones, Wm. H. Jones, Virginia Jones, Simpson Jones (on wet days), Orrin J. Cory (occasionally), George and Ambrose Cory, most of whom are now living in Fostoria and vicinity. Mr. Fletcher was a great lover of fine horses, and brought a full-blooded imported mare with him to Wood county. During severe storms or when it rained he would lead this mare into the school house, which caused quite a commotion among the scholars until they became accustomed to the practice. On such occasions, with teacher, fifteen scholars, stove, bed, other household furniture, Fletcher and his mare, the space in the little cabin was pretty well occupied. The old teacher died in August, 1861.

On December 17, 1834, the township was divided into four school districts, the boundaries of which seem not to have been very well defined, and at that time money from the public funds for school purposes was rather scarce. Consequently the schools had to be sustained by private subscription. In District No. 1, the school house was built on the land of Uzal M. Cory. Of course it was a log building with a big fireplace in one end of it, and was built in a day by the residents of the district, with probably some help from outside. There seems to be some disagreement among the old residents now living there as to who taught the first school in this building, some contending that the first teacher was Henry Welsh, and some, Lucy Brown. I am inclined to the opinion that Welsh taught first, but before the division and numbering of the district above referred to, and Lucy Brown was the first teacher after the district was numbered. Her home was near Melmore, Seneca county. It fell to the lot of Simpson Jones to go after her, which he did on horseback, that is, *he* rode the horse *there*, and *she* rode it back, and Simpson walked. It was

about sixteen miles. Mrs. Samuel P. Cory, Mary L. Avery, sister of Mrs. Uzal M. Cory, and Gideon Jones were among the first teachers in this district.

District No. 2 was in the Atkinson settlement, and Elizabeth Becker taught the first school in the spring of 1835.

The school house in District No. 3 was a small log building, and stood where the cemetery now is at West Millgrove. Emeline Palmer, a daughter of S. S. Palmer, was the first teacher. It was at this school that R. W. Kelly first learned his letters. He was then a lad nine years old. He says he soon forgot them, however, and didn't learn them again until he was thirteen. Between the school house and road was the creek, which was crossed by a foot log. One evening after school, as Miss Palmer and Henry Vosburg, one of her scholars, were crossing, they fell into the creek, and would have drowned but for the timely assistance of some men in the gristmill near by, who saw them fall in. Reason Kelly, who stood on the bank and witnessed the scene, says it was the worst scare of his life. Miss Palmer married Mark Curtis, of Perrysburg, and moved to that old town to make her future home.

The school house in District No. 4 was built on the farm now owned by Mrs. Baird. Jacob Rine, justice of the peace, was duly installed as teacher. James Hays, then about nineteen years old, was one of his scholars. They commenced at the beginning of the arithmetic, and got along well enough until "long division" was reached. The teacher and James wrestled two or three days with an example, but with rather poor success. Rine was at the end of his string in arithmetic, and so politely informed young Hays that he had better quit, as it was a waste of time for him to attend school any longer there, as he (Rine) had taken him as far as he could in "rithmetic." For over half a century James Hays has taught school at Fostoria and in the vicinity, and it is safe to say that, by this time, he has mastered the intricacies of "long division."

Moses O. Jones was the second teacher in District No. 4. He had a big "nigger head" stone placed in one corner for a dunce block. When a scholar violated any rule of the school, he had to take his seat on this stone, and watch until he noticed some one else out of order, when he was permitted to rise and report, and miscreant No. 2 had to take his place. One day Alex. Weaver, who had been sitting on this stone so long that he was very tired, and had been unsuccessful in detecting his successor, suddenly startled the school by calling out: "Say, Mr. Jones, I

wish you would get a *goose* to sit on this egg, for it will never hatch out with a *gander*."

An item in the records shows that "January 12," 1842, the trustees agreed to excuse the township clerk from the duty of visiting the several schools in the township. In that year there were seven school districts, and the enumeration of youth, between the ages of four and twenty-one, showed 144 males and 138 females. At the annual settlement of the treasurer, in the spring of 1842, a balance of one dollar and twelve cents was found in his hands. In 1843 a two-mill tax was authorized for school purposes. In 1844 there were ninety-eight white males subject to military duty, and in 1845 there were eighty-seven.

The Old Red School House, the Tom Kelly school house on the Ridge, the Kiser school house, and the Island school house were the Meccas of the pioneer school children of Rome and Risdon. James Pillars, many years later a judge of common pleas, taught the "Island School" for \$10 a month, payable one-half in cash and one-half in provisions. Freeman Luce, Dr. Lockwood, Mr. Noble and Tom Kerning were the early teachers, the first presiding in 1833-34, in consideration of a salary of \$10 a month. In the Old Red School House, Emily Foster, a sister of ex-Governor Foster, was accustomed to carry off the prize for spelling.

The school records, which have been found, deal with affairs of the board of education back to April 18, 1853, when Nathan Hatfield, Richard Clark, O. C. Henry, Tobias Bossler, Isaac Brandeberry, A. G. McClellan, P. J. Pelton and J. H. Bucher voted to reorganize the school districts, and to sell the houses belonging to original Districts No. 8 and No. 10. A building was ordered for District No. 6, and the house of District No. 1 was ordered to be moved to a new site. In April, 1854, the names of John Norris, A. G. McClellan, Justus Stearns and Simpson Jones appear as members of the board; in 1855, a house was erected in District No. 3; in 1857, one in District No. 1, built by John Norris, and one in District No. 2, in 1858. During the war, little or nothing was done toward improving school houses. In 1864, John Norris, William Ketcham, Randal Swinehart, S. Baird, D. E. Coe, John McMahan, Andrew Patterson, S. M. Chilcote, J. Stearns and David Ferrell represented the nine districts, and reported in September of that year that there were 266 male and 248 female children of school age in the township. In 1867, the board authorized the building of a school house in District No. 4, then

credited with fifty-seven pupils, and, during the ensuing four years, authorized the repair of all the school buildings. In 1880, a new era of school houses was introduced by the erection of buildings in Districts No. 1 and No. 4, and in 1885, in No. 3. In 1886, Isaac Brandeberry, Daniel Yates, H. J. Pelton, J. D. Stearnes, C. F. Redfern, C. B. Elerton, I. C. Conley and W. E. Smith were members of the board. In September, 1887, there were 401 children of school age in the township.

The chapter devoted to school affairs contains statistics and names relating to the schools of this division of the county.

*Churches.*—The Methodists were undoubtedly the first to enter the wilderness in the southeastern corner of the county, and the preachers of that denomination were the first to follow them. Mr. Robert Dunn, speaking of their attempts to inculcate Christian lessons, gives Mrs. Cory as an authority. The first sermon she remembers hearing in the township was at the house of Wm. Shawhan, by Andrew Hollopeter, a Methodist preacher. His text was: "Except your righteousness exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter the kingdom of heaven." He was a plain, outspoken man, and commenced his discourse by saying that in his opinion the righteousness of some of the settlers in that community, not only did not *exceed*, but fell far short of even that of the Scribes and Pharisees, for that Sunday, in coming to fill his appointment, he could hear the crack of guns in every direction.

As early as April, 1832, Methodist meetings were held at the house of Oliver Day, on "Nestlerode's Island" (southeast of West Millgrove), Elam Day officiating as pastor. In 1836 a church was erected on the farm of Israel Nestlerode, being the first church building in the township. The first resident preacher was Rev. Henry Witman.

The first Sunday-school in this part of the township was organized in the Cory school house. Religious services were held by the Baptists and Methodists, the Baptist preachers being Messrs. Thorpe, Thompson and Kating.

Sabbath-school was held at the house of George Wilson. In this school some of the classes studied their Testaments, and some used spelling books. A peculiar feature of this school was that the closing exercises consisted in spelling, all the attendants ranging themselves in a circle around the room, the superintendent standing in the middle and pronouncing the words. This exercise usually lasted about fifteen minutes, old and young all participating. There were no

"lesson leaves" or "helps" in those days, but the teachers and scholars met and read the unadulterated word, and put their own construction on it.

The first Methodist Society in the township was that known as Chilcote's Class, organized in the fall of 1837 on the spot where the widow of Levi England now resides. Wesley Brock and John O. Conaway were the first preachers. Elizabeth Chilcote (in whose house the meeting was held), James Worley and wife, Thomas Armstrong and wife, George Wilson, wife and daughter, Samuel M. Chilcote, and Sarah, wife of Nathan Hatfield, formed the class, and, for many years, were the only practical representatives of Methodism within the Chilcote settlement or district. The Sunday-school assembled periodically at Mrs. Wilson's cabin, and so continued until the class was able to build its first church.

The Methodist Episcopal Union Church purchased land in Sec. 28, July 10, 1855, at a cost of \$25, on which a little meeting house was erected. Three or four years ago that structure was sold, and a new building was erected, just west of its site, which is still known as the Union church.

The United Brethren church, a mile and one-half northeast of Bloomdale, a building on the McCutchenville road, a mile and one-half from Fostoria, the Evangelical building, and the German Baptist or Dunkard building, in the Whitmore neighborhood, with the church buildings at West Millgrove, make up the monuments to Christian zeal in this township. It must be remembered, however, that the Christian Church of Eagleville, and the Churches of Bloomdale and Fostoria claim supporters within the boundaries of Perry township.

#### WEST MILLGROVE.

This pretty village, carved out of the wilderness in 1835, represents sixty years of progress. With its few stores, societies and churches, undisturbed by the turmoil of the oilfields, or by the rumble of railroad trains, it resembles some quiet hamlet in western New York much more closely than it does any other settlement in this county. There are but few reminders of its pioneer homes left standing; but some of the pioneers of the vicinity survive to tell of its early days, and of the virtues of its founders and inhabitants. The country, tributary to the village, is exceptionally fine. Northeast, about one mile distant, is the

railroad hamlet, now called Hatton, which is the shipping point of West Millgrove, and has become its manufacturing suburb.

*Survey.*—Millgrove, its original name, was surveyed by Hiram Davis, in November, 1835, for James and Rachel McCormick, on the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , of Sec. 4, T. 3, R. 12. On February 24, 1874, a petition for incorporation was signed by forty-nine residents of the hamlet, but others, believing that the township officials were capable of looking after the welfare of the little community, objected, and signed a remonstrance.

*Village.*—The petition was re-presented March 3, 1874, asking that the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Sec. 4, the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 4, and so much of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 4, as lies within the town plat of Millgrove, in T. 3, N., R. 12 E., be established as a village. The order to incorporate was made September 4, 1874, though it was not recorded until September 30, of that year.

The survey for the various owners was made in April, 1881, by D. D. Ames, who, on March 16, 1872, surveyed East Millgrove Station for William McCormick.

In 1836 or 1837, John G. Willard, who, in September, 1835, had moved from Ashtabula county and settled on the Stanley Morgan farm, in Montgomery township, became a resident of Millgrove. He built a one-story-and-a-half log house on the corner lot across the street, north from where the "Chilcote House" now stands, and soon after engaged in the mercantile business, opening the first store in the town or in the township. He purchased most of his goods at Buffalo, and hauled them by wagon from Lower Sandusky. In the course of time a mail route from Perrysburg to Bucyrus was established, Millgrove becoming one of the post offices on the route, and Willard was appointed postmaster. The mail carrier made the trip once a week. At this time the postage on a letter for a distance less than 300 miles was twenty-five cents. Willard continued his residence here until his death, in 1859. Mrs. Willard, seventy-nine years of age, in 1884 lived with her daughter, Mrs. W. C. Burdick, in the village.

John Bradner is said to have built the first house in the town, after it was laid out, out of little round logs, and in this building he worked at his trade of shoe making, keeping bachelor's hall. Some say he was the first postmaster in the village, but this arises from the fact that before the post office was established, it was the custom to leave the mail matter brought from Fort Ball at his house, or shop, for distribution. Dr. Patterson, who moved to Fostoria in 1840,

and thence to Texas, may be said to have kept store about the time Bradner was here. Ephraim Moffett states that Willard built a hotel, and also that William Bradner followed Willard, building a store on the opposite corner. The hotel was built by Justus Stearns, and in 1849 William Bradner opened a store here with his son, John A., in charge.

*Post Office.*—West Millgrove post office, known as recently as 1895, as West Mill Grove, dates back to the time when John Bradner was wont to send for the mail to Tiffin and distribute it to his neighbors. There are no records to show that he was appointed, but the recollection of old settlers leads to the opinion that he was. It is known that J. G. Willard was appointed postmaster, when the mail route between Perrysburg and Bucyrus was opened, or while Bill Lowry was mail carrier. Dr. Ranger held the office in 1851; A. G. McClellan, from 1857 to 1862 (in R. W. Kelly's store); Mrs. Vosburg was the incumbent during the Civil war; James H. Moffett was appointed in February, 1868; Orren Henry, in 1869 (J. H. Moffett, deputy); G. L. Ketcham followed, then came Josiah Kiger, Dr. Warren and J. W. Smith, the last named commissioned in September, 1878. W. T. Kelly's name appears as postmaster in February, 1883; W. J. Moffett's in March, 1885 (having been appointed in 1884); J. H. Moffett's in November, 1885, and B. F. Simon's in August, 1889. I. C. Conley was appointed in 1891; Thomes E. Yates, in August, 1892; J. R. Phillips, in October, 1892; G. K. Tyson, in May, 1893; N. S. Hatfield, in November, 1893; and William Dunlap, April 20, 1895. The old records of this office, like the village records, were destroyed in the fire of 1882, so that the names and dates given, prior to 1883, are based on the recollections of the old settlers, and on notices of appointments found in the Perrysburg *Journal* and Bowling Green newspapers.

Brown's Corners, a post office of the olden time, was presided over by Justus Stearns in 1862.

*Village Officers.*—The destruction of the record books, in the fire of 1882, cuts off the possibility of giving an authentic list of councilmen from 1874 to 1879, inclusive. The first council comprised C. W. Linhart, R. L. Knapp, Seneca Leonard, Abram Foster, B. C. Harman and Councilor Kephart.

The first mayor, J. H. Moffett, served from 1874 to 1885, when J. R. Phillips was elected, and he served until 1893, when Levi Wirt succeeded him. The councilmen chosen from April, 1880, to April, 1896, are named as follows:

- 1880—J. W. Smith, Seneca Leonard, C. W. Linhart, J. McCormick, T. Bossler, W. J. Moffett.  
 1881—H. D. Hahn, P. C. Chilcote, J. S. Harman, R. L. Knapp, Charles Irons, *et cetera* McCormick, with Smith and Leonard.  
 1882—S. Leonard, J. C. Thompson, J. S. Harman, J. C. Ort (new councilmen).  
 1883—N. S. Hatfield, Henry Yates and I. Phillips.  
 1884—C. W. Linhart, J. C. Ort, William Simons, N. S. Hatfield, D. Hall, T. Hill.  
 1885—Thomas Hill, S. Shanks, J. S. Harman, W. L. Yates, C. W. Linhart, J. C. Ort.  
 1886—R. L. Knapp, A. Davidson, with Shanks, Yates, Harman and Hill.  
 1887—S. L. Shanks, W. L. Yates, J. H. Moffett, appointed to fill vacancies.  
 1888—A. C. McCrill, W. L. Yates, Thomas Hill, S. Leonard, A. Davidson, M. Sweet, elected.  
 1889—A. Davidson, L. Whitman, William Lee, C. Baldwin, M. Sweet, S. Leonard.  
 1890-91—M. Sweet, George Castret, Philo Hellen, with Lee, Baldwin and Davidson.  
 1891—M. Sweet, George Castret, Philo Hellen, L. Wirt, C. Baldwin, A. Davidson.  
 1892—John C. Purdy, P. Helm, W. J. Moffett, A. Davidson, C. Baldwin, L. Wirt.  
 1893—L. Wirt, J. I. Zepernick, W. J. Moffett, A. Davidson, W. Faylor, J. C. Purdy.  
 1894—C. S. Linhart, A. Davidson, W. Faylor, P. C. Chilcote, J. I. Zepernick and D. Yates, who took I. C. Conley's place.  
 1895—E. A. Davis, George Baird, William Duffield, W. Dunlap, with Chilcote and Lenhart.  
 1896—P. C. Chilcote, William Faylor and John Feasel were elected.

The office of clerk was held by Charles Holopeter from 1874 to 1880, when Samuel Hennings succeeded him. In 1887, W. J. Moffett was elected, but J. S. Harman succeeded him the same year; W. A. Harman was elected in 1889; J. W. Miller in 1890; J. W. Smith in 1892, and re-elected since that time.

The first treasurer was C. A. Risser, who, in 1875, was succeeded by Lewis Whitman. The office was held by several citizens down to April, 1894, when B. F. Simons succeeded S. L. Shanks. In 1896, B. F. Simons was re-elected treasurer.

In 1896, B. F. Simons, James Dindore and William Lee were elected members of the Special School District Board.

J. T. Hill was elected marshal in 1896.

*Fires.*—A few small fires are recorded prior to 1882, such as that which destroyed the church school house. The fire of 1882 destroyed Hahn's store and Adams' dwelling. In the store building were the council room, mayor's office, post office, together with many of the village records. A few books were saved, but the Council Journal and other important books were burned.

*Traders.*—The Willard store was carried on here by its founder until 1859. From 1849 to 1858 or 1859, William Bradner did a large trade here. By 1860, old-time trade methods and traders made way for modern methods and men, and the business houses and dealers, as known

now, began to appear. In March, 1884, J. R. & I. Phillips carried on a general store; John Miller and George S. Ketcham, hardware stores; Benjamin Simons, a drug store; B. H. Saxby, a grocery; and M. F. Miles and C. W. Linhart, a gristmill. W. J. Moffett was then postmaster; Dr. Rosendale had practiced medicine there for a quarter of a century; Dr. Hatfield, who came later, was also a recognized physician of the district; Perry C. Chilcote kept the hotel.

*Tragedies.*—On November 23, 1889, Lafayette Frontz was stabbed to death here by one Gardner. The tragedy is one of the very few chargeable to this village.

*Schools.*—The new school building stands a testimonial to the villagers. It is their monument to a half-century's progress in education.

*Churches.*—The beginnings of church organizations and church buildings are related in the history of the township. Here the first house for worship was built in 1843 or 1844, where the Lewis Whitman mill was subsequently constructed. It was a two-story house, the second floor of which was used by various Church societies, while the first floor was used for school purposes. Rev. John McCutcheon, a Presbyterian preacher, who was also teacher of the common school, presided above and below. The house was sold and converted into a sawmill, for which purpose it was used until 1880 or 1881, when fire reduced it to ashes.

The Methodist Episcopal Society erected a building in 1871, which was dedicated September 17, that year.

The United Brethren, the Disciples, the Presbyterians, the German Baptists and other denominations are represented in the village. In the history of Montgomery township reference is made to the Methodist Circuit of 1839, and to the early preachers who appeared in this district.

*Cemetery.*—The West Millgrove Cemetery Association was organized March 29, 1865, with Joseph Chilcote, Israel Everett, Tobias Bossler, Rev. Samuel Kelso, W. C. Burdick, C. R. Rosendale, J. H. Moffett, Randall Swinehart, Jacob Fisher, Seneca Leonard and Joseph Bishop, members. The association acquired the ownership of the old cemetery, made additions to it, and to-day owns the ground. W. C. Burdick, James Dindore and James A. Yates are trustees; J. W. Miller, treasurer, and J. W. Smith, secretary.

*Societies.*—West Millgrove Lodge, I. O. O. F., was instituted July 20, 1876, with T. C. Reid, noble grand; H. N. Rush, vice grand, and Henry Phillips, secretary. In 1886 the charter was

conveyed to Freeport, as told in the history of that village.

The Independent Order of Good Templars attained prominence here years ago, and the influence of the society is yet powerful.

Yates Post, No. 476, G. A. R., was chartered September 1, 1888, as successor of the older Post, No. 50, organized under the same name. The title was changed to W. C. Conley Post on February 20, 1891. The original members were B. F. Simons, Ira C. Conley, Thomas Henry, A. Davidson, Jerry Baker, Izetus Phillips, M. H. Jones, Lewis Whitman, Morris Sweet, Perry C. Chilcote, W. C. Yates, David Baird, A. K. Wein, Ed. Burton, M. D. Chilcote, L. A. England, C. Keefer, R. B. Chilcote, William Taylor, Dan M. Yates and M. T. Sweetland. Of the old Post of 1869, J. W. Smith and the majority of the members named above were members. In later years Capt. Omar P. Norris changed his membership from Fostoria to this Post. The commanders have been L. Whitman, 1888; John W. Smith, 1890; P. C. Chilcote, 1892, and J. W. Smith, 1894-96. The adjutants have been Izetus Phillips; I. C. Conley, 1891; J. W. Smith, 1892; A. K. Wein, 1894-96. There are twenty-four members.

Other secret, benevolent, political and literary societies appeared and disappeared, few of them living more than a few years.

#### HATTON, FOSTORIA AND LONGLEY.

Hatton post office was established March 14, 1882, with Samuel H. Cassiday, postmaster. In 1883, John Wininger was appointed master, and has held the office down to the present time. The hamlet was platted by William McCormick, in 1880, on a part of his farm, and, when the office was established, the name was changed from East Millgrove Station to Hatton, in honor of the postmaster-general. Alexander Adams and Benjamin F. Lindsley built the first houses; Samuel Carrick built the third house; Z. Osman built the first store. The second store was built by John Wininger, who completed the house on the West Millgrove road about thirteen years ago, having moved his stock from the house where W. L. Knowles now resides. The large elevator, south of the depot, was built in 1881. Osman sold his store to Jesse Miller, who on removing to Risingsun sold his stock to Mr. Wininger, but still owns the building. The new tile factory of Wood & Co., established in the fall of 1895, employs ten hands. The hamlet is a suburb of West Millgrove.

Fostoria now claims a small part of Wood county. Hart's sub-division of part of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 36, Perry township (south and east of W. M. Skinner's land to the east line of Wood county, adjoining the lands of J. A. Bradner and Mrs. D. P. Lloyd, and the south county line and lands of Abraham Overholt) was surveyed by Homer C. White in April and May, 1887, for John O. Hart. Skinner's allotment was surveyed in July, 1888, by G. D. Hersey for William M. Skinner.

The first notice of the locality, other than that by United States surveyors, was made September 20, 1825, when Neal McGuffey and others from Fort Ball camped there while searching for Elijah Brayton's lost child. The survey of Rome was made in August, 1832, and of Risdon in September, 1832. The first town was the property of Crocker & Foster; the second, of John Gorsuch. Henry Welch, Jeremiah Mickey and John P. Gordon were the pioneers of Risdon, while Gorsuch located there in 1832, and invested in lands in its vicinity. In October, 1832, Crocker & Foster opened a store at Rome, selling coffee at 20 cents, tobacco at 25, tea at \$1.24, sugar at 7 cents a pound, sheeting at 13 cents a yard, cotton at 10 cents and calico at 14 cents a yard, whisky at 12 cents a quart, while Nehemiah Hadley paid the firm 28 shillings for one pair of boots. In 1836, the Crocker sawmill was erected; Samuel Laird opened a tavern opposite Foster's store; while Randall Hale's tavern was in operation prior to that time. Dr. Cossage was here as early as 1829. Dr. Dana and Dr. Lockwood came in 1834; Dr. Kirkham, in 1836 or 1837; George Patterson, in 1840; Simon Bricker, in 1843; and Drs. Cole, Snyder and Russell, early in the "forties." In 1834, David Ferrier established a horse-power gristmill near the head of Wolf creek. The sawmills, gristmill and distillery were built within a few years.

The first Church society was organized in 1833 by Rev. Chase, but the class did not show many signs of life until the following winter, when Elam Day urged the Methodists to build a log-house for worship. The cabin stood on Summit street, near the creek, until 1852, when a frame house took its place. In 1849, the Catholic congregation erected a church building. In 1852, a Close Communion Baptist Society was formed; in 1856, the Presbyterians organized; in 1868, the Evangelical Lutherans; and, in 1879, the Reformed Society. The Methodist Protestants; the Seventh Day Adventists; the Disciples; the Dunkards; the Spiritualists; the Mormons; and a dozen of other denominations had organi-

zations here, so that Fostoria was as busy in religious matters as it was and is in commercial affairs.

In 1833-34 Freeman Luce opened a subscription school. "Barring" the master was a custom of the time, and once in a while Luce had to treat his pupils to candy, raisins, apples or whisky. Dr. Alonzo Lockwood, later a member of Congress, succeeded Luce. Times have changed. Now there are three or four large school buildings, an academy, and one or two denominational schools.

The town is an important business and railroad center. How far the future may extend its limits into Wood county cannot be stated, but it is reasonable to suppose that the same enterprise, which did so much, may do more in the direction of expansion.

Blinn post office was established at Norris Station in 1883, with Omar P. Norris in charge.

Frank Cory was acting postmaster until 1885, when the office was discontinued.

Longley post office was established a few years ago, with T. J. Edgerton postmaster. Thomas Peterson, who was run down by a train in 1895 and killed, was the second incumbent. In September, 1895, the present postmaster was commissioned.

*Conclusion.*—The majority of the pioneers were successful in their mission. They came to seek and make homes in the wilderness, and leave to their children a rich inheritance. To them a great deal of the present worth of the township is due; but it would not be fair to credit them with all progress. They prepared the way for the modernizer. Their children and the immigrants of later days, having at their disposal machinery of which the old settlers knew nothing, accomplished more in a decade than their father's did in thirty years, and raised the township to its present high standard.

## CHAPTER XL.

### PERRYSBURG TOWNSHIP.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TOWNSHIP—ITS EARLY HISTORY—JUSTICES OF WAYNESFIELD—PERRYSBURG TOWNSHIP—OFFICIALS—PIONEER REMINISCENCES—MRS. AMELIA W. PERRIN'S STORY—MRS. HESTER GREEN'S STORY—REMINISCENCES OF MRS. PHILOTHE CLARK—SOME ACCOUNT OF A FRENCH COLONY FROM THE MAUMEE—MEN OF 1839—THE OLD AND NEW HAMLETS—SCHOOLS—OLD REMINDERS.

PERRYSBURG VILLAGE—ITS DAYS OF INFANCY, SURVEY, NAMING, ETC.—PIONEERS OF THE VILLAGE—PRICES OF GOODS, AND LABOR—THE SETTLEMENT IN 1827—POST OFFICE—EXCHANGE HOTEL—THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD—FIRST EXECUTION—GERMAN PIONEERS—TRADERS OF 1840—MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS—MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS—FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRES—CEMETERIES—CHOLERA VICTIMS—COMMON SCHOOLS—THE WAY LIBRARY—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES—CONCLUSION.

**T**HIS township was established May 8, 1823, when the commissioners set apart all of the original territory of Waynesfield, within the organized county of Wood, under the new name, and ordered the election to be held at the house of Samuel Spafford, on June 19, 1823. The Congressional description of the western and northern boundaries is as follows: "Lying south of the channel of the Maumee river, from the west line of the county to the line between the original surveyed townships, Nos. 1 and 4, in the United

States Reserve, and thence along the north channel to the State line." That part of the original township, extending from the head to the foot of the Rapids of the Maumee, was then, as it was for years afterward, the only strip of territory in the county where civilized man would dare to make a home. The pioneers of Wood county settled on the south bank of the Maumee, under the shadow of the same heights which Harrison in later years fortified and named Fort Meigs. Some years after the war of 1812 the settlement was re-established, and from it the pioneers made



clearings in the forest, established their villages and commenced all those industrial enterprises which marked the progress of the county down to 1884-85, when the gas and oil-well driller appeared here.

The names of the *ante-bellum* pioneers are given in the history of Perrysburg, for that village was a part of the township down to 1833.

The records of the township are in a fair state of preservation as far back as 1848. All anterior to that date cannot be found. More fortunate among the county records, the writer is able to give the names of justices of the peace from the beginning of the township, in 1823, to the present time, together with the names of justices for the older township of Waynesfield, from 1820 to 1832.

The justices of Waynesfield were Almon Gibbs, who served from July 22, 1820, to his death, August 18, 1822; John Pray, who served until June 19, 1823; Charles Gunn, from July 22, 1820, to April, 1823, and reappointed; Samuel Spafford, from May 1, 1820, to September 8, 1821, when he resigned; John Jay Lovett, from 1821 to May, 1823; Horatio Conant, from November 11, 1822, and reappointed in 1825, 1829, 1832 and in 1835; John Pray, 1823-26; and Jonathan H. Jerome, 1829-1832.

The Perrysburg township justices are named as follows: Paris M. Plumb, from July 7, 1823, to his removal from the township in May, 1824; Thomas W. Powell, September 16, 1823-1830; Thomas R. McKnight, June 30, 1824, and 1826; Elijah Huntington, 1827 to 1856; John C. Spink, 1831; William Fowler, 1834, resigned same year; Henry Bennett, 1834; Willard V. Way, 1837; Henry Darling, 1837; Elijah N. Knight, 1840; Joshua Chappel, 1840 to 1869; D. H. Wheeler, 1847; Rudolph S. Frederick, 1849; Peter Laney, 1849-52; Stephen Williams, 1852; Marshall Key, Jr., 1854; David Ross, 1854 to 1863; Reuben Sawyer, 1857; John H. Reid, 1858; Nelson Darling, 1858 to 1866; Abraham L. Fowler, 1861 to 1879; Valentine Schwind, 1869 to 1875; James J. Parks, 1869; Stephen Merry, 1875 to 1897; George McMonagle, 1875; Sylvester Curtis, 1878 to 1893; James M. Brown, 1879 to 1897; Isaac P. Thompson, 1890; Timothy Hayes, 1892 to 1898; and George Boetsch, 1893, re-elected in 1896. Hezekiah L. Hosmer administered justice in this township at one time, of course, prior to his appointment as chief justice of Montana Territory.

The clerks of the township, from 1848 to 1895, are named as follows: William H. Hopkins, 1848; James W. Ross, 1849; George Brown,

1850; James Murray, 1851; William Furrey, 1852; James Hood, 1853; Henry H. Dodge, 1853 and 1854; George S. McKnight, 1855; I. P. Thompson, 1855 and 1862-63; F. R. Miller, 1856-57 and 1859; George Strain, 1858; John B. Spafford, 1860-61; J. W. Ross, 1864; John Powers, 1865; Earl W. Merry, 1866; C. Finkbeiner, 1867-68; A. L. Fowler, 1869, and 1871 to 1877; Fred Yeager, 1870; Stephen Merry, 1877; Hiram R. Charles, 1878; Sylvester Curtis, 1879-82; Philip Wetzel, 1882; George Strain, 1883-84; S. D. Westcott, 1885-86; Philip Wetzel, 1887-96, with exception of a short term filled by George Strain, in 1888; in 1896, Philip Wetzel was re-elected. Among documents found in the auditor's offices are some early "tax levies," showing that Addison Smith was clerk in 1839; H. H. Hall, in 1841, and W. Russell, in 1842.

The treasurers from 1839 to the present time, are named as follows: Elijah Huntington, 1839; Henry Darling, 1840; Nathaniel Dustin, 1843; R. Sawyer, 1846; J. P. Thompson, 1848; Stephen T. Hosmer, 1849; James J. Parks, 1850; Jairus Curtis, 1851; Addison Smith, 1852-53; Geo. W. Clark, 1853; L. M. Hunt, 1854-58; Seth Bruce, 1858-61; Henry Thornton, 1861-63; S. D. Wescott, 1863, and 1865-66, and 1868 to 1877; E. N. Blue, 1864; John G. Knoll, 1867; Fred Yeager, 1877-81; John H. Rheinfank, 1881-84; George Wittman, 1884-88, and 1889-93; Jacob Davis, 1888; E. L. Kingsbury, 1893; and H. R. Roether, 1895. The names of treasurers, prior to 1849, were found in documents in the county auditor's office in June, 1895.

The assessors, other than the district assessors named in the Transactions of the Commissioners, were: James Birdsall, 1842; Hiram Davis, 1844; Elijah Huntington, 1844; E. N. Knight, 1847; J. J. Parks, 1848; John Chollette, 1849; Thomas L. Webb, 1850; Joseph Brownberger, 1851; John Webb, 1852; James J. Smith, 1853; Eber Wilson, 1854; Stephen Merry, 1855; David Ross, 1856, and 1859; John Bates, 1857; Michael Hayes, 1858; N. D. Blinn, 1860; John Powers, 1861 and 1869; George Mills, 1862; George Eddleman, 1863-64; A. L. Fowler, 1865; J. J. Webb, 1866; David D. Bates, 1867-68, and 1874; George Boetsch, 1870 to 1873; Shibnah Spink, 1873; A. L. Scott, 1875; Fred Miller, 1876, and 1881-82; George W. Newton, 1877-78, and 1880; John Hufford, 1879; Fred Hillabrand, 1883 and 1886; William Lininger, 1884-85; Fred Schwind, 1887; Godfried Schwind, 1888; Joe E. Baird, 1889 and 1892; Daniel Klingler, 1890-91; John Pfisterer and Daniel Klingler, 1893; Charles Zingg and John Pfisterer,



1894; Jos. Rossbach (resigned, and George Boetsch appointed), John C. Pfisterer, Levi S. Warner, and Wm. Underhill were elected. The names of assessors prior to 1848 were found in the county auditor's documents.

From documents in the auditor's office, it is learned that Samuel Spafford and Leander Sackett were trustees in 1827; Ambrose Rice, Silas Lee and Samuel Spafford, in 1828; James Wilkinson and John Hollister, in 1829; John Hollister and Eber Wilson, and John C. Spink, in 1831; J. W. Scott and G. Crane, 1834; E. Huntington, 1835; James Jones and Rufus D. Keener, 1836; Gilbert Beach and Loomis Brigham, 1838; Hiram Davis, Loomis Brigham and Josiah Miller, 1840; J. Birdsall, 1843; N. D. Blinn and Jairus Curtis, 1844; Gilbert Beach and Hiram Davis, 1845; Samuel Hubbell, 1846; David Ladd, Hiram Davis and Aurora Spafford, trustees in 1847.

The trustees of the township from 1848 to 1896, being the period covered by the clerk's records, are named as follows:

1848—John Ziegler, Jairus Curtis, John Webb.  
 1849—Elijah Huntington, Erasmus D. Peck, S. N. Beach.  
 1850—Benjamin Brown, James J. Smith, John Bates.  
 1851-52—James I. Smith, Jarvis Spafford, W. V. Way.  
 1853—Jarvis Spafford, W. V. Way, William Furry.  
 1854—John Bates, Marshall Key, Henry Thornton.  
 1855—Eber Wilson (*vice* Key).  
 1856—George W. Brown, E. Wilson, H. Thornton.  
 1857—W. V. Way (*vice* Brown).  
 1858-59—Eber Wilson, Henry Thornton, John Bates.  
 1860—John Yeager (*vice* Thornton).  
 1861—Eber Wilson, John Bates, John Yeager.  
 1862—S. D. Westcott, John A. Robertson, John Yeager.  
 1863—John Bates, J. G. Knoll, William Crook, Sr.  
 1864—F. J. Siebert (*vice* Crook).  
 1865—John Schwind (*vice* Siebert).  
 1866—Michael Hayes, A. M. Thompson, J. G. Knoll.  
 1867—John Yeager, J. Schwind, A. M. Thompson.  
 1868-72—Michael Hayes, Frank Rohda, H. M. Morse.  
 1872—Henry Thornton, H. M. Morse, F. Rohda.  
 1873—J. W. Ross, J. A. Robertson, James Eddleman.  
 1874-77—Henry Thornton, Timothy Hayes, George Limmer.  
 1877—Henry Wygant, Isaac Whitson, John Burdo.  
 1878-79—Casper Horn, John Burdo, C. Snyder.  
 1880—John Loesch (*vice* Burdo).  
 1881—John Ault (*vice* Snyder).  
 1882—John Loesch, John Ault, Conrad Sieling.  
 1883—Frederick Miller (*vice* Loesch).  
 1884—L. Reitzel, F. H. Thompson, F. Miller.  
 1885—F. Miller, E. Sawyer, F. H. Thompson.  
 1886—E. Sawyer, John Ault, John Loesch.  
 Since 1887 one trustee has been elected annually, to serve three years.  
 1887—John Loesch.  
 1888—Ed. A. Underhill.  
 1889—Joseph Armbruster.  
 1890 and 1893—A. E. Leydorf.  
 1891—Fred Miller.  
 1892—John Schwind, Henry Buckhouse.  
 1893—James H. Pierce, Edwin H. Simmons.  
 1894—Conrad Sieling.  
 1895—William Diebert.  
 1896—Edwin Simmons.

#### PIONEER REMINISCENCES.

*Mrs. Amelia W. Perrin's Story.*—Mrs. Amelia W. Perrin, a daughter of Capt. Jacob Wilkinson, settled with her parents just above Perrysburg prior to 1812, and shared in the flight from the Maumee after the news of Hull's surrender reached the settlement. The family remained at Cleveland until peace was declared. While there, her father built a schooner, evidently using the same amount of dispatch as did Commodore Perry in creating the fleet with which he did such signal service at Put-in-Bay, in 1813. The schooner was of twenty-five tons, and christened the "Black Snake." "In the latter part of May, 1815," says Mrs. Perrin, "father set sail with a load of immigrants, landing part of them at the River Raisin, and the balance at Fort Meigs. He had with him at this time his nephew, David Wilkinson, whom he afterward took to raise (on the death of his father), and who became one of the most distinguished captains on the lakes. Young David was at this time fifteen years of age, having been born in the year 1800. On his return from this trip my father carried a cargo of ordnance and military stores from Fort Meigs to Detroit, whence all the equipments were taken, Fort Meigs having been dismantled soon after the war. He continued to run this schooner, making occasional trips to the Maumee, until September, 1816, when he took his family back to Fort Meigs. My father's hatred of the British was so intense, and he expressed his sentiments so freely in the presence of his family, that the names British and Indian were synonymous in my young mind. How well I recollect my utter amazement on learning, when about ten years of age, that an agreeable playmate, whose acquaintance I had recently formed, was the daughter of a British officer; I had previously supposed that the British, like the Indians, were entirely uncivilized.

"My first clear recollection of the Maumee dates from the time I landed from my father's vessel at the foot of Fort Meigs, in the fall of 1816. The old home had been destroyed, and father went immediately to work to erect another, farther up the river, and we occupied it in the fall of that year. The late Eber Wilson has told me that a portion of the foundation of this old home is still to be seen at the northwest corner of the Mosier farm. The Indians, at this time peaceable, were living in the vicinity in great numbers. I can remember seeing large troops of Indian children playing in the water at

the foot of Buttonwood Island, opposite our house, that island being their favorite camping ground for many years. In the spring of 1817 father made preparations to build a substantial house, having fully made up his mind to locate permanently upon the Maumee. Employing help, he went into the forest and hewed logs, after the manner of John Alden. When completed, the new house was commodious and comfortable, being quite a pretentious residence for the times.

"The battle of Fort Meigs had been fought while we were at Cleveland, and when we returned the stronghold had been dismantled, and the equipments sent to Detroit. Although thus abandoned, the fort presented an entirely different appearance from what it does now. The little log building which had been occupied by Gen. Harrison, as his headquarters, still stood where he had left it, and it remained there for many years afterward. The block-houses and the greater portion of the stockade also still remained. There was no green verdure covering the embankments, which were gray and bare. The ditches, where the earth had been excavated, were filled with water, and afforded us children a famous sliding place in the winter.

"The school house, where we received our education, stood about half way up the hill, and the fort was our old playground. We never used to hear the word 'recess' at school. The teacher used to say, 'The boys may go out;' at the proper time they would be 'rapped in' by the rat-tat of the ruler on the window sash; then the girls would be allowed to go out, but the boys and girls were never permitted to mingle on the fort together. The boys took great comfort with a large copper camp kettle which the soldiers had left behind them; it was about the size of an ordinary barrel. After filling it with stones, they would roll it down hill, enjoying the noise as only boys can. One day they persuaded a little fellow to get into the kettle in place of the stones, assuring him that it would be capital fun. The little chap could not see it as the others did, after reaching the bottom of the hill, bruised, bewildered and a little out of temper. I notice that the school-boy of to-day is very much as he was seventy years ago, and history thus seems to repeat itself. The best male teachers attainable were always employed by those having charge of the schools. Among those who taught here, who were then highly appreciated and now affectionately remembered, are the following: Rev. H. P. Barlow, Seneca Allen, Thomas W. Powell, Mr. Gage (afterward the

husband of Frances D. Gage, the authoress), Mr. Robinson (a lawyer on his way west), Mr. Adams and Galen B. Abel. There were others, but their names have faded from my mind. In my earlier years we were taught by lady teachers in the old Fort Meigs school house. One of these—Miss Mary Keeler, daughter of Major Keeler—who taught for two successive summers, has left the impress of her sweet face and gentle, patient manners indelibly upon my heart. After recitations were over she would give lessons in embroidery and other kinds of needle work. Miss Gilbert, of Cleveland, and Miss Brown, of Perysburg, also instructed us. We were taught one summer by Mrs. McElrath, a Presbyterian of the Old School. On one occasion, during the reading of the Testament, I inadvertently laughed at some trifling thing, and she so strongly impressed upon my mind the heinousness of the offense of making light of the Word of God, that I have felt its influence through the sixty years that followed.

"Among the incidents which I have heard my mother often relate is the following: One morning, in the summer of 1811, a man came riding down the river, warning the settlers that a large body of Indians, hideously painted, was forming above, and their appearance and actions indicated that they were upon the war-path. The rumor created terrible alarm in the vicinity, and the thoughts of each were immediately directed to finding a place of safety for themselves and their children. Father took his family to the woods, some distance away, and there left them (mother and her four children) concealed in a brush heap, with the promise to return as soon as he was assured of their safety, and enjoining them to keep quiet and closely concealed. All that long day they remained there, scarcely daring to move for fear of attracting the attention of some lurking savage. In his haste father had forgotten to bring anything to eat, but fear of the Indians kept the little ones quiet and caused them to forget their hunger, except the baby, which nursed until it drew blood. As the dread hours of that long, weary, terrible day passed slowly, one by one, and father failed to come, mother's anguish grew almost unendurable, for she imagined he had fallen at the hands of Indians. When he finally appeared, just as the darkness of night was closing around us, there was a most joyful reunion. It seems that the uncertainty of the purpose of the Indians had prevented him from returning to us sooner. The savages were merely out upon 'a lark,' and had gobbled up a number of white men, father among

the number, and pestered them, just by way of amusement.

"Very early (probably in 1817) a Presbyterian Church Society was organized by Rev. Burgess and another minister from Columbus, and after the mission was established, nine miles up the river, the clergy often came to Orleans and Maumee to administer the ordinance of baptism. About the year 1820, the Genessee Conference sent Rev. John P. Kent to look over the ground, and to form Societies where the people desired. From that time Orleans was embraced in a circuit, and there were regular appointments. My father's house was the most pretentious in the village—built square, with two stories, two rooms above and two below. Connecting the two lower rooms was a wide folding door, and between them the staircase was located. When there was an unusual gathering, religious services were always held at our house, as the accommodations were ample. The audience would occupy both rooms, and the minister used the staircase for a pulpit. Religious meetings were also held at other private houses, in the school house, and sometimes in a room over the store of John Hollister, until the society was transferred to Perrysburg. Orleans was never able to boast of a church building. A union Sabbath-school was organized by Seneca Allen, which was kept for many years. The pupils were required to commit the Sermon on the Mount as the first lesson, and after that were allowed to select any portion of the Scriptures they chose.

"Orleans was surveyed soon after the war of 1812, by Seneca Allen; and for a period of fifteen years it was the resting place for those who were seeking new homes either in Wood county or farther west. Among those who made their home here were the following: Jacob Wilkinson, Seneca Allen, Major Amos Spafford, Samuel Spafford, Aurora Spafford, T. W. Powell, J. Chappel, Robert and Richard Howard, James Patterson, M. Abbott, Elisha Martindale, Thomas R. McKnight, Judge William Pratt, John and B. F. Hollister, John Jay Lovett, David Hull and Francis Charter. On the hill-side and commons a number of houses were built and occupied by our neighbors. Among them the following are well remembered: Conrad House, James M. Thomas, Thomas McIlrath, S. H. Ewing, Luther Whitmore, Mr. Wilson and Elijah Huntington. Dr. Colton was the resident physician, but only for a short time. The merchants were Samuel Vance and John Hollister. The greatest drawback to the prosperity of the country was the sickly season. Everybody expected

an attack of fever and ague periodically, and were always prepared for it, and the loss of time and the doctors' long bills conduced to keep the people poor. Notwithstanding their many discouragements, however, the early settlers were economical and industrious, and the principal business was farming. The fisheries were a source of wealth to some, and a help to all. Many Eastern people came, and after going through a short season of sickness, returned in disgust, declaring that they were not constitutionally adapted to the profession of a pioneer in a new country. After a few years, those who remained became acclimated so that they were able to resist the baneful influence of miasma in a great degree. At times, however, during the sickly season, there would not be one left in the family able to care for those helpless from disease. I well recollect being sent by mother on an errand to the house of Mrs. Mack, a neighbor, and I came upon a distressing scene. The husband was absent on a short journey; Mrs. Mack was helplessly sick in bed, and her little children were sitting around the fire waiting and wondering why mamma did not get up and give them something to eat. I informed my mother, and they were soon cared for.

"Those who witnessed the flood of the spring of 1818 in the Maumee never forgot it. The floating ice gorged at the Big Island at night, and water soon covered the flats a number of feet deep. The inhabitants of Orleans were awakened by the rushing and surging of the flood and crushing of the ice cakes, and, hastening to look out, found themselves surrounded by an angry sea. The neighbors came in a boat, and I was handed out of the window. While everyone was busy, the cradle, which had been floating about with the baby in it, started out of the door, and would have soon gone sailing down the river, had it not been quickly caught. We, with others who had been rescued in a similar manner, found shelter in the house of Mr. McIlrath, on the hill-side. Sixty or seventy years ago the few inhabitants of this section of the Valley were very social in their intercourse with each other, and no great formality was used in becoming acquainted. Where similarity of tastes were found between families, the strongest friendships were formed, which (although they afterward became widely scattered) have lasted throughout a lifetime. Charming evening gatherings were held around the glowing fire, of which those early settlers retained the fondest memories, throughout succeeding years fraught with wonderful changes and startling events. Young people did

not hesitate to marry in those days because they had not yet secured a competence: it was to be a helpmeet in making their united future one of prosperity and happiness. From 1818 to 1826, the young men, or the 'big boys,' as the little folks called them, of the Fort Hill school, left home and friends to seek their fortunes. Some wandered south, while others entered the lake service, many of whom subsequently became experienced sailors, and noted as the commanders and owners of some of the finest lake craft. My eldest brother, Freeman, at the age of eighteen, went to Portland (now Sandusky City), apprenticed himself to a ship builder, and became a master builder. One time when I was visiting at Port Lawrence (Toledo) my attention was called by Mr. Baldwin to a beautiful ship lying at anchor in the river, named the 'Eclipse.' This was the first large vessel which my brother had built, and the family were naturally proud of his success. He soon afterward went on a voyage to Europe, visiting the shipyards of Amsterdam and Liverpool. At this time it was a great distinction to go abroad on business or pleasure. Afterward he drifted southward, establishing shipyards on the Mississippi, and died at the early age of thirty-five. Two other schoolmates, John and Richard Craw, found early graves in the South. Among the boys of the Fort Hill school, who left Orleans in their early manhood to battle with the world and carve out their fame and fortune, are the following: John and Richard Craw, nephews of the Spafford brothers; Edward Wilkinson, brother of Capt. David Wilkinson, who had already become an experienced sailor; James Thomas; Anson and Truman Reed, brothers; Freeman and Harvey Wilkinson, brothers.

"It did not take many years to demonstrate that Orleans was never going to be the 'Queen City' of the North, as was fondly anticipated by those who established it. Other points down the river were more accessible as a landing for the large boats which were beginning to ply between the Maumee river and lake cities, and it was found that the town was liable to be flooded at every spring freshet. One by one, the Orleansists pulled up stakes and located at the rival town of Perrysburg, or elsewhere. By the winter of 1825-26, I think they were all gone but two families; from that time until 1830, my father and Aurora Spafford, with their families, were the only permanent residents, although people continued to move to and fro, stopping at Orleans for the purpose of taking a rest, a long breath and a new start.

"For a period of about four years (1826 to

1830), the late Mrs. Miranda Crane (a step-daughter of Judge Spafford), and the writer were the only young ladies in Orleans. The girls of that time were taught to help their mothers, from the days of early childhood being employed at anything useful that their little hands could do. As years rolled on they were taught to knit, spin, sew and do all manner of housework; at fifteen they were usually capable of taking entire charge of household affairs, when required. A large portion of the cloth used for wearing apparel was spun at home, especially men's clothing. After cotton goods came into the market farmers ceased raising flax for their wives and daughters to manufacture into cloth. As a matter of course, all were rejoiced when their daily lives were relieved of this drudgery, and the old spinning-wheel was set aside, consigned to future generations as an interesting relic of the past. When calico was first introduced into the Orleans market, it ranged in price from 40 cents to 75 cents a yard."

*Mrs. Hester Green's Story.*—Mrs. Hester (Purdy) Green, who was here as early as the year 1810, makes the following references to the persons and incidents of the time and place: "I moved to the Maumee Rapids, in 1810, with my father, Daniel Purdy, from the State of New York. There came with us, from the same place, with their families, Wm. Carter, Andrew Race (son-in-law of Carter), Mr. Hopkins, Stephen Hoit and Mr. Porter. David Hull (a nephew of Gen. Hull) kept a store and tavern. Being a bachelor, his sister kept house for him, and I lived with them part of the time. Hull had a clerk by the name of Antoine LaPoint, a pretty shrewd fellow who could speak English, French and Indian. Among the names of the French who were there, when we came, were M. Beaugrand, Minor, Lorengy, M. Emell, Baptiste Momeny, M. Guillian, and Peter Williams (half French). Among the others remembered were Spafford, a man of very fine appearance, who was port collector, receiving four hundred dollars a year salary for collecting tax on goods brought on boats; his son Aurora; Amos Hecock (son-in-law of Spafford); Mr. Blalock, who lived about a mile south of us, a gunsmith, and who was said to make counterfeit money; John Woods; Jesse Skinner; Mr. Carlin, a blacksmith; Mr. Scribner; John Kelly, who taught our school; James Ruling, silversmith; Peter Momeny; John Carter; and two or three families south of Blalocks.

"Our town was at the Foot of the Rapids, and my father lived about eight rods from the

river, opposite an island. Fish were very plenty. Large ones could be caught in abundance with the hook and line. We would throw them on the bank as we caught them, and then selecting the finest for the table we left the remainder for the hogs to eat. Among the fish caught were sturgeon, muskalonge, pickerel and bass. We gathered huckleberries about two miles from home. It was amusing to see the squaws gathering; they would hold a kettle or pan under the bushes, and beat the berries off with a stick. I have seen forty or fifty lodges of Indians encamped here; they were on their way to Malden to get their presents. We got our milling done at the River Raisin, about thirty miles away. Game was abundant, live stock was easily raised on the prairies, and we enjoyed a free and easy life until the mutterings of war began to fill us with alarm; then the arrival of Gen. Hull, and his splendid army, reassured us. He left a small command here who built a fort, or block-house, for our protection. Thus we lived in security until a messenger arrived informing us that Gen. Hull had sold his army, and that we would have to leave. Then all was fright and confusion. We, and most of the others, excepting the soldiers, gathered what we could handily, and left. We stopped at Blalock's a short time, and an Indian messenger arrived telling us to come back as they would not kill us, but only wanted some of our property; looking around until he found Blalock's gun, he took it, went out and got a horse my mother had ridden to this point, and departed. We went back and remained three days, in which time the Indians were pretty busy in driving off our live stock (we lost sixteen head), and plundering the houses of such as had not come back. Mr. Guillian was one who fled, leaving everything behind, and had not the presence of danger filled us with alarm, we would have been amused to see the Indians plundering his house. The feather beds were brought out, ripped open and the feathers scattered to the winds, the ticks alone being deemed valuable. But our stay was short, only three days, when the commandant of the fort informed us that he would burn the fort and stores and leave, inviting us to take such of the provisions as we might need. Consternation again seized upon us, and we hastily reloaded our wagons and left. We stayed the first night at a house eight or ten miles south of the Rapids. In the black swamp, the load became too heavy, and they rolled out a barrel of flour and a barrel of meat, which they had obtained at the fort. Mr. Hopkins, John Carter, Mr. Scribner and William Race went

back the next fall to gather their crops, and they were all killed by the Indians. John Carter was attacked while in a boat on the river, and they had quite a hard fight before they got his scalp. After many years the government gave the Purdys four hundred dollars for the crops and stock left behind them in their flight."

*Reminiscences of Mrs. Philothe Clark.*—In the reminiscences of Mrs. Philothe (Case) Clark, she speaks of her coming with her father, two young men named Scribner and Lapeer, and a number of others, who arrived at the Maumee settlement May 1, 1811, and raised some crops that season. Continuing, she says: "Several heads of families died before the next winter. My father's sister died on the 10th of August, and his mother died on the 12th. There were no boards to be had, so he took his broad-axe, and with two other men went into the woods and felled a basswood tree, from which they split out puncheons. These he hewed and planed, and with his own hands made the coffin, and helped to bury their dead, where Fort Meigs was afterward built. My father's own family suffered very much. He was sick with fever and ague, and many days, and for hours at a time, there was not a member of the family able to help himself. All the water that we could have for twenty-four hours was two pails of river water, brought in every morning by a kind neighbor. His little child, two years old, died soon afterward. In the spring of 1812 my father planted potatoes and corn on the island in the river. The army made use of it, and he got his pay for it from the government. There was a company of soldiers stationed near us; but they left immediately after we heard of Hull's surrender. A British officer, with a few soldiers and a band of Indian warriors, came to take possession of what public stores there were at that place. The Indians plundered a few houses, took all the horses and mules they could find, and left. The inhabitants had to leave,—some of them in open boats. Our family, in company with twelve other families, left by land. We took the road to Urbana, cut through by Gen. Hull's army. After a toilsome journey of two weeks through the mud of the Black Swamp, nearly devoured by mosquitoes, sometimes with no water except what stood in the cattle tracks, we arrived safely at Urbana, where we drew government rations until we separated for our several destinations."

The late Hezekiah L. Hosmer, who knew Peter Minor, an actor in the early settlement,

and wrote down the pioneer's recollections of Perrysburg, speaks of Sac-a-manc, an Indian warrior, giving Peter Minor notice of British intentions, of the flight of the Spafford family, and of the advance of the British and Indians under the notorious Col. Elliott. The story varies but little from the relations already given.

In the history of Rice township, Sandusky county, written by Hon. Homer Everett, is an account of a French colony from the Maumee, which located near Lower Sandusky in 1812-13, as follows: "After peace had been restored in 1815, this township became the home of many of the French families of the colony, which left the Maumee and came to Lower Sandusky three years earlier. The original settlement of these people, after coming to America, was at Monroe, Mich. They afterward established themselves on the Maumee, where they settled down to habits of industry. But the opening of the British and Indian hostilities, in 1812, compelled another removal, and doomed them to four years of migration and unsettled life. In January, 1813, by direction of the government, about twenty families packed their possessions and started for Lower Sandusky. It was a fortunate circumstance that heavy ice, well covered with snow, gave them an easy course of travel, and at the same time made it possible to avoid the savage enemies of the forest. All being in readiness, a French train was formed. This consisted of a procession of one-horse sleighs, the runners of which were made of boards. The train was placed under direction of a Frenchman named Peter Maltosh, who had been an Indian trader. The journey to Locust Point, over the ice, was made in one day. On the following day, Portage (Port Clinton, as it was then called) was reached, and, the third day, Lower Sandusky. The colony was given quarters in the government barracks until spring, when cabins were built for them. In August, 1813, they were, by order of the government, removed to Upper Sandusky until the conclusion of the war, when they were moved back in government wagons. They had been wards of the government during the war, and the able-bodied among them bore their parts bravely in the lines of soldiery." The names of these refugees, some of whom returned to the Maumee at the close of the war, so far as can be learned, were Joseph Cavalier and wife, who died at Fort Stephenson; Albert Cavalier, their son, Mrs. Jaco, Gabriel O'Dett de La Point, Thomas DeMars, Bisnette, Joseph, John and Peter Momeny, Peter Minor's family, Charles Fontaine, Christopher Columbo, and the Devoir

family, consisting of five brothers, and Maltosh, the guide. This concludes the broken threads of the story of the destroyed settlement on the Maumee.

*Men of 1839.*—In 1839, an enumeration of all male citizens over twenty-one years of age, in the township was made by County Assessor Samuel Matthews. In February, 1877, the *Sentinel* copied the lists and published them, and from that paper the following names are taken: Seneca Sterling, Edward Hotchkis, Allen Hills, Isaac Stetson, Addison Smith, Henry Mandell, R. L. McKnight, Willard V. Way, Henry Bennett, Joseph Cornell, James F. Stubbs, Gilbert Beach, Aaron B. Banks, Horace Hall, John Hall, Horatio Hall, James Mecham, D. Wilkinson, Wm. Irwin, David Allen, R. B. Nichols, Charles Russell, Phillip Hahn, Barnet Kenedy, James Bellville, Peter Cranker, Thomas Child, Loomis Brigham, Thomas L. Webb, Henry Ross, Reuben Sawyer, John Fay, Daniel Lindsey, John C. Kellogg, A. Coffinberry, John Bates, Henry Cook, Jarvis Spafford, Jeremiah C. Crane, James M. Spafford, Amos Spafford, Otis Wheelock, W. W. Wheelock, Abraham L. Fowler, Samuel B. Campbell, Walter W. Slason, John Kridler, Edward Bissel, Edward Freeman, E. D. Peck, W. P. Griswold, Abner Brown, John Webb, Jacob Regle, C. G. Minkler, W. W. Covey, H. L. Hosmer, J. B. Lewis, Andrew Burns, L. R. Austin, D. C. Doan, William Nettle, Jonathan Perrin, Phillip Loup, Cyrus Darling, Peter Laney, William Crook, S. M. Beach, James Birdsall, Pearl Simons, Christian Houtz, John Birdsall, Worling Bradford, George Hopper, Joseph Creps, Joseph A. Creps, George Creps, David Creps, Shibnah Spink, C. C. Roby, William Houston, Eber Wilson, Charles Wilson, Harry Ewing, Samuel Burke, Samuel Wilson, Jacob Mark, Hiram Pratt, Benjamin Thornton, Isaac Bloomfield, J. W. Turner, William Ziegler, John Hollister, B. F. Hollister, John W. Smith, Josiah Miller, George Chollette, S. P. Johnson, Christian, William Earl, James Brown, Abraham Carter, J. T. Purvis, Robinson, David Johnson, J. L. Crane, James Coffinberry, Charles Donnelley, Thomas Bloomfield, Abram Gray, Thomas Pheatt, David Perrin, Elijah Huntington, Joshua Chappel, Hiram Davis, William P. Reman, William Russell, Levi C. Lock, Benjamin Russell, William Kelley, Harvey T. Smith, E. M. Knight, C. T. Woodruff, Theodore Clark, John Smith, Wieck, Adam Mitts, Jonas Bishop, Samuel Bishop, James T. Rey, Benjamin Rathbone, John Elliott, Edward Bonnell, Laban Radway, Solomon Thompson, Fletcher Joy, Elial Bacon, Simon Teeple, Benj,

Minor, John R. Kelley, Joseph Clary, H. H. Courser, John C. Smith, Joseph Winters, C. W. Norton, Asahel Paine, Daniel H. Wheeler, William Crook, William L. Cook, James Blinn, Nelson Talmage, Adam Bates, Robert Davidson, Charles Bowsprit, Charles Lambert, Christopher Hetching, Robert Shaw, Luther Jackson, William Findlay, John Shepler, William B. Tillotson, William Weddle, Baty, Robert Reed, William Mack, Benjamin Gill, T. Rudsill, David Ross, C. D. Woodruff, Westcott Smith, Robert Miller, William Deyo, Charles Shepard, Henry Thornton, John Ziegler, Seth Bruce, Wright, T. Freeman, Joshua Chappel, Elijah Herrick, Perry Curtis, Jairus Curtis, Uriah Piersons, Walter Buel, Alonzo Rogers, Darius Harris, William L. Cook, Joshua Rolf, Jedediah Loup, Christopher Perrin, J. W. Ferrell, Nathaniel Dustin, Henry Darling, John C. Spink, George Drewry, Alexander Decker, Victor Jennison, George Firdig, John Bishop, Ralph Ogle, John Van Hellen, Henry Van Hellen, Henry Waggoner, Barnabas Allen, Abel Leach, Mark Havens, William Loup, James Conaway, David Staler, Jacob Kline, William Kline, McMichael, Abraham Beaver, Ora Abbey, Charles Abbey, J. H. Thurstin, J. McGrain, J. Hoover, Ruda Lusher, Thomas Kinsley, Jonathan Jenkins, Patrick Carl, Thomas Farlin, John McGee, Patrick Cauntington, John Hollis, Silas Burk, Edward Burk, H. Laddroist, George Fox, Felix Casper, Francis Powers, Augustus Cook, H. Turrel, J. S. Sabin, J. A. Hancock, George House, Peter Rible, Norman Zimerer, George Price, W. S. Haskins, W. O'Brien, John Brownsberger, Jacob Lusher, A. F. Striker, David Johnson, Benjamin McIntire, John Riley, S. Belongy, Lary Sutton, Frank Bushel, Henry Roberts, John Beninger, James Barber, James Kelley, John McCoy, John Perrin, George Longel, Darius Budes, Stephen Phillips, Michael Rhom, John Hetsinger, Henry Lusher, Daniel Klinger, Phillip Croove, Phillip Croove, Jr., Conrad Seymour, F. B. Rowley, Aaron Higgins, Nathan Russell, George Coleman, John Shaver, John McKey, James Hollington, Moses Higgins, A. M. Thompson, Gideon Hord, John Harvey, Chester Blinn, George Powers, J. M. Hall, and Geo. Flack.

The following are names of those employed on steamers "Wayne" and "Perry": N. Gardner, J. Matthews, S. Pierce, W. Watkins, Sandy, Archy, Thomas, Wilbour, Stewart, Rogers, Mallory, Hathaway, Joles, Williams, Russell, Dimick, Westcott, Smith, Printis, John McKee, W. Watts, J. F. Stubbs, C. Harrison, P. Allen,

J. Green, W. Nukols, O. Whitmore, R. Louney, and T. Watts.

This list shows the names of 331 adult males, against 1,153 souls enumerated in the whole county, so that Perrysburg township of 1839 represented the great majority of the bread-winning population of the county. Within the ensuing ten years, many immigrants located in the township. The tyranny of class government in Ireland and Germany, and the political troubles of Europe in 1846, 1847 and 1848, drove large numbers of the people to the shores of the United States, whence they spread out westward. Such families as the Hayeses, who came in 1848, and own Fort Meigs, and the Germans, named in the history of Perrysburg village, who came from Hesse Darmstadt and Rhenish provinces, have taken a most important part in the development of the township, and the building of the village.

*The Old and New Hamlets.*—The town of Orleans on Tracts 65 and 66, in the United States Reserve of twelve miles square, was founded in 1817, shortly after the return of the refugees to the Maumee, and surveyed by J. J. Lovett. It was re-surveyed in December, 1825, by Seneca Allen, for Frederick A. Stuart, and Lots 138 and 139 set apart for public buildings, on condition that the seat of justice should be fixed there. The effort was a useless one, for, with the exception of part of the Wilkinson family, Mrs. Omans, and, perhaps, one other family, the residents moved down to Perrysburg, in 1823. To-day, the site of this first settlement of English-speaking people in Wood county, is clothed in grass, like Fort Meigs. The Hayes family located there in 1847 or 1848, while yet the old Hollister building was standing, and, for the succeeding forty-eight years, Michael Hayes and his brothers have seen to it that the site of the old town, and of the fort above it, have not been subjected to the plow, or exposed to the vandals. In 1816, David Hull opened the first tavern in the new town, and a year later, Joseph Vance established a store under the fort. Both houses were open on April 17, 1817, when Joshua Chappel arrived at that point. Down to 1830 a few of the first settlers made the place their home. The history of the rise and fall of that village is told elsewhere.

Lime City, on Road Tract 13, T. 4, of the U. S. Reserve, was surveyed by C. H. Judson in October, 1887, for C. H. Sawyer. It received its name in July, 1885, when a post office was established, which, at the request of the petitioners, was named Lime City, and L. S. Warner appointed master. In January, 1895, Anna Pelton resigned the office, and a sister of the first post-



master was appointed. A reference to the chapter on Roads, and also to the chapter on Troy township, will inform the reader on the building and history of the Western Reserve road. Down to 1852, Stoneburner's tavern, where Lime City now stands, was a well-known hostelry. In the "forties," particularly, "Stoneburner's" was a famous hotel, approaching the "Exchange," at Perrysburg.

The lime works were established in 1883 or 1884 by C. H. Sawyer, near the two old McMonigle lime-kilns. Mr. Sawyer operated the quarry until 1888, when the first kilns were built. In 1891 the Lime City Company was organized, with C. H. Sawyer, president; W. B. Scott, vice-president; John B. Bronson, secretary and treasurer; and George Breed, superintendent. This company added four kilns to the two established in 1888, the capacity of which is about 100,000 barrels annually. The company quarry a fine building stone, and also operate a stone-crusher, with a capacity of about 1,500 car-loads annually. The works employ from thirty to eighty men.

James J. Smith, with Hitchcock and Fink, were the principal farmers of the place before the town was surveyed. Shover & Warner opened the first store, and within a short time a few more business houses were started.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, of Lime City, may be said to be contemporary with the establishment of the village, when a frame meeting-house was erected. Among the members at that time, and in 1890, were: John, Thos. H. and Jane Tinney, J. M. Deams, Albert Brownsberger, Mary S. and Jos. Perkins, Mellie Warner, Maggie, Mary and Emma Creps, John and Annie Greiner, Julia Bench, Mrs. D. Simmons, Anna and Sarah Trowbridge, Maud and Ida Hamilton, George L. and May Meek, Frank Schumaker, Cordelia Pelton, Annie Pelton, Orlando Edelman, Alma Warner and Louis Laney. John Bench and John Greiner have been class-leaders in recent years. In January, 1895, John Bench was elected superintendent of the Sunday-school; E. E. Kerns, assistant superintendent; E. A. Cox, treasurer; G. L. Wheeler, secretary and librarian; and Frances Lusher, organist.

Linson was surveyed for Elliott Warner, A. D. Stewart, R. V. Chamberlain and George Kimberlin, by David Donaldson, in July, 1875. Like Marengo, Manhattan and Orleans of the North, Linson is only a memory.

Hobart was the name borne by a post office in the extreme northeastern corner of the township. It was discontinued in November, 1895.

*Schools.*—The township school record dates

back to May 21, 1853, when Eber Wilson, Jerome Smith, Lorenzo Blackman, John Shaner, W. W. Morse and Horace Hollister, with James Hood, secretary, were present. The sum of \$400 was appropriated for a school building in District 9, on Road Tract No. 24; small sums for repairs on school houses in Districts 5, 7, 8 and 10, and \$400 for a new house in District 5. In April, 1854, the sum of \$400 was appropriated for a house in District 10. Nathaniel Strickland was one of the trustees or directors in 1854, while the names of W. A. Lanigan and Henry M. Morse, with J. P. Thompson, clerk, appear in 1855. School buildings were authorized for Districts 6 and 3, and repairs on the other houses ordered. In 1858, there were 321 children enumerated; in 1879, there were 377 male and 318 female children enumerated; in 1880, 697; and in 1881, 719. The State apportionment was \$541.50, and the local, \$445.63—a total of \$987.13.

*Old Reminders.*—In 1848, during the construction of the hydraulic canal, a well was discovered at the upper end of Perrysburg. It was walled up with brick of superior quality, in sectoral lines, and no one, then living in the village, or Maumee, knew anything of its construction, or of the place where the brick were made. So common report said, and the newspapers echoed the saying. Mrs. Perrin, one of the few pioneers surviving, stated in June, 1895, that David W. Hawley excavated the well prior to 1822.

On the Eber Wilson farm, two miles from Perrysburg, are the remains of a fortification, of which nothing is known. In 1823, when the Wilsons settled there, the lines of the works were distinct, and, in plowing, blacksmith's cinders were found within the inclosure. The fortification can have no connection with the building of Fort Meigs, for it is a work which Harrison's men did not dream of constructing.

#### PERRYSBURG VILLAGE.

This good old town, dating back to the times when the echoes of Perry's guns, on Lake Erie, and Jackson's, on the field of Chalmette, reverberated throughout the world, is the stage on which the drama of Wood county's settlement was enacted, and the conquest of the northwestern Indians effected. Surveyed for the United States in 1816, when British and Indian power was crippled in these parts, it is now in its eightieth year, and yet only in the infancy of its



progress. The reader of the general history of the country is already acquainted with its military transactions of 1812-13, 1835, and 1861-65, as well as with its early hunters and traders; its commerce and navigation; its stage coaches, ferries and taverns; its newspaper men, lawyers, physicians, politicians and merchants; and with the thousand stirring incidents of its pioneer days.

In this article, an earnest effort has been made to gather the history of its inhabitants and their particular local institutions, so that a readable record may exist, when the village casts off its swaddling clothes, to assume the dress and airs of a great city, to which enterprise will attach it in the future. In beginning the story of the township, the reminiscences of a few of the earliest immigrants, and the relations of other pioneers, are considered worthy, and to them first place is given.

The survey of the village was made in 1816, as related in the chapter on Land Titles. Josiah Meigs, formerly governor of Ohio, but then filling the office of U. S. Land Commissioner, taking cognizance of this National enterprise, addressed the following letter to Major Spafford, under date April 12, 1816:

DEAR FRIEND:—As you will have a town on Miami of Erie, it will be well to think of the name it is to bear. The act does not give a name. Who is to christen it? I wish you would think on the subject, and let me have your wishes. For my part, I will barely suggest to you that, if it would be named Perryville, or Perrytown—or in some other form, which may always remind us of the victory of Erie—it would be good policy. We ought to make the best profit we can of the blood of our countrymen, which has been shed for the confirmation of our independence. If it were left to me to name the town at Lower Sandusky, I should name it in honor of the gallant youth, Col. Croghan, and would say it should be Croghanville. I believe it is in your power to give the names.

The idea was adopted, but the Major, in attempting to be original, made the name *Perrysburg*; while Governor Meig's "Croghanville" was cast aside, even though it would be a memorial of one of the most brilliant soldiers of the war of 1812.

*Pioneers of the Village.*—The removal of the county seat from Maumee to Perrysburg, in 1823, was a serious set-back to Orleans of the North. David Hull, who opened a tavern on the flats under Fort Hill in 1816; Joseph Vance, who established a store; Jacob Wilkinson, whose boats and tavern were known there as early as 1816; Lovett, who surveyed the town; John Hollister, Joshua Chappel and others, who located there in 1817, a few of whom had moved to Maumee, re-directed their steps toward the newer county seat, a mile below the fort, and soon appeared to be more interested in Perrysburg than they ever

were in Orleans. Samuel Spafford built the "Exchange Hotel" in 1823; two buildings, or three, were moved from Maumee; store rooms and dwellings sprung up here and there, and the United States town with its name, suggested by Governor Meigs, and its broad streets, suggested by United States surveyors, began to take shape. The first house-builder was David W. Hawley, who with his wife and step-daughter made their home in the wilderness from 1817, until Mrs. Hawley's death in 1820. She was buried in the Spafford cemetery. Hawley sent her daughter to her people, and then abandoned the place himself.

John Webb, who died August 27, 1885, settled here in 1822, and established himself at once as a hat-maker. With him were his wife, Elizabeth (Charles), his son, John Charles, his brother, Thomas L. Webb, with Thomas R. McKnight, who went to Lower Sandusky to meet them. On arriving here, in November or December, 1822, they found shelter in David W. Hawley's abandoned frame cottage (at the head of the bayou, on West Boundary street or Green lane)—the only building on the town site, though Thomas R. McKnight had Lot 144 cleared, and logs piled thereon for his proposed cabin. The Webbs may be said to have been the sole inhabitants of the town until the county officers established themselves here in 1823, when McKnight's log house and Spafford's hotel were erected. During the ensuing decade and a half, great changes were effected. Such pioneers as John and B. F. Hollister, Jacob and David Wilkinson, John C. and Shibnah Spink, John Shepler, who kept the hotel at the end of the Black Swamp road, John W. Smith, Willard V. Way, Thomas W. Powell, Judge Ladd, the real-estate agent, Plumb, the two Sam Skinners, David Hull, the McIlraths, Frank Parmalee, the Chicago omnibus man, E. D. Peck, Nathaniel Dustin, Elijah Huntington, all the Spaffords, the Reeds, Jessup W. Scott, Charles Dennison, S. C. Sloan, Peter Cranker, Henry Darling, Jonathan Perrin, Gilbert and Schuyler Beach, William Griffith (of Gibbs & Griffith), who died in 1828, Augustus Thompson, the Utleys, Halls, Wilsons, Ewings, McKnights, Wheelocks, Wetmores, Doans, Blinns, Cooks, Deacon Hall, who kept the tavern near John Hollister's house, Kellogg, who lived above the "Exchange Hotel," the Ross family, Dr. Colton, and others whose names occur in the chapters of the general history, were all established here. So precocious was the little town that it supported a newspaper in 1833, had its literary and debating societies,

its religious and social meetings, its stage coaches and steamboats, and an opinion of itself much higher, even, than that entertained by the Chicago people of themselves at that time.

*Prices of Goods and Labor.*—The manner of transacting business, from 1820 to 1824, portrayed by an old account-book (now in the clerk of court's office), was crude. The old ledger presents many pioneer names, and recounts the following dealings: Thomas Willson, whose name appears on the first page, bought 7 pairs of men's shoes [written "shows"] for \$17.50; 7 pairs of lined and bound shoes for \$18.75; 4 pairs of women's shoes, \$6; 16 pairs of "pattens," \$16; and 2½ gallons of oil and an oil can, \$2.81. Against John T. Baldwin several sums are charged, such as 75 cents for the entrance and clearance of the "Leopard," and 25 cents for a bushel of potatoes. Against Francis Farrand appear, one pair of moccasins, 50 cents; a black silk handkerchief, \$1.50; 3½ yards of pantaloon cotton, \$2.37; 4¼ pounds of sugar, 71 cents; and ½ pound of tobacco, 25 cents. He was credited with a day's labor, \$1.85. George Marsh paid \$6 for a barrel of flour; \$1.50 for 12 heads of cabbage, and large sums for whiskey, which then sold for 37½ cents a quart. Guy Nearing paid \$3 for 3 gallons of whiskey, and 75 cents for a gallon of vinegar. Daniel O. Wilkinson was an exclusive customer, buying whiskey in small bottles from May until November, 1820, paying \$3 for shoes and 25 cents for meals. Elijah Gunn bought 8 pounds of snuff at 50 cents a pound. Levi Omans mixed his dealings—whiskey, tobacco, flour, salt and shoes being charged against him. Joseph Spencer paid \$20 for 20 bushels of corn, and paid on that account 12¾ pounds of sole leather, \$4.78; one side upper leather, \$3.50; and one calf skin, \$3.50. Ambrose Rice paid 50 cents a day for use of a canoe, and \$7 for three weeks' board. James Carlin, who died in 1822, had his account settled by Hiram P. Barlow. George Mayler bought whiskey only. D. W. Hawley, George Patterson, David Hull, Daniel C. Murry, Daniel Hubbell, who paid his bill of \$113.02 by a barrel of whiskey (33 gallons at 30½ cents), 200 pounds of salt, \$7, and other credits; T. F. Smith, who was charged 62 cents for newspaper postage; Asa Sandford, who sold him 27 pairs of cow shoes at \$2 a pair; Robert Martin, who paid 12 cents for an almanac; James Wyman, Thomas Leaming, Adam Kiblinger, David Musselman, who sold him 357 pounds of tobacco for \$53.55; Moses Everett, Benjamin F. Stickney, Almon Reed, Joseph Prentice, Joseph Martin and others were customers.

The account of David Wilkinson, merchant, with the late William Crook, tells of the prices paid for clothing and provisions in 1832 and 1833, and points out the small remuneration for labor. Crook was credited with \$56.25 for 112½ days' work; \$1.75 for 3½ days making ropes, and \$10.87 for 14½ nights' fishing, or, in all, \$73.73. Against these credits, from October 15, 1832, to April 27, 1833, the following debts were entered: 18½ pounds of beef, 74c.; 173 pounds of flour, \$6.50; 1 hog, \$7; 6¾ bushels of corn, \$3.38; 4¼ pounds of butter, 53c.; 1 bushel of potatoes, 50c.; 2 pounds of butter, 25c.; 1 quart of oil, 25c.; 2½ gallons of whiskey, \$1.44; 1 narrow axe, \$2.25; horse and cart, 38c.; 1 barrel of flour, \$6; 1 barrel of flour, \$3.60; 14 pounds of tallow, \$1.75; 22 pounds of hog lard, \$1.76; 1 keg to contain lard, 38c.; oxen, ½ day, 25c.; 1 bushel of potatoes, 50c.; ½ bushel of turnips, 13c.; 16½ pounds of cheese, \$1.32; 2½ gallons of whiskey, 1.44; 1 peck of beans, 31c.; oxen, 1 day, 50c.; 2½ quarts of molasses, 40c.; 2 days' board, 50c.; 15 pounds of beef, 75c.; oxen and man, 1 day, \$1.50; 1 bushel of potatoes, 50c.; 3 quarts of molasses, 47c.; cash, \$15; 4 quarts of molasses, 63c.; 1 bushel of potatoes, 50c.; 1 pair of boots of O'Neil, \$4; 16½ pounds of hog's lard, \$1.32; 3 bushels of potatoes, \$1.50; and 1 barrel of flour, \$5.50.

*The Settlement in 1827.*—In 1827, according to Jeremiah C. Crane, who located here that year, heavy timber was abundant where the town hall now stands; grass-pike were caught in the creek and swale near the railroad depot; settlers had to go to Monroe, Mich., to mill, until the mill on the Island, near Miltonville, was constructed; immigrants would arrive at intervals, who, in reply to queries where they hailed from, would respond, "In yon," not knowing the county or State in which they lived.

When Joseph Creps arrived at Perrysburg, in 1833, there were twenty-three houses and cabins. The first above Perrysburg was that of John T. Key, the second was Miller's, the third, on the flat north of Fort Meigs, which was used for washing fish, was cleaned and converted into a dwelling by the Creps; the fourth was untenanted, but subsequently the Chadwicks took possession of it; the fifth was the red farm house of Aurora Spafford; the sixth, opposite Buttonwood island, was tenanted by a negro named Williams; the seventh was occupied by Samuel Wilson; the eighth, a log cabin, by Decker; and the ninth, another log cabin, by Herrick. Above Miltonville was a small burial ground, beyond it a dwelling, and next the Mission station occupied

by the Rev. I. Van Tassel and family. Other houses were above the mission, the eighteenth from Perrysburg, one mile below Grand Rapids, being occupied by Joseph Keith. The one-story brick house, which stood on the lot next to what is known as the "Blue Property," on the river front, was tenanted by James La Farree, who moved into it in 1832, a year before his removal to Road Tracts 33 and 34, out on the Reserve road.

*Post Office.*—The notice of the Maumee, given in a previous chapter, tells of Major Spafford, the port of entry, and other names and incidents of the time.

The commission of Amos Spafford as postmaster of Miami, in Erie district, is dated June 9, 1810. In 1814 the office was transferred to Fort Meigs, and in 1815 to Maumee, opposite, where the name "Fort Meigs" post office was obtained, until February, 1824, when it was changed to Maumee post office. The first post office in the village of Perrysburg was established January 28, 1823, with Thomas R. McKnight, master. Mrs. Perrin thinks that John Hollister was master after McKnight; but the record shows that Elisha Ward held the position February 14, 1827. It is said that the Democrats signed a secret paper, binding themselves to drive Hollister from the town. How well they succeeded is best told by Hollister's removal to Buffalo. D. M. Kellogg was appointed in April, 1836. P. Hills was master in 1839, succeeded by David Allen, who was the incumbent in 1840. J. Manning Hall held the office in 1842. David Ross served down to March, 1852, when Elijah Huntington succeeded him. His accounts, from June 30 to September 30, 1852, show \$32.76 for postage on unpaid letters from other offices; twenty-three cents for postage undercharged; \$23.26 for postage on letters from this office; eighty-one cents for advertising letters; \$56.59, amount of postage on papers and periodicals; \$63 for stamps received from Department, and twenty-three cents from postage on drop letters. In 1853 there were 176 letter-boxes, all rented, except twenty-three, at sixty-nine cents a quarter. J. H. Reid and John Powers are said to have been postmasters prior to the war; Nelson Darling in 1862; W. T. Pomeroy, C. Finkbeiner and Clemens Leaf in later years. In April, 1869, John G. Knoll retired, and T. J. Webb took his place. In January, 1871, Elbert D. Ross was appointed master. Christopher Finkbeiner, late recorder of the county, held the office down to 1885, when James Hayes was appointed. W. H. Hollenbeck succeeded him in 1889, and John

Cranker was commissioned July 20, 1893. In July, 1894, it was raised to a third-class office, but reduced in June, 1895.

*Exchange Hotel.*—"Spafford's Exchange," established in 1822-23 by Samuel Spafford, was carried on after his death on January 1, 1825, by his widow, and later by Aurora Spafford, and was the most prominent hotel between Buffalo and St. Louis, and the only frame public house between Buffalo and St. Louis. Mr. Spafford continued as landlord of this hotel to the time of his death, in 1854. C. W. Norton afterward purchased the property. The old register of "Spafford's Exchange" is filled with the names of many prominent people, but that of Gen. William H. Harrison, the candidate for the Presidency in 1840, was not recorded, as he was a guest of John Hollister. On June 11, 1840, no less than 473 guests registered in this house. The hotel register speaks of the Hollisters, Robys, Wilkinsons, Spinks, Coffinberry, Keeler, Way, Hosmer and others of that day, who used to congregate here for a convivial time. In December, 1838, Gen. Scott was here. He sent for Joshua Chappel, who was with him on a British prison-ship during the war of 1812, and witnessed his battle on board that ship for the rights of naturalized citizens. It was here at some public doings that Guy Nearing, a prominent character on the river, and a man of giant frame and herculean strength, in one of his periodical sprees strode upon the whole length of the dining table, kicking all the dishes off as he went. It was here that James Bloom, of Liberty, shortly after his return from South America, and while on his wedding trip, gave a select party, offering bank bills to his guests to light their cigars with. The reputation of the liquors kept at the "Exchange" was better than that of most any other house. The building of the electric road from Toledo to Perrysburg has had the effect of making the village a suburb, and of converting the old hotel into a suburban house of entertainment.

*The Underground Railroad.*—The village was always a station on this road, and the dwelling place of many conductors. The basement of the *Journal* office was the hotel for the refugees; but barns throughout the village often sheltered the Africans in their flight from the land of their slavery. Many stories are told of the adventures of "conductors" and their "passengers," one of which is referred to in the chapter on Bench and Bar. On one occasion a Kentuckian arrived here and found his human chattel. Of course, he had to resort to the law to prove his ownership before he could take the "darkey" away. Squire

Huntington was appealed to; but the slave's lawyer found a flaw in the indictment, or information, and this necessitated the making of new papers. The "conductors," seeing a chance to save the slave, soon had a fleet horse at the door of the justice's office, upon which the negro mounted and rode off, Langford, the colored owner of the horse, exclaiming: "Here is a dead horse or a free nigger!" Marshall Key, Jr., is credited with being the suggestor of this adventure.

In October, 1820, an indictment was returned against James Thompson, Isaac Richardson and William Griffith for kidnapping a free negro, named Patrick, with the intent of sending him out of the State. The trio failed to meet the punishment they merited on this charge; but were not so lucky in defeating the prosecution on another charge, which compassed the grievous offence of abusing a justice of the peace, in the person of Almon Gibbs, in the following words: "It is a damned, rascally court," and other terribly abusive terms, all because the squire would protect a negro in his lawful rights.

*First Execution.*—The execution of George Porter, for the murder of Isaac Richardson, took place November 5, 1830, at the foot of Fort Meigs, near the southern end of the Perrysburg-Maumee bridge. John Webb, the sheriff, conducted the execution, while Joel Foote, now a very old citizen, who saw the murderer arrested, was present to see the law carried out.

*German Pioneers.*—To the German pioneers, who located here between 1840 and 1852, some notice must be given; for they were in before the era of improvement was introduced in 1854, and were among the very first to develop the rich lands of this and adjoining townships. Peter and Nicholas Wieck, and a few others, who migrated from Hesse Darmstadt in the "forties," may be considered the pioneers of the little colonies from Hesse Darmstadt and Bavaria.

In 1847, John and Elizabeth Schwind, Michael and Elizabeth Cornelius, with their two children; John Wolford and wife; Anthony Strauss, wife and three children; Daniel and Louisa Klingler, with two children; John Fink, wife and four children, and Valentine Fink, came from Hesse Darmstadt; while John Yeager came from Alsace, then a part of French territory. John Helsley, Geo. Knoll, Henry Bensman, the Kellers, Walters, Neiders, Osbergs, Peter Wetzler, Henry Buckhouse, Mrs. Julius Blinn, Mrs. Jacob Schlata, and Mrs. Lucas, may be named also.

In 1852, Valentine Schwind; Casper Horn, wife and two children; Joseph Hillabrand, wife and three children; and Matthias Harbaugh, wife

and four children, arrived also from Hesse Darmstadt. The Finkbeiners were here at an early day, with two or three other families.

On April 13, 1852, a company of seventy-two persons left Bamberg, near Munich, Bavaria, and landed at Perrysburg, June 11, 1852. All settled here, Frederick Hoffman and George Shutz buying lots in the town, the others in the vicinity. The names of the immigrants are given as follows: George and Frederick Getz, and their father; Henry and Elizabeth Weil, and five children; George and Barbara Shutz, with four or five children; John Amon, Sr., Joseph Hoffman, Frederick and Margaret Hoffman, and their seven children—George, John, John G., Barbara, Margaret, Mary and Elizabeth; George and Anna Ault, and their four children; Henry Schmidt; George and Barbara Spoerl, and their three children; George Hertel, wife and two children; John Hertel, wife and child; George Haas, wife and seven children; George and Margaret Sisler, and their four children; George and Elizabeth Munger, and their three children. All belonged to St. Bartholomew's Catholic congregation of Kircherenbach, Bavaria. In coming, they brought the old faith with them, built churches in the wilderness, and became the founders of the parishes of St. Rose of Lima, and of the Mother of Sorrows. In the sketch of the latter Church, given in the history of Middleton township, several names appear, which may be listed with the above names.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*Traders of 1840.*—The business houses of Perrysburg, in 1840, included the "Exchange Hotel," by Jarvis Spafford; the "Franklin House," by L. Brigham; the "Temperance House," on Front street, by H. H. Hall; the "Farmer's Hotel," on Louisiana avenue, by David Ross; the "Eastern Hotel," on Indiana avenue, by John Shepler; the stores of James M. Hall, E. D. Peck & Co., T. Rudesill, W. P. Reznor, H. H. Hall, Gilbert Beach, William Russell & Co., John Bates, John Chollette and Henry Mandell; the forwarding and produce store of J. W. Smith, on Water street; the organ factory of William M. Tappan; the boot and shoe stores of A. P. Goodrich and William Kelley, on Front street; C. G. Minkler's machine shop; H. T. Smith's job printing office; J. C. Spink's insurance office; A. L. Fowler, William Houston, B. J. Lewis and B. F. Sawyer's tailor shops; A. Brown's cabinet shop; C. W. Skinner's harness shop, and Andrew Bloomfield's paint and win-

dow glass shop. The lawyers and physicians of that time are named in other chapters.

The "Eagle Hotel," by Joseph Creps; E. N. Knight's grocery; William Ziegler's general store; B. R. Nicholl's harness shop; D. W. Christian's cabinet shop; C. Musser's chair factory; Robert Reid's grocery; W. W. Wheelock's paint shop, and George Powers' general store, are named in 1839. Shortly after, as early as 1844, F. Hollenbeck carried on a forwarding and commission house, and a number of smaller traders and tradesmen came in.

*A Heavy Fur Dealer.*—The skins purchased by Julius Blinn, of Perrysburg, during the hunting season, ending in April, 1859, cost \$25,-839.68. Among them were 36,898 musk rat, 10,861 coon, 4,629 skunk, 1,375 mink, 679 deer, 478 house cat, 2 cross fox, 106 red fox, 181 gray fox, 525 opossum, 22 wild cat, 4 Sampson fox and six otter skins. While this invoice represents the fur trade of the time, it must be considered about 50 *per centum* of the total, for there were many other fur buyers throughout the county.

*Manufacturers of Old.*—The Perrysburg Steam Mill Association was organized June 26, 1835. Henry Matthews, Jonathan Perrin and D. C. Doan were chosen directors, with the last named, secretary, and John Hollister and Nathaniel Dustin, trustees. In 1836 Elijah Huntington and Horace Hall were elected trustees. There were twenty-eight stockholders, owning one one-hundred-dollar share each, and one stockholder, Horace Hall, who owned two shares. From 1839 to 1851 transfers of stock were recorded; but the old record book does not deal clearly with accounts. The mill irons were supplied by the Cuyahoga Steam Furnace Co., on a cash payment of \$311.50, and a note for \$228.50, exclusive of \$15.32 for freight on these irons; the engine was furnished by P. B. Andrews, of Cleveland, for \$450.

The manufacturing houses deriving power from the Perrysburg hydraulic canal, in January, 1862, were Crook's cabinet shop, established in 1852; Lindsey's planing-mill and sash factory; Tefft's sawmill (producing 250,000 feet of lumber annually); Peter Witzler's cabinet shop, cider and sorghum-mill and carding-mill; Hirth's tannery; G. W. Brown & Co.'s foundry and machine shop; the Perrysburg flouring-mill, and the new paper-mill.

*Subsidized Industries.*—In April, 1891, B. B. Moore contracted with the village to locate a factory for patent medicines and medical appliances here, the condition being that the council

would deed to him the Stevens Stave Factory lots, after a \$16,000 building would be erected thereon by him. In May the Sheridan Wheel Company arranged with Moore to surrender the site to them, and with a \$19,000 bonus from the village, that company contracted with Gorman Bros., of Toledo, for a brick wheel-factory, 40x134 feet, and sundry smaller buildings. On completion of the houses the Sheridan Company introduced machinery and began operations; but, owing to some disagreement with the village, closed down their works.

*Banks.*—The first bank at Perrysburg was that of J. S. Norton, established in the "fifties." After several years of successful business, the house went literally to pieces.

The Perrysburg Savings & Loan Association was incorporated April 3, 1869, with Asher Cook, F. R. Miller, D. Kidder Hollenbeck, J. W. Ross, William Crook, Jr., John G. Knoll, Alfred G. Williams, Horatio A. Hamilton, James F. Stubbs, Gilbert Beach and Lewis M. Hunt, corporators. It was organized May 1, that year, with E. D. Peck, president; J. G. Knoll, vice-president; F. R. Miller, treasurer; J. W. Ross, secretary; Asher Cook, D. K. Hollenbeck and J. W. Ross, committee on loans; A. G. Williams, A. Roach and S. D. Westcott, committee on claims and accounts.

The Exchange Bank was organized in October, 1871, with E. D. Peck, president; H. A. Hamilton, vice-president; F. R. Miller, cashier, and N. L. Hanson, teller.

The Citizens' Banking Company, incorporated in 1892, is presided over by Jacob Davis, with J. O. Troup, vice-president, and N. L. Hanson, cashier. The directors are John Perrin, D. K. Hollenbeck, J. G. Hoffman, Jacob Davis, Frank Powell, J. O. Troup, N. L. Hanson, E. L. Kingsbury and F. A. Wetmore.

*Modern Houses.*—In the chapter on County Buildings, much is said of what the commissioners accomplished for Perrysburg in the matter of court houses and jails. In 1868-69, the era of modern building was introduced here. In July, 1869, the contract for building the Masonic Temple was awarded to Alexander Vass at his bid of \$2,000. The First National Bank and three brick business houses on Louisiana avenue, with forty dwellings, were erected that year. After the destruction by fire of the old court house, the citizens of Perrysburg, on April 15, 1872, resolved to rebuild, not only one better than the old, but one also better than the new court house at Bowling Green. The signers of

the resolutions were W. L. Cook, A. G. Williams, Henry E. Peck, James Dunipace, S. Spink, John Eberly, G. B. Kreps, Michael Hayes, L. M. Hunt, A. Roach, G. Beach, John Yeager, J. G. Hoffman, George Getz, D. Lucas, John Schwind, James W. Ross, George Weddell, F. R. Miller, Henry Thornton, J. A. Robertson, J. J. Smith, H. C. Lawrence, J. H. Rheinfrank, A. R. Champney, A. M. Russell, D. K. Hollenbeck, J. H. Pierce, Valentine Schwind, J. F. Raab, George Hoffman, H. M. Morse, *et al.* In May, 1872, the contract for the new building was awarded to L. B. Stevens on his bid of \$13,469. The house was built to emphasize the determination of the town to have the county seat re-established here. Failing in that object, it was used as a town hall, and, after the destruction of the school house, was dedicated to school purposes in 1894-95, pending the erection of the new school building.

The Centennial Block, erected for F. R. Miller, in 1875, by H. & S. Thornton, occupies what was known as "The Old Drug Store Corner." Beach, Westcott & Co's. elevator was constructed about the same time.

*The Hydraulic Canal*, to which references are made in the transactions of the council, was conceived by enterprise solely for the benefit of Perrysburg, and would have proved of incalculable advantage had the plan of construction provided against freshets, and the ownership against clouds in title. This waterway extended from the dam, two miles or more above Buttonwood island, to the foot of Louisiana avenue, or a distance of  $5\frac{1}{4}$  miles. The width at the bottom was from 25 to 30 feet, and the depth varied from 4 to 6 feet. For about three miles it had a fall of 12 inches a mile, increasing perceptibly toward its end, and offering sufficient power to the eight manufacturing concerns, which were in operation along its banks forty-three years ago. The citizens were then paying four mills on the dollar to meet the interest on \$10,000 worth of bonds subscribed by them toward this improvement, and further granted the use of Water street to the Hydraulic Co. for right of way. During the early days of the Civil war, the town sold its interest in the canal, men's thoughts were directed toward war rather than toward internal improvement, and that waterway, which could have been made the basis for fifty great industries, was permitted to fall into decay. The act incorporating the company was signed April 1, 1837, the articles amended January 21, 1845, and the time for completion extended in the Act of February 15, 1849. From 1846 to 1859 the people of Perrys-

burg paid, by direct taxation, the sum of \$14,177 for that work.

The C. H. & D. railroad was completed in 1859. The agents from that time to the present are named as follows: F. H. Thompson, J. Powell, C. B. Shepler, W. C. Norton (six years), James Herbert, W. L. Patchen, T. J. Veitch, F. De Grof, F. J. Sanders and T. M. Franey, who was appointed in 1887.

*Bridges.*—The first bridge across the Maumee, at Perrysburg, was built in 1839. The *Ohio Whig*, noticing the project January 12, that year, said: "Our neighbors of Maumee, we understand, are getting out timbers for a bridge, which is to be erected somewhere between Perrysburg and Waterville. The structure, when completed, it is supposed, will cost \$4,000." The Maumee people may be credited with this bridge, and the abolition of the ferries between Perrysburg and Fort Miami. It was the pioneer bridge, preceding many years the attempt of the junction railroad company to span the river above it, and also the more successful attempts made below in the neighborhood of Fort Industry.

The Young toll bridge at Perrysburg was the same thing as the old bridge, with a mediæval roof. In 1877, the bridge at Waterville was put under construction, and the people determined to make that at Perrysburg free. In October, 1877, Young sold his interests therein for \$7,000, and on October 3, Toll-Collector Goss lost his occupation. Subsequently the timbers of the bridge were sold, hauled to Defiance, and converted into matches.

The modern iron bridge, which, after the loss of a span, was raised four feet to its present level, and the electric railroad structure, constructed in 1895 as a part of the Wood-Lucas bridge, have nothing in common with the rough, wooden bridge of 1839. The extension of the electric road from Maumee to Perrysburg was completed May 10, 1895, and motor car No. 8 passed over the track from Perrysburg, *via* Maumee and Toledo, back to Perrysburg. The ferry-men of the Maumee are named in the general chapters on Roads, Railroads, Navigation, &c.

*Municipal Affairs.*—The town of Perrysburg, as chartered by the Legislature, February 19, 1833, embraced the territory originally platted under the authority of the United States, and the addition made by Ohio, extending from Front street to the Maumee river. The amendatory Act, passed March 3, 1834, empowered the council to levy a tax of seven mills on the dollar, in

addition to the three mills authorized in the charter. A good deal of special legislation, on the part of the United States and of the State, has been enacted, on petition of the citizens, some of which proved beneficial. The county commissioners, too, seldom wanted for subjects to discuss; for a petition and a remonstrance from Perrysburg were sure to be presented to the board. The affair of 1857 is not an overdrawn example. In March, 1857, the petition asking for the annexation of contiguous territory was tabled, owing to the fact that the commissioners were enjoined from granting such petition. In March, 1859, the State supreme court disallowed the injunction; but other opponents appeared, and a perpetual injunction was taken out, to be in force until three-fourths of the voters of the territory to be annexed would agree to the proposition.

The book containing copies of the old ordinances and rules of government, in possession of the clerk, is the only record bearing on the work of the council prior to 1852. From it the following memoranda are made: In December, 1836, the council appropriated \$150 for grading Front street, between Pine and West streets, and Mulberry street, between Front and Third streets, and in bridging Ewing creek—the money to be expended under the directions of David Wilkinson and Jonathan Perrin. That ordinance also provided for the improvement of other streets, as a former but undated one did for Louisiana avenue, from the river to Third street, and for Water street. An ordinance passed in 1838 or 1839 provided that, in grading Louisiana and Indiana avenues, there should be allotted for a sidewalk on each side a space of twenty-two feet, and on all the other streets a space of sixteen feet. The ordinance providing for the organization of a fire department was signed December 12, 1838, and, subsequently, a number of ordinances relating to sidewalks, streets and sanitary affairs, were passed, and important ones relating to railroad, road and hydraulic canal improvements.

The oldest record-book, or Council Journal, in possession of the town, begins January 17, 1852, and closes April 11, 1876. On the first date, J. W. Ross and Elijah Huntington were present as councilmen, and James Murray, subsequently attorney-general of Ohio, recorder. In February following, Jairus Curtis, James Spafford, J. W. Ross, E. Huntington and S. D. Westcott were present, with the mayor, treasurer and recorder, and this rule of full attendance was observed during the year; for the bonds (\$50,000) formerly granted to the Junction Rail-

road Co., and the vote of \$50,000 to the Dayton & Michigan Railroad Co., recorded October 12, 1852, required the closest attention of the councilmen. In December, the ordinance permitting the State to macadamize a part of Front street as a continuation of the Maumee and Western Reserve road, was adopted, and the business of the year closed with an adverse report from the committee appointed to consider the petition presented by the temperance societies of the town. In March, 1853, six bonds, given to the Junction Railroad Co., amounting to \$3,000, were cancelled by an exchange of sixty shares of stock in the company. This, following the cancellation of \$16,800 in bonds to that company in October, 1852, was looked upon as very satisfactory. Building sidewalks and planking streets received the authority of the council, and in June, 1853, the following levies were authorized: For interest on \$10,000 Canal & Hydraulic Co.'s bonds, four mills; interest on \$9,000 Junction R. R. Co.'s bonds, five mills; interest on \$50,000 Dayton & Michigan R. R. Co.'s bonds, twenty-seven mills; and for corporation purposes, three mills. In January, 1854, the town granted to the hydraulic company the right of way over or through Water street, and in June, 1854, Third street was granted to the railroad company. On July 8, 1854, the council empowered the mayor to employ attendants for cholera patients, and to take such measures as appeared necessary to prevent the spread of the disease.

In March, 1855, the council donated two lots in the cemetery block platted that year, to the estate of Jarvis Spafford, in recognition of his labors in beautifying the cemetery, and his services as councilman. At that time the contract between the town and E. D. Peck, agent of the Canal & Hydraulic Co., which provided for the transfer of the town's interest in the canal, was missing, and a similar contract was ordered to be drafted and signed; but the actual sale of such interest was not completed until January 10, 1862, when it was assigned to E. D. Peck. In March, 1862, attorneys Kent and Newton were retained to defend the town in the suit of Fosdick vs. Perrysburg, asking the court to compel the council to levy a tax to pay interest on bonds given to the Dayton & Michigan railroad. In December, 1863, the supreme court ordered the council to levy a tax sufficient to pay interest on the bonds, with overdue interest and compound interest—amounting in all to \$15,260. In June, 1864, the council ordered a levy of 7½ cents on the dollar, to meet this extraordinary charge. In September following, the town subscribed for



\$70,000 stock in the Dayton & Michigan railroad, to cover the amount of old stock, interest and law costs. Subsequent arrangements show a loan of \$14,000 from the Railroad Co., and the purchase of \$14,000 in bonds from A. Pardee for \$8,400, and \$4,000 in bonds from Asher Cook for \$3,227, with some smaller bonds. By April 1, 1866, several bonds were cancelled, a saving of \$7,424 effected, and the debt reduced to \$40,000. The history of these transactions is too lengthy, but so much is recorded to tell how Perrysburg rose above the cry for repudiation of its indebtedness on account of railroad bonds, and to show the effort made to pay them. In July, 1866, there were thirty-six citizens selected to serve as jurors in the mayor's court, a custom which appears to have been introduced about that time.

In January, 1867, the council adopted a resolution, declaring it their duty to use all fair and legal means to retain the seat of justice, and to contest the law and the vote on the question of removal. The township trustees agreed to pay two-thirds of the expense of such contest. In April, 1869, there is a minute showing a payment to James R. Tyler, law agent of the town, in the contest case. In May, 1870, the council authorized the purchase of the old jail, which was purchased in 1872; in November, 1870, the elaborate report of James R. Tyler, S. D. Westcott, F. R. Miller, A. Roach and Asher Cook, on the status of railroad bonds, given by Perrysburg, was made, and in February, 1871, a bond tax of one per cent. was ordered to be levied annually to be applied toward the payment of the principle of such bonds as were given to the D. & M. railroad.

In May, 1882, a Board of Health was established with the following named members: John Leydorf, George Wittman, J. C. Crane, F. Hollenbeck, J. C. Neff and Thomas Veitch. The improvement of the McCutchenville road was considered at this meeting, and the contract for macadamizing was awarded to Frank Hennen, on his bid of 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  cents a cubical yard. In the chapters on internal improvements, transactions of the commissioners, county buildings; gas and petroleum and in others, complete references to acts in which the town was interested is made.

The proposition of the Perrysburg Gas & Pipe Line Co., made to the council, May 24, 1888, was simply that the corporation should purchase, at cost, the interests of the company, paying for same out of available funds, and by bonds. The proposition was accepted the same day, and \$1,000 appropriated to defray one-half the cost

of drilling a new well. On June 12, a further appropriation of \$600 toward the expense of drilling well No. 2 was made. These acts of the council were questioned by economists and lawyers so that the gas question was submitted to a vote, July 5, 1888. There were 286 votes cast for the measure, and twenty-six *contra*, and on this authority the "gas fund" (\$14,500) was created, by transferring that sum from the "Way Library Fund." A board of gas trustees was also created—Alfred G. Williams, Nathaniel L. Hanson, John H. Rheinfrank, John G. Hoffman and John Munger being the members thereof. On August 1, 1888, the sum of \$6,556.61 was paid to the Gas & Pipe Line Co., and on the 28th of that month the proposition to purchase the Toledo Natural Gas Co.'s plant, at Perrysburg, was discussed. The refunding ordinance and a series of financial transactions followed, and in March, 1890, the Northwestern Ohio Natural Gas Co. purchased the plant from Perrysburg.

The first mayor was John C. Spink, who served until 1835, when John Hollister was elected. Henry Darling, elected in 1837, signed the ordinance for the drainage of the town, May 5, 1839, when Daniel H. Wheeler succeeded him. John C. Spink was mayor in 1846; W. H. Hopkins in 1848-49, and Addison Smith was elected in May, 1849. The ordinance record and old newspapers warrant these names and dates. The journal of the council gives the *personnel* of local government from 1853 to 1896, the first name being that of the mayor, the following names, in each line, being those of councilmen:

- 1853—Willard V. Way, Henry P. Averill, S. D. Westcott, J. W. Ross, N. D. Blinn, J. Spafford.
- 1854—James Murray, Jarvis Spafford\*, S. D. Westcott, Asher Cook, E. Graham, John Yeager.
- 1855—E. D. Peck, E. Graham, J. S. Norton, S. D. Westcott, N. D. Blinn, G. W. Baird.
- 1856—James Murray, Andrew Bloomfield, John Powers, I. P. Thompson, J. S. Norton, E. Graham.
- 1857—James Hood, W. V. Way, Andrew Bloomfield, J. S. Norton, J. A. Hall, J. J. Parks.
- 1858—George W. Brown, Peter Cranker, Addison Smith, A. Bloomfield, J. S. Norton, S. D. Westcott.
- 1859—Jesse S. Norton, Julius Blinn, J. J. Parks, G. B. Kreps, H. H. Dodge, S. D. Westcott.
- 1860—James W. Ross, George W. Brown, Julius Blinn, J. S. Norton, G. B. Kreps, S. D. Westcott.
- 1861—James W. Ross, George W. Brown, L. P. Tefft, J. G. Knoll, J. F. Stubbs, S. D. Westcott.
- 1862—E. Graham, G. B. Kreps, George W. Brown, J. W. Ross, L. P. Tefft, J. G. Knoll.
- 1863—James W. Ross, N. D. Blinn, Peter Cranker, George B. Kreps, J. M. Hirth, G. W. Brown.\*\*
- 1864—Frederick R. Miller, E. D. Peck, Gilbert Beach, Geo. B. Kreps, W. V. Way, L. F. Clafin.
- 1865—Frederick R. Miller, E. D. Peck, Asher Cook, George B. Kreps, W. V. Way, A. G. Williams.

\* Died in 1854. \*\* Died in July, 1863.



- 1866-67—Frederick R. Miller, E. D. Peck, W. H. Jones, P. S. Slevin, Andrew Roach, A. G. Williams.  
 1868—Asher Cook, E. D. Peck, A. M. Thompson, Peter Cranker, Andrew Roach, A. G. Williams.  
 1869—Asher Cook, Henry E. Peck, A. G. Williams, Israel Thornton, John Yeager, Alex. Vass.  
 1870—James R. Tyler, † John Robertson, William Crook, Peter Cranker, P. W. Parkhurst, A. Roach, S. D. Westcott.  
 1871—James R. Tyler, Peter Cranker, Asher Cook and S. D. Westcott.  
 1872—John H. Rheinfrank, George Hoffman and John Eberly.  
 1873-74—John H. Rheinfrank, John G. Hoffman, John Eberly, J. Holliger, A. Cook, A. Roach, A. R. Champney, F. R. Miller.  
 1875—John H. Rheinfrank, James R. Tyler, John Eberly, J. H. La Farree, J. G. Hoffman, Clemens Leaf, A. Roach.  
 1876—John H. Rheinfrank, James R. Tyler, M. A. Trowbridge, D. Donaldson, J. H. La Farree, Clemens Leaf, A. Roach.  
 1877—John H. Rheinfrank, James R. Tyler, M. A. Trowbridge, J. M. Hirth, J. H. La Farree, S. D. Westcott, A. Roach.  
 1878—E. A. Higgins, George Boetsch, L. C. Wilson, F. A. Wetmore, J. H. La Farree, S. D. Westcott.  
 1879—E. A. Higgins, A. G. Williams, D. Lucas, A. Vass, J. H. La Farree, † Hiram Wiltse, Geo. Boetsch.  
 1880—J. H. Rheinfrank, A. G. Williams, D. Lucas, A. Vass, J. G. Hoffman, W. Barton, Jairus Curtis.  
 1881—J. H. Rheinfrank, C. Finkbeiner, E. L. Kingsbury, Cook, J. G. Hoffman, W. Barton, Jairus Curtis.  
 1882—J. H. Pierce, D. Klingler, F. Frenchel, F. Hirth, A. Cook, C. Finkbeiner, E. L. Kingsbury.  
 1883—J. H. Pierce, John Cranker, C. A. Kreps, Geo. Wittman, D. Klingler, F. Hirth, F. Treichel.  
 1884—Fred. Yeager, Thomas Mehan, D. K. Hollenbeck, John G. Hoffman, C. A. Kreps, George Wittman, J. Cranker.  
 1885—Fred. Yeager, George Boetsch, George Munger, Jacob Davis, T. Mehan, J. G. Hoffman, D. K. Hollenbeck.  
 1886—J. H. Pierce, Nicholas Werdertz, E. L. Kingsbury, G. Boetsch, C. Finkbeiner, G. Munger, J. Cranker.  
 1887—J. H. Pierce, William Schlect, John Amon, J. Leydorf, E. L. Kingsbury, C. Finkbeiner, J. G. Hoffman.  
 1888—Isaac S. Bowers, George Munger, B. Trombla, A. G. Williams, J. Amon, J. Leydorf, W. Schlect.  
 1889—Isaac S. Bowers, Charles F. Chapman, W. Barton, George W. Hoffman, George Munger, B. Trombla, A. Williams.  
 1890—James R. Tyler, I. S. Bowers, J. H. Rheinfrank, George Munger, C. F. Chapman, W. Barton, G. W. Hoffman.  
 1891—James R. Tyler, J. Davis, P. C. Ray, J. H. Rheinfrank, Thomas Roether, G. Munger, I. S. Bowers.  
 1892—Andrew Roach, R. Danz, J. Amon, I. S. Bowers, J. Davis, T. Roether, P. C. Ray.  
 1893—Andrew Roach, E. L. Blue, R. Danz, I. S. Bowers, J. Amon, D. K. Hollenbeck, C. F. Chapman.  
 1894—D. K. Hollenbeck, George W. Hoffman, E. L. Blue, W. Barton, N. L. Hanson, Harry Wilds, C. F. Chapman.  
 1896—F. E. Bowen, N. L. Hanson, J. G. Hoffman, William Crook, George Munger, Wm. Schlect, F. S. Bowers.

The clerks of the town since incorporation are named as follows: John Webb, 1833; S. C. Sloane, 1837; and Hiram Davis, 1845. (In 1839, David Ladd, D. C. Doan, John Bates, Horace Hall and John Ziegler were trustees, and W. W. Irwin, marshal). The clerk in 1849 was

J. W. Ross, and the clerks from 1852 to 1896, as shown by council records, have been: 1852, James Murray; 1854, Henry H. Dodge; 1855-57, Isaac P. Thompson; 1856, F. R. Miller; 1858, Sylvanus Jefferson; 1860-61, F. R. Miller; 1862, A. G. Williams; 1863-66, Geo. Strain; 1868-69, J. M. Hord; 1870, F. J. Oblinger; 1870 (Nov.), D. K. Hollenbeck; 1872, James Hayes; 1872 (June), George Weddell; 1873, D. K. Hollenbeck; 1874, T. J. Webb; 1876, Fred Yeager; 1878, George S. McKnight; 1882, T. B. Oblinger; 1884, S. D. Westcott; 1886, T. B. Oblinger; 1888, W. E. Escott; and in 1892, T. M. Franey, who is now (1896) the corporation clerk.

The treasurers for the same time were: 1853, Addison Smith; 1855, Lewis M. Hunt; 1857-60, Shibnah Spink; 1858, George B. Keeps; 1861, A. Bloomfield; 1866, Valentine Schwind; 1867, John Holliger; 1872, Fred Yeager; 1874, W. L. Cook; 1878, C. B. Shepler; 1881, John Cranker; —, Fred. Eberly; 1887, J. H. Rheinfrank; 1890, C. A. Hampton; and 1896, Godfried Schwind.

In 1896, Ben. Zingg was elected marshal.

In 1896, N. L. Hanson, E. D. Ross, E. L. Kingsbury, James Hayes, John Thornton and Jacob Davis were members of the school board.

*Fire Department.*—The first fire department was organized in 1838, under authority given in the ordinance of December 12, that year. The sum of \$150 was appropriated to purchase fire implements for the use of the Hook and Ladder Company, and steps taken to have the Firemen's Association incorporated. The Legislature granted a charter the following year. On October 23, 1871, the council empowered Marshal Charles to organize a fire patrol, and under this authority W. F. Pomeroy, Ira Knoll, Thomas Carlin, Henry Hillabrand, Al. Charles, James Driscoll, John Buck, D. Van Hellen, Nathan Tefts, John Fisik, L. Simons, Sardis Bellville, Thomas Veach, A. L. Scott, F. Cranker, H. H. Houston, Joseph Bruce, John Chappel, and one or two others were employed as night patrols. The Perrysburg Fire Company, No. 1, was organized May 14, 1872, with the following named members: A. L. Scott, John Otterbacher, George Boetsch, Val. Schwind, Thomas Carlin, Frank Rhody, Charles Fechler, Henry S. Cook, Asher Cook, Frank Thornton, John B. Webb, P. W. Carney, Henry, Andrew and Fred. Hillabrand, George Heckler, John F. Nelis, L. Haywood, Rufus Ney, High Banks, Henry Eichler, William Sweet, Samuel Pence, Ben. Gregory, J. G. Hoffman, Peter Haas, Valentine Schwind, Samuel L. Webb, Aaron Knoll, P. G. Thomas, William Spafford.

† Asher Cook, councilman. ‡ Jairus Curtis, *vice* Wiltse, in 1879.

J. M. Charles, W. J. Robeaudau, Thomas Helsley, Peter Buckhouse, Philip Rapp and Emil Vogt. In June, 1872, the engine and hose companies were uniformed, the "Mohawk," a steam engine, was here, and by July 4, of that year, Chief Engineer James M. Charles commanded two fully-equipped fire companies.

The pioneer fire company of 1838 had no serious business to attend to from December 8, that year, when the Law, Freeman and Stetson buildings were burned, until 1845.

*Fires.*—The fire of April 4, 1845, originated in C. D. Woodruff's tin shop, and destroyed the buildings on the southeast corner of Front street and Louisiana avenue, owned by Capt. David Wilkinson, and the dwelling of Benjamin F. Kirk. The Wilkinson block was occupied by J. A. Hall & Co., George Powers & Co., and S. C. Doan. The fire of April 13, 1872, which destroyed the old court house, valued at \$12,000; Mrs. Frederick's house, valued at \$1,500; Thompson & Hitchcock's stove works, valued at \$6,500, and other property, suggested the organization of the present fire department.

*Cemeteries.*—The old cemetery on Maple street and Indiana avenue was opened in the "twenties." The dust of the greater number of tenants was moved to the new cemetery, but in May, 1895, headstones bearing the following names and dates were still to be seen: Richard H. Blinn, 1829; Julian Green, wife of Michael Green, 1830; Eliza A. Bentley, 1834; William S. Smith, 1835; W. B. Wood, 1836; Mary Russell, 1837; Charles Walter, 1838; Leonard Blinn, 1839; Maria Ziegler, 1841; James Shaw, 1844, and Sophia Knox, 1846.

The City cemetery, or new burial ground, received its first tenant (after survey) May 5, 1849. From July 3 to August 19, 1854, its ground received the great majority of those who were carried away by the cholera, and every year since that Old Father Time has contributed tenants. From March 24, 1865, to April 1, 1877, according to William Crook's statistics, there were 363 interments. During the year ending March 29, 1878, there were fifty-seven burials, and the succeeding year, fifty-eight. This average has been maintained with strange precision.

On July 26, 1887, the township trustees and council of Perrysburg, in joint meeting, adopted rules for the guidance of cemetery trustees. The cemetery board, in April, 1895, comprised A. Roach, president; A. Williams, treasurer; P. Wetzel, the clerk of township and township school-board, secretary, and E. N. Blue, super-

intendent. The superintendents were Jarvis Spafford, William Crook, W. H. Hollenbeck, Perry Thomas and Charles Sisson. E. N. Blue was appointed in 1890. Only a few of the original forest trees remain; but their place has been taken by hundreds of ornamental trees. Throughout the cemetery are many fine monuments, such as the Way; the Albert Williams, erected in May, 1895; the Pratt, Schroeder, A. G. Williams, John Cranker, Averill, Hollenbeck, Fink, and Eberly monuments. The burial vaults, erected by Daniel Lucas and Albert Alius, of Maumee, and the city vault, are miniature mausoleums.

The Catholic cemetery was established in 1872. Though many of the German pioneers are interred therein, but few of the English-speaking Catholics rest there.

*Cholera Victims.*—The following is a list of the victims of the pestilence, who died in this locality, in 1854. The list is taken from the records of Fort Meigs cemetery, and is given in order of date of death. Two children of Geo. Jones, Stephen Williams, — Lucas, Judson Tucker, Peter Laney, Mrs. Stouffer, Cornelia Perkins, two named Lucas, Mrs. Lucas, — Lucas, — Bellville, Jacob Scheider, Fred Lucas, — Lucas, George Shuler, Euphemia Perrin, Henry Basin, Miss Gronewald, Lucy Bellinger, Fred Zanger, Lewis Munday, J. W. Lanz, William Mead, Rebecca McKnight, Celia Simons, Hernia Irwin, Julia Irwin, Phoebe Perrin, Wealthy Gates, George Byrne, Esther Byrne, Mrs. Brown, Wm. H. Courser, Rosanna Ferdig, Margaret Hoffmann, John J. Cook, Elijah Huntington, George Wolfly, Henry Pflughart, Finley J. Ross, Dr. Jas. Robertson, Cornelia Spink, John J. Spink, John Hoffman, Maria B. Hall, George Clements, Christian Eichholz, Lorenz Heisel, Eliza Brown, Robert Chambers, Samuel Hamilton, Jarvis Spafford, Stanley J. Ross, Mary Shannon, Fred Dortion, Margaret Hirzel, Mrs. L. W. Crane, Edward Lee, Jacob Ruffe, Theresa OsKamp, Geo. W. Bloomfield, Jacob Kingfield, A. Carter, Mrs. Naomi D. Kelly, Samuel Webb, Adaline Frederick, Augustus Rhoda, Jane Lee, Henry Rhoda, Thomas Atkinson, K. Zimmerman, Prof. A. D. Wright, John Riser, Mrs. Asher Cook, Richard Atkinson, John Arne, Madison Shaw, Zimmerman, Sarah Godwin, — Shannon, John Sizely, Sophia Blinn, Catherine Rhoda, Catherine Riser, Christina Rhoda, — Wolfly, Mr. Kelp, Jane Crook, — Kidder, Miss Eichholtz, John Osburg's child, John Riser's child, Mrs. Percis Peck, George Shutz, Margaret Shuckmeal, James Shannon, Martha Shaw, Mrs. Wolfly, Tom Holzly, Margaret

Wild, Philip Riley, John Neiderhouse, Mrs. Gerrick, Wm. Gronewald, Peter McColly, John H. Neiderhouse, Henry Breidenwisher, Mrs. Wygant, John Morrison, George S. Clark, Maria Rothringer, George Hoffman, Frederick Hoffman and Elizabeth Hoffman.

Judge Dodge, writing in February, 1893, on this subject, says: "Transient persons found dead in the streets and vacant houses, would swell the number above 200. The deaths were startling in their sadness." The physical condition of the inhabitants, reduced by fever and ague and the systems poisoned by well-water, rather than by miasmatic exhalations, left them an easy prey to the ravages of the disease. The first death was recorded on the evening of July 3, and the last, on August 19, 1854.

*Common Schools.*—The Fort Hill School, the first in Wood county, is described by Mrs. Perrin in this chapter, while in the chapter on Common Schools, references are made to the efforts of the people of Perrysburg to raise the system above the primitive condition, in which it was as late as 1837. The first Union or graded school in the Valley was instituted at Maumee by Francis Hollenbeck, and the second at Perrysburg. In 1846, James W. Ross established a select school in the old court house, the charge for tuition ranging from \$2 to \$3.50 for a three-months' term. Other teachers followed him, so that, while the people were promoting the common-school system, independent teachers revived interest in the subscription school. On June 13, 1849, the district voted \$1,600 for a new school house. A reference to the chapters on Education and Perrysburg township will give the names of some of the principal teachers employed here in early days.

The Perrysburg Union School of 1851 was presided over by Edward Olney, with C. M. Gates, Ann E. Bruce, Mrs. Celia Keyes and Mrs. Euphemia T. Robertson, assistant teachers. Among the pupils in the primary schools were James Hayes, Chris. Finkbeiner, Thomas and William Hayes, Wesley Cranker, Peter McMahon and Letson Cook; in the secondary school were Hiram Charles, W. D. Perrin, Margaret Hayes, Asenith Bloomfield and Carrie Brownberger; in the grammar school, Henry and Edward Hollenbeck, J. B. Spafford, Eugenia E. Perrin, Caroline Williams, George H. and David A. Ross, C. A. Norton, William Cranker, James Averill, Ed. L. Baird, Gilbert J. Beach and others; while, in the high school, were sixty-four pupils, from all parts of this and adjoining counties, and three from Michigan. The rates of tuition

were \$3 for a term of eleven weeks in the lower grades, and \$4 for a similar term in the higher grades. The board of education comprised H. P. Averill, George Powers, S. D. Westcott, W. H. Courser, John McCaughey and N. D. Blinn. There were 77 males and 88 females in the primary; 76 males and 58 females in the secondary; 32 males and 54 males in the grammar; and 34 males and 30 females in the high school. The Union school teachers, in September, 1869, were John Barton, superintendent (the successor of J. W. Ewing); Nellie M. Brown, assistant superintendent; Ella M. Baird, Esther Crook, Nellie Cassaday, Carrie Wilkinson, Mary Albert and Sophy Knoll. In 1871, James O. Troup, now a lawyer of Bowling Green, succeeded Barton. C. F. Taylor was superintendent in 1872. Messrs. Boone, Kennedy and Scott followed in the order given. A. G. Smith, the superintendent in 1877, added a Normal department to the high school in August of that year. Thomas W. Hubbard held the position in 1878, Messrs. Dick, Bateman, I. M. Sadler and Ward holding the office in later days, with Prof. Megley in charge of the high school in 1895.

The school building was destroyed by fire May 24, 1894. It was originally a two-story house, but some years ago was restored and a third story added; so that it contained six school rooms, two recitation rooms, a laboratory and superintendent's office. The additions were made at heavy cost to the district.

The school board of 1895 comprised E. L. Kingsbury, James Hayes, Jacob Davis, J. H. Thornton, F. C. Eberly and I. S. Bowers. To this board has been committed the work of school building. The new house, which occupies the site of the old one, was designed by Baker & Huber, of Toledo, is constructed of brick, and possesses some architectural features, more in keeping with ideas of progress than any shown in the other school buildings of the county, outside Custar and Bloomdale. Bonds for \$20,000 were issued by this board in March, 1895, to meet the payment of interest and principal (the latter at the rate of \$1,000 annually); a levy of five mills was authorized in June, 1895. That tax, with five mills for tuition and three mills for contingent expenses, bring the levy of the district up to thirteen mills for the year. James Hayes, the efficient secretary of the school board, has held the position for several years.

The Catholic schools, in charge of the Sisters, are supported by the congregation of St. Rose of Lima. The school house was originally built by the Universalist Church, as related in the

pages devoted to religious associations. The number of pupils enrolled is large. Boys are prepared for entrance to the high school, while girls may receive thorough instruction in all the branches of a polite education.

*The Way Library*, named in honor of Willard V. Way, who died August 25, 1875, leaving about \$15,000 to the village, the interest on which was to be used solely for the purchase of books, and the balance for library building and equipment, to be expended as the council of Perrysburg might deem best. The first board of managers—elected February 8 and 11, 1881—comprised Asher Cook, president; J. H. LaFarree, secretary; Francis Hollenbeck, George Weddell, A. G. Williams, J. H. Rheinfrank (mayor), and J. H. Pierce (president board of education). They appointed Miss Hulburt librarian April 25, 1881, and installed the first collection of books (1,000 volumes) in her home in 1881, where it was continued almost down to 1892, when Mrs. Eliza Frederick was appointed her successor. On November 23, 1892, when the present library building was dedicated, there were no less than 4,000 volumes on the shelves. This house of brick and Killbuck brownstone was built by B. Kokenge, of Wyandot county, after plans by Bacon & Huber, Toledo architects.

The resolution of March 25, 1890, authorized the executors of the Way estate to purchase a site for a library building at a cost not exceeding \$1,000, and on April 1, Messrs. Cook and Hollenbeck, the resident acting executors, notified the council that they would carry out the resolution. The two lots on which the house stands were purchased for the sum stated, and \$10,379.91 expended on building and interior furnishing, apart from \$1,100 paid by the village for heating apparatus, furniture, shelving, and grading grounds. The board of managers, at the time of the dedication, comprised: Rev. G. A. Adams, president; N. L. Hanson, secretary; E. L. Kingsbury, D. K. Hollenbeck, Andrew Roach (mayor), and F. C. Eberly, president board of education. Mr. Hollenbeck delivered the address. As one of the executors, it was he who presented the library to the village, and in doing so addressed the members of the council in the following language: "By the terms of resolution heretofore referred to, we have now completed the work requested of us, and as by the terms of the will of Mr. Way this building now becomes the property of the village. \* \* \*" Over three years have now elapsed since the executors completed their work, and conveyed it to the council. In that time the earnestness of the village authorities, in their

guardianship of this trust, has been well exemplified, for they have aimed to make their library the Mecca of readers and students. It is said that N. H. Callard was chosen by the board of education to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of J. H. La Farree, in 1881, and that he was subsequently elected for a full term. On May 9, 1895, Rev. G. A. Adams was appointed *vice* Hollenbeck, who as mayor vacated his office as manager, to become manager as mayor. The board of education had previously chosen A. R. Champney to represent that body as manager of the library *vice* Rev. G. A. Adams.

#### CHURCHES.

*The Catholic Church*, dedicated to St. Rose, of Lima, antedates the legal organization of the congregation many years. As early as 1794, Rev. Edmund Burke erected a chapel at Fort Miami. Other missionary priests, such as Father Gabriel Richard, of Detroit, visited the settlements in the early part of this century, and in the "thirties" Father Tschenhens, of Tiffin, visited the scattered Catholics in this territory. Right Rev. Amadeus Rappe, Father Josephus Projectus Machebœuf, Father Martin Henni, Father Nightingale, the first resident priest of Fremont, and Fathers Corobaine, Welsh, Rose, Mullen and Moos came in later years, and, in 1857, the Jesuit, Rev. Franz Xavier Wenninger, visited Perrysburg and other parts of the county. From 1852 to 1861, the German Catholics from Perrysburg and Hull Prairie were compelled to cross the Maumee to attend church. On January 12, 1861, several members of the congregation of the Church of St. Rose of Lima elected Henry H. Dodge, Valentine Fink, George Getz, Valentine Schwind and Michael Hayes, trustees, and became a corporate body. At that meeting the name was adopted, and Judge H. H. Dodge was elected clerk. The brick church, built by the Universalists, was purchased in the fall of 1861 by this congregation, fitted up for Catholic worship, and dedicated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Rappe, October 11, 1861. On September 8, 1889, the corner-stone of the present building was placed by Rt. Rev. Bishop Gilmour, who paid a tribute to the pastor, Rev. G. H. Ricken, and to the congregation who had undertaken such a great work. On May 28, 1892, the building was dedicated by Rt. Rev. Bishop Horstman, who was justified in his praise of the building which the zeal of priest and people had given to the old village of the Maumee. The church is constructed of Sandusky blue-stone in Gothic form, with central tower, but without clearstory. The area is

134 x 54 feet, with steeple 170 feet high, surmounted by a cross. Although grand without, its chief beauty is within. The richly grained ceiling is artistically frescoed. The tower contains three bells, weighing respectively 2,800, 1,400 and 800 pounds. The high altar, with the altars of the Virgin and St. Joseph, are works of art under Gothic forms, and the same may be said of the beautiful windows in the chancel and transepts. The two windows in the chancel were presented by Joseph and Mary Deinling and the heirs of Peter Bower and wife, the latter on the Epistle side. The west transept window is the memorial to John O'Leary, Sr., and the east window, to Anne H. Hayes. The other windows, beginning on the Epistle side, were donated by Timothy Hayes, George Spoerl, Mrs. G. Ziesler, Clara and Louisa Hillabrand, Alice M. Franey, Mrs. M. Handley and daughter, heirs of George Munger, Sr., and wife, Joseph Heilman, Sr., Barbara Heilman, Henry Speck, Mrs. Henry Speck, heirs of George Scheupal, Balthassar Ruppel, John Schwind, Gottfried Schwind, Michael Fitzgerald, John G. Hoffman, John Amon, Mrs. John Amon, Valentine Fink and Frank Haas. The stained-glass transoms and beautiful windows in the choir were purchased by the congregation. The great organ tells the visitor, at once, of the value attached to sacred music by the congregation. Rev. Charles Griss was the pastor of this parish on two occasions. Father G. H. Ricken was appointed in 1885, and Rev. Joh. Ad. Michenfelder, in 1894. Shortly after the first German Catholics located in the vicinity of Perrysburg, Nicholas Reiser donated two lots, east of the new common-school building, to the congregation, and moneys were collected for building. Ten or eleven years passed over, the people meantime attending church at Maumee. In 1861 Valentine Schwind and George Getz visited the pastor of Maumee to enquire about the funds collected in 1850 and 1851, found the exact amount, and returning inaugurated the work of progress described above.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* was established at Perrysburg, or rather at Orleans, by Rev. John P. Kent, in 1819. Aurora Spafford was appointed class leader, with Sarah Wilkinson, John Knowles, William Kelley, members. Meetings were held in Jacob Wilkinson's house at first, and subsequently in the Hollister store, until the transfer of headquarters to Perrysburg. In 1820, Paul B. Morey, a local preacher, of the Detroit (or Monroe) Circuit, was here, followed, in 1822, by Elias Patten; in 1824, by S. Baker; in 1825, by John Baughman; in 1827, by G.

Walker; in 1829, by Jacob Hill; and in 1830, by J. W. Finley. In 1832, Rev. E. C. Gavitt preached here; in 1833, Rev. E. H. Pilcher came, followed, in 1834, by W. Sprague. In 1835, when the Toledo war called into the field the militia of Michigan and Ohio, the Methodists of Perrysburg were addressed weekly by Rev. Cyrus Brooks, from a desk in the pioneer school house. L. B. Gurley, who was then presiding elder, happened to be here when the Ohio soldiers were quartered at Perrysburg, and, knowing Governor Lucas, he suggested that he would place his name at the head of a subscription list for church-building purposes, and that he would ask the militia to follow the example. The plan was successfully carried out, and a house for worship erected—the same which was repaired in 1853, reconstructed in 1866, at a cost of \$3,500, and repaired in 1887. In 1836, Rev. Orrin Mitchell came, and is said to have been the first to preach in the church house. His successors in the office are named as follows: Henry Warner, exhorter, 1837, local preacher, 1838–59; Rev. D. Burns, 1838; R. H. Chubb and J. W. Bowen, 1839; Mr. Cacraft, *vice* Bowen, 1840; L. Hill and P. Start, 1841; H. S. Bradley, 1842; J. L. Johnson, 1843; J. Jones, 1844; J. R. Jewett, 1845; T. Cooper, 1846; C. H. Owen, 1847; L. Ward, 1848; John Graham, 1849; T. Parker, 1850; T. J. Pope, 1851; D. P. Pelton, 1852–54; J. F. Buckholder, 1854; L. D. Rogers, 1855; George Creps, local preacher, 1856; Ambrose Hollington, 1856 and 1867; W. S. Lunt, 1858; Mr. Legatty, 1859; S. H. Alderman, 1862; L. M. Albright and J. Shannon, 1863; T. N. Barkdull, 1864–67; J. S. Kalb, 1869; J. H. Wilson, 1870; N. B. C. Love, 1872; J. H. Bethards, 1876; L. L. Clark, 1879, died, and T. J. Pope appointed; Mr. Yingling, 1880; J. L. Scott, 1883; W. H. Scoles, 1884; and G. B. Wiltsie, 1886–88. The circuit now embraces a few churches. Peter Cranker was a class leader for almost forty years, and George Creps and Joshua Chappel for many years; while J. S. Ellis filled the offices of trustee, steward and class leader for over a quarter of a century.

The Sabbath-school was organized in 1838, with Henry Darling, superintendent, and fifty-five scholars. In 1853, there were 110 scholars; in 1867, there were 140 scholars; and, in 1875, no less than 125. From 1878 forward, William Barton was superintendent, his scholars in 1888 numbering 115.

*The Presbyterian Church* was organized November 13, 1834, by Huron Presbytery, with the following members: Abner Brown, J. W. Smith,

W. Williams, J. A. Scott, J. A. McBride, Mary Williams, Mary Fowler, Jane Wood, Mary Loper, Elizabeth Smith, Eliza Ann Nye and Catherine Spafford; Mrs. Hannah Dustin and Margaret Sloan had not been connected with other Churches elsewhere. Messrs. Williams and Brown were chosen elders, and J. W. Smith, clerk.

In 1835 the little Church received quite an accession from Pennsylvania. The McBeths, now of Springfield, Ohio; John Ziegler and wife, James Kelly, Elizabeth Kelly, Susan Kelly and John H. Kelly, John Bates, Eliza Bates, and Mrs. Eliza Brown, from Seneca Falls, New York.

On March 2, 1840, Abner Brown was elected elder for three years, Tobias Rudesil for two years, and George W. Creps for one year. In October, 1843, George W. Creps was elected for three years, and Joseph M. Hall for two years. In November of the same year Mr. Creps sent in his resignation, and Abner Brown, George Powers and David Beach were elected elders. The records of this period are silent on matters which evidently were disturbing the congregation. The names of pastors can only be retraced through memory. Mr. Bradstreet was followed by Rev. M. Eels, of Oberlin, who was drowned in attempting to cross the Maumee on the ice, and was buried in the old cemetery. The Rev. J. H. Francis followed Mr. Eels. Mr. Poor succeeded him, and Mr. Peck followed Mr. Poor. In June, 1849, the clerk, George Powers, recorded the call extended to Rev. J. H. Newton. In 1847, he organized a sewing society, and in 1853 paid \$115.78 for the lots on which Henry Hollenbeck's shops stood in 1876. Subsequent to 1853 he exchanged those lots for the site where is now the Way Library, but instead of building, the society rented a hall, which stood where George Boetsch carried on business in later years. In 1856, the Universalist church was rented. On November 1, that year, Rev. G. A. Adams, who has been pastor ever since, took charge, and, in the fall of 1857, assisted in the revival held in the Methodist house of worship. In 1858, a number of members were admitted, and in the fall of that year, the Presbyterian form of government was adopted, and George Powers, Sylvanus Hatch and James W. Ross were elected elders. On September 5, 1859, the corner stone of the old church house was placed, and the building was finished September 1, 1860. On April 1, 1862, a mortgage for \$1,000 was given on the property, to Elder James W. Ross, which, with other debts, was paid off in 1865. In 1870, other improvements were made, and the worshipers met there

until it was burned in 1875. Services were held in Centennial Hall, until 1892, when the present building on Second and Third streets was completed.

The incorporation of the society took place July 17, 1876, when N. L. Hanson, M. A. Trowbridge and Gilbert Beach were trustees. Of the first elders, Abner Brown moved to Illinois in 1868; George Powers died in 1872; Sylvanus Hatch is deceased; James W. Ross moved to Kansas; J. W. Ewing is also removed; James Dunipace, now of Walnut Street Church; Stephen Merry is now deceased; S. P. Tollman, 1877, now of Walnut Street Church; F. J. Oblinger, 1891, removed to Toledo, and H. C. Hoover, now an elder. The membership in April, 1895, was 45, and of the Sabbath-school, 55. Of the members present in 1856, Mrs. Dustin resides at Birmingham, Mich.; Mrs. Euphemia Peck, at Detroit; Mrs. Ann Robertson, Stephen Merry, Mrs. Gilbert Beach, Mrs. H. A. Hamilton, Mrs. Almira Baird, Mrs. L. M. Hunt and Sophia A. Cook, at Perrysburg. The sum contributed by the members of this Church, from 1871 to 1895, amounts to about \$19,500. The troubles of 1877-78 led to a division of the society, and the organization of the Walnut Street Church.

*The German Lutheran Church* was organized March 15, 1850, by Rev. Cronewett, who was pastor until 1860, and the organizer of several Lutheran societies throughout the county. Among the first members were C. and G. Hertzling, W. Lininger, T. Walter, M. Vogel, H. Niederhaus, L. L. Leiser and C. Sieling. Rev. A. Kleinigees came in 1860, and remained until Rev. C. F. Kaeding, the present pastor, arrived in 1864. In 1854, the first house of worship was erected, and in September, 1872, the present house was dedicated. St. Paul's church at Maumee has been in Mr. Kaeding's charge since 1864. In 1866, he organized the society at Custar, in 1867, one at Waterville, and, in 1868, one at Haskins. The membership of his Perrysburg charge is 426, and the number of voting members, 136.

*The Walnut Street Presbyterian Church* was organized May 2, 1879, with twenty-seven members, namely: Mary Hatch, M. A., Lovina and Alta M. Trowbridge, Elbert D. and Emily C. Ross, Perry and Adeline Thomas, Mary Taylor, N. L. and Lida M. Hanson, John L. and Cleanthe Wiltsie, Marshall K., Henry A., James W. and Catherine Ross, S. P., Elizabeth and Josephine E. Tolman, James Dunipace, Ann Peck, J. K. Deering, Mary E. Hadley, Jane Hood, Ellen

Tracy, Maggie Caldas. The elders chosen were James W. Ross, S. P. Tollman and James Dunipace. In the same year M. A. Trowbridge was elected, and, in 1889, Ashton Taylor, who, with Mr. Tollman, is now in office. On completing organization, the society rented the old Baptist church, which has been their place of worship down to the present time. Rev. A. B. Robinson was pastor down to April, 1882, Rev. W. W. Mix, from 1882 to 1885; from which time to the coming of Rev. A. P. Johnson, in 1890, the pulpit was supplied. The membership, in April, 1895, was twenty-four. The total money contributed for church purposes from 1880 to April, 1895, was \$7,187. The first trustees were M. A. Trowbridge, N. L. Hanson, D. K. Hollenbeck, with E. D. Ross, treasurer, and N. L. Hanson, secretary.

*The German Evangelical Reform Church* was incorporated December 30, 1878, with F. Leydorf and T. Zarfluch, trustees; B. Schaller and J. Meyer, deacons; and F. Hendrich, elder. On August 15, 1880, their house of worship was dedicated.

*The Universalist Society*, was at one time very strong here, but went to pieces prior to the war. The brick building, purchased by the Catholic congregation in 1861, and now used for Catholic school purposes, was erected by the Universalists about 1843 or 1844, and used by them as a place of worship for some years. The Hollisters, who are buried there were the founders with the Ladds, Robeys, Blinns and a few others, and Rev. Sadler, preacher.

*The German Methodist Episcopal Church* was dedicated October 6, 1861, by the apostle of the denomination—Mr. Nast. Mark Curtis built the house for \$1,800.

*The Spiritualists* organized a society some years ago, which embraced several members of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Baptist Churches, with others who had not hitherto formed any religious ideas. The organization may be said to exist to-day, but the local membership is very limited. In December, 1855, Rev. Warren Chase organized the first class.

*The Baptist Church* was organized late in the "thirties," or early in the "forties." In 1844, when Edward N. Blue and his wife became members, there were twenty-five members, among them being James M. Charles, Mrs. Bradford and daughter, and Horace and Mrs. Hall, James F. Stubbs and the Africans, Joseph Langford and wife. The place of worship was the old school house, west of the "Exchange Hotel." Early in the "fifties," however, the

church on Walnut street, near the railroad depot, was erected. After the war (1866), the society disbanded, transferred the property to the Baptist Conference, who in 1879 rented it to the Walnut Street Presbyterian Society.

*The English Lutheran Church* is a new organization which already (August, 1895) claims a working membership.

#### SECRET AND BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES.

*Masonic Societies* may be said to have originated in the county, in 1813, when Army Lodge No. 24, unfolded its charter at Fort Meigs, and held regular meetings there from 1813 to the date when the fort was abandoned.

Northern Light Lodge was organized under dispensation March 5, 1817, and worked without a charter until December 14, 1818, when one was issued to Almon Gibbs, W. M.; William Griffith, S. W.; and Charles Gunn, J. W. Seneca Allen was first initiated in this lodge, while Almon Gibbs was the master from 1817 to 1819, when Allen succeeded him. John Hollister was elected in 1824; Horatio Conant, in 1826; James Wilkinson, elected in December, 1827, appears to have served until 1845, when the mastership passed away from Wood county men.

Phoenix Lodge, No. 123, F. & A. M., was chartered May 4, 1844, with Daniel H. Wheeler, John Hollister (master), Josiah Miller, David Wilkinson, J. Manning Hall, Hez. L. Hosmer, Thomas Leaming and Richard Shaw, members. The signers of the constitution, as adopted March 7, 1844, included the above named, with many others. The past masters have been as follows: John Hollister, 1844\*; A. Young, 1845; D. H. Wheeler, 1846\* and 1848; Hezekiah L. Hosmer, 1847\*; Jairus Curtis, 1849\*; L. O. Simmons, 1851\*; James Murray, 1856\*; Asher Cook, 1860\* and 1881, and 1886; J. S. Norton, 1857 and 1861\*; A. Bloomfield, 1862; W. F. Pomeroy, 1863\*; William Crook, 1866 to 1879; Perry Thomas, 1879\*; M. A. Trowbridge, 1884; A. M. Russell, 1886; John H. Thornton, 1887; E. L. Kingsbury, 1889; Ed. L. Blue, 1891; J. H. Thornton, 1893; and C. C. Hum, 1896.

The secretaries from 1844 to the present time have been as in the following list: J. M. Hall, 1844 and 1848; Israel George, 1846; L. O. Simmons, 1846; George W. Clark, 1850; A. D. Wright, 1851; L. M. Hunt, 1856; L. C. Lock, 1857; J. F. Price, 1860; S. D. Westcott, 1861; F. J. Oblinger, 1867; S. J. Powell, 1871; A. M. Russell, 1872; F. E. Hollenbeck, 1874; F. J.

Those marked thus \* are deceased.



Oblinger, 1875; David Donaldson, 1876; John W. Callard, 1877; M. A. Trowbridge, 1878; Owen Blackmore, 1880; James H. La Farree, 1881; C. C. Taylor and S. D. Westcott, 1884; Andrew Roach, 1893; John H. Thornton, 1892; C. A. Hampton, 1888; F. E. Hollenbeck, 1890; and A. R. Williams, 1896. The records from 1852 to the close of 1859 are not among the other records of the lodge.

On January 27, 1845, the Masons of Toledo petitioned Phoenix Lodge to recommend them to the Grand Lodge as worthy of a charter. This petition was granted without hesitation, and it is said that the organization of Toledo Lodge, No. 144, was the result. In 1869, the question of building an upper story on Asher Cook's block was discussed, but not until 1872 was the present building erected and the hall established.

Fort Meigs Chapter, No. 29, R. A. M., was instituted U. D. June 26, 1846, with Daniel H. Wheeler, H. P. The charter was issued October 24, 1846, to Hez. L. Hosmer, H. P.; John Bates, king; and Daniel Knowles, scribe, with Thomas Clark, Andrew Young, Alex. Anderson, Levi S. Lownsbury, Daniel Hawes and Ephraim Wood, unofficial members. In 1849, the officers petitioned to have the chapter moved to Toledo, which petition was granted. H. L. Hosmer was a most active agent in the establishment of Masonic societies at Toledo. Even after being commissioned chief justice of Montana Territory, in 1862 or 1863, he was instrumental in organizing the scattered Masons, and subsequently, while past master at Virginia City, organized a council and commandery there.

*Ft. Meigs Lodge, No. 86, I. O. O. F.*, was organized May 20, 1847, with the following named members: H. H. Forsyth, C. C. Robey, Thomas Clark, Addison Smith, Amos Spafford, B. W. Lewis, Daniel Titcomb, Isaac P. Thompson, Smith Gilbert, Andrew Bloomfield, William Houston, W. W. Wilkinson, Thomas Bloomfield, W. H. Courser, C. D. Woodruff and Alfred Taylor. During the ensuing decade A. D. Wright, Peter M. Smith, Sandford Baldwin, W. H. Hopkins, J. S. Norton, G. W. Howe, William Crook, S. C. Doan, S. D. Westcott, John Yeager, A. L. Fowler, Shibnah Spink, S. S. Curtis, C. K. Bennett, L. Brigham, M. G. Wetmore, John Shepler, George S. McKnight, George W. Newton, and others became members between 1847 and November, 1858, when the treasurer's account closes. In 1857, William Crook was elected treasurer, a position he held until the organization ceased. He is the only member of the old lodge, now living, who was permitted to enter

the new lodge, M. G. Wetmore, who was killed at Haskins a few years ago, being the other. The Masonic lodge won away many members, and this, with general inattention to work, caused its downfall in 1862.

*Fort Meigs Lodge, No. 774, I. O. O. F.*, was instituted July 4, 1889, with Robert Escott, N. G., and the following named officers, in lodge rank: John Kohl (V. G.), L. E. Webb (Sec.), John Chappel (Per. Sec.), C. H. Greiner (treasurer), Ed. Underhill, Conrad Kohl and G. H. Caldwell (trustees). The noble grands since December, 1889, are named as follows: John Kohl, 1889; W. E. Escott and Joe E. Baird, 1890; J. P. Thompson, 1891; E. A. Underhill and Philip Wetzel, 1892; E. A. Cox and I. S. Bowers, 1893; S. Pelton and B. H. Getz, 1894; and Isaac Whitson, May, 1895. Secretaries: Joe E. Baird, 1889; Dr. J. E. Brainard and A. R. Williams, 1890; W. A. Finkbeiner, in May, and Walter E. Escott, in August, 1891; Philip Wetzel and J. E. Brainard, 1892; D. Van Hellen, May, 1892, and J. M. Browne, in May, 1893; B. H. Getz and Philip Wetzel, 1894. The lodge had in May, 1895, no less than 115 members. Articles of incorporation were recorded January 14, 1891.

*Wolford Post, No. 51, G. A. R.*, was chartered March 31, 1881, with the following named members: James Timmons, John Croft, Nathan Tefft, Fred. Schwind, Charles Chappel, Christopher Finkbeiner, B. Trombla, George Button, Thomas Hartshorn, H. M. Hoover, Fred. Yeager, James F. Fleming, James Hayes, A. E. Wilson, Henry Broka, J. L. Wilson, Joseph Bruce, Charles Gross, Phillip Witz, William Heckler, John Yeager, Chris. Kner, William Walters, Fred. Treichel, Jacob Davis, H. R. Charles, D. Simmons, N. Wedertz, and A. C. P. Boyce. On the same date the Post was instituted, the name being conferred in honor of John Wolford, a fourteen-year-old soldier of Co. B, 55th O. V. I., who was killed at Bull Run, August 30, 1862. James Hayes was the first commander, and Jacob Davis, the first adjutant; James Hayes was re-elected in 1882; Frederick Yeager, in 1883; James P. Averill, 1884; James Timmons, 1885; Christopher Finkbeiner, 1886; James Hayes, 1887; Isaac Whitson, 1888; W. H. Hollenbeck, 1889-90; George R. Scott, 1891 (resigned); Jacob Metzger, 1892-93; George Button, 1894 and 1895. The following served as adjutants: James P. Averill succeeded adjutant Davis in 1882; W. H. Hollenbeck, 1883, 1885; Frederick Yeager, 1886, 1889 and 1890; W. H. Hollenbeck, 1887-88; Jas. Hayes, 1891 to 1896.



The membership was at one time eighty, but is now reduced to twenty-four. The total number enrolled was 134.

The old Grand Army Post, known as No. 38, was organized after the war. In September, 1869, J. B. Newton was adjutant. In common with the contemporary subordinate posts of Ohio and other States, No. 38 surrendered its charter.

*Perrysburg Lodge, No. 524, K. of P.* organized in November, 1891, was instituted December 2, that year, by C. D. Yonker, of Bowling Green, with I. M. Sadler, P. C.; E. L. Blue, C. C.; J. Davis, V. C.; William Schlect, P.; James Fruescher, M. of F.; P. C. Ray, M. at A.; R. Danz, M. of E.; Charles Tyler, K. of R. & S.; C. F. Rider, I. G.; C. C. Baird, Jr., O. G.; and the following named unofficial members—H. C. Lawrence, B. F. Gonder, R. S. Clegg, D. C. Whitehead, John Cranker, C. A. Powers, J. C. Thompson, G. W. Hoffman, N. L. Hanson, A. Hufford, F. Zanger, J. H. Rheinfrank, I. S. Powers, Joe E. Baird, J. H. Marshall, T. J. Chilcote, B. Trombla, G. H. Caldwell, A. Williams, Thomas Roether, and J. P. Thompson. The chancellors of the lodge, since organization, have been as follows: E. L. Blue, I. S. Bowers, William Schlect, D. K. Hollenbeck, C. A. Hoffman, E. L. Kingsbury, R. Danz and George Roether. The keepers of records and seals have been: C. V. Tyler, D. K. Hollenbeck, N. L. Hanson, Joe E. Baird and A. W. Degner. The membership in June, 1895, was about one hundred.

*Eldorado Lodge, No. 322, Daughters of Rebekah*, was chartered May 23, 1890, on petition of J. C. Hoyt, Decatur Van Hellen, Aaron Hufford, G. H. Caldwell, J. P. Thompson, Edward Conrad, Fred Jeppard, Julia Ann Hoyt, Rose E. Caldwell, Alice Van Hellen and A. R. Williams. In May, 1895, there were thirty-five members in good standing.

*Tippecanoe Council, No. 77, National Union*, was chartered August 27, 1889, with Jacob Davis, C. J. Hartsing, R. H. Chubb, C. B. Fru-deau, T. B. Oblinger, Fred Yeager, J. H. Marshall, R. Danz, N. L. Hanson, Joseph Lindsay, F. Jeppard, E. L. Blue, H. M. Hoover, C. A. Powers, I. S. Bowers, William Schlect, N. Tefft, Christopher Finkbeiner and G. Schwind.

*Perry Lodge, Knights of the Golden Rule, No. 159*, was chartered February 28, 1885, with twenty-nine members, among whom were W. H. Hollenbeck, F. E. Hollenbeck, I. S. Bowers, H. M. Hoover, D. K. Hollenbeck, Madams Ella Averill, Belle Mix and M. Finkbeiner, and N. S. Hanson.

*Temperance Societies.*—Fort Meigs Division, Sons of Temperance, was organized in 1848, with the following named officers in Division rank: James W. Ross, Addison Smith, George W. Clark, W. H. Courser, John Webb, John Bates, Jesse S. Norton, John Croft, Ozem Galpin and George Albert.

Perrysburg Lodge, No. 179, I. O. G. T., was organized May 25, 1866, with thirty-two members, and disbanded February 9, 1875, when Fred. Yeager and James Timmons were the only representatives of the charter members present. The newer temperance societies, such as the Woman's Temperance League of 1874, decided upon another line of work, and in this particular opposed the I. O. G. T., won the members away, and left it to disband. In July, 1874, the Anti-License Convention assembled, and in April, 1876, the crusade against saloons was commenced at Perrysburg and other towns.

Perrysburg Temperance Union adopted articles of association, September 2, 1877, with 762 members. This union originated in a meeting held June 26, when a Murphy Temperance Society was formed.

*The Perrysburg Sacgerbund* was organized July 21, 1868, with John H. Rheinfrank, president, and John Bader, Jr., secretary. F. R. Miller, George Hoffman, Jr., John Haller, John Hirth and Clemens Leaf were chosen trustees, and John Eberly, treasurer.

#### CONCLUSION.

The writer, on closing these articles on Perrysburg, must acknowledge the value of aid rendered by Mrs. Perrin, D. K. Hollenbeck, William Crook, Mr. McKnight, James Hayes, the Hoffmans, Mr. Callard, Mr. Hayes, of Fort Meigs, Rev. Mr. Adams, Mrs. Frederick, Mrs. Samuel Smith, J. H. La Farree, Christopher Finkbeiner, and the younger old settlers, such as Joe E. Baird, Thomas M. Franey, and the editor of the old Perrysburg *Journal*.

## CHAPTER XLI.

### PLAIN TOWNSHIP.

SURVEY, POPULATION, ETC.—TOPOGRAPHY—EARLY HISTORY—PIONEERS—FIRST LAND BUYERS—  
PIONEER SCHOOLS AND SCHOLARS—MODERN SCHOOLS—ESTABLISHMENT OF TOWNSHIP—  
TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—NITRO—GLYCERINE EXPLOSION—CHURCHES—CONCLUSION.

THE survey of the exterior lines of this township was made, in 1819, by Samuel and Alexander Holmes, while that of the sub-divisional lines was made, in 1821, by I. T. Worthington. The tracks of the United States surveyors were not covered immediately by the pioneers, as is the case with new-lands to-day. Almost a decade passed over the land since the survey, before one of the courageous first settlers selected a corner of the township for his home, and the denary period was extended another decade before civilization left its impression appreciably on the forest. In 1840, the population was 272. Ten years later, the enumerators found 492 inhabitants; in 1860, there were 1,300; in 1870 the number was 1,719, increased, by 1880, to 1,985, and, by 1890, to 2,673. Of this total there were 1,589 credited to that part of Bowling Green west of Main street, leaving to the township proper 1,084 inhabitants.

As the name denotes the surface is level, if a few sand ridges be excepted. The soil is a sandy loam merging into sand on the ridges. Before the days of ditches, numerous swamps or swales existed which yielded heavy crops of hay in dry seasons, and after being drained became especially fertile. As a rule the whole township, outside Bowling Green, is devoted to agriculture, and it is a matter for congratulation that the farmers of the territory have converted the sandy area into productive fields, gardens and orchards. In late years the stock-breeder has introduced fine grades of horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs, and erected, so to speak, a new branch of industry peculiarly suitable to this township.

In early years after the Presbyterian mission below Grand Rapids was abandoned, or disbanded, Rev. Isaac Van Tassel, the ex-superintendent, established himself and family on a farm, and in 1834 or 1835, introduced silk culture, setting out hundreds of mulberry trees which he obtained through friends in Connecti-

cut or New York. For nearly fifteen years he devoted himself earnestly to agriculture, horticulture and stock-growing, and at the time of his death, in 1849, was undoubtedly one of the first, if not the first, agriculturists of the county.

The Sucker-rod oil belt extends diagonally through this township, where it is marked by its narrowness and few extensions. A new field, it has produced oceans of petroleum, and appeared as inexhaustible in 1895 as it did at the beginning. In the chapter devoted to Oil and Gas, the history of this field is related, and its extensions described.

*Pioneers.*—At the date when the Caucasian pioneers appeared in Weston, Center, Liberty and Middleton, Plain was an Indian hunting-ground, with few attractions, even for the savages. It was not long to remain so. The man, seeking a home for his family, found in it a safe place to invest his little savings and his labor; while the imprudent, pulling against the current of adversity, found here a harbor which held out promise of rest, if not plenty. The first actual settler came in 1831, and by degrees the territory was opened up. The pioneers, as a rule, were earnest, frank and kind, and bridged the interval between sin and purity by kindness. They made the mistakes and had the failings of the time, but such were the excesses of their virtues. Rough and tender, they were generous, they were industrious, and they were enterprising, according to the spirit of their times. They knew not fear, were brave to rashness, revelled in the free air, gloried in the forest they were conquering, and altogether were men fitted exactly for opening a new country. The women of pioneer times, too, were as brave as the men. They were the encouragers and sustainers of their husbands and sons, and the workers in the homes and gardens made in the wilderness. Orderly, economical and peaceful, they were the guardians of society, however rude, and of Christian duty, however vaguely understood.

*First Land Buyers.*—In the early history of Bowling Green many of the pioneers of this township are referred to, and the story of their settlement well told. Again, in the chapters devoted to biography, the history of many of the first settlers is related in detail. For these reasons, it is unnecessary—it would be repetition—to tell the same story over, so that the reader must be content with the official notices of the pioneer land-buyers.

On April 6, 1831, Joseph DeWitt entered the W. Pt. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 36; Joseph A. Sargent followed on May 31 by entering the E. Pt. of the same; John Wilson purchased the S. E. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 14, October 6, 1832; Valentine Winslow, the W. Pt. of S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 5, February 7; Horace Hamilton, the N. E. of S. E. Sec. 5, September 13; Samuel Hamilton, the W. Pt. of N. E. Sec. 5, December 25; and Elisha Martindale, the S. E. of N. W. Sec. 24, October 29. In 1833, a larger delegation of pioneers purchased homes here. John Skinner and John Gardner, on Sec. 1, April 11 and May 27, respectively; Thomas Leavering, on Sec. 13, May 25; James T. Skinner, on Sec. 5, June 13; Joseph Hollington, on Sec. 25, August 5; Thomas and William Gorrill, on Sec. 13, August 21; David Chadwick, on Sec. 14, August 31; Mahlon Meeker, on Sec. 12, October 3; Alex. Howard, on Sec. 12, October 2; Joseph Mitchell, on Sec. 35, October 17; Stephen Ward, on Sec. 24, October 18; Ben. S. Reid, on Sec. 25, November 10; John McComb, on Sec. 13, November 22; Henry Walker, on Sec. 24, November 25; and Andrew M. Stewart, on Sec. 12, December 4, 1833. Among the buyers of 1834 were James Reed and Moses M. Arnold, Sec. 32, January 1; David Maginnis and James Maginnis, Sec. 12, February 20; and Thomas and William Gorrill, Sec. 13, August 21, 1834.

The Hannons, Woodburys, Van Tassels, Gatehouses, Mintons, Edgertons, Warners, Whiteheads, John Evers' family, and other well-known pioneers, came into the wilderness shortly after, and shared in its development.

*Pioneer Schools and Scholars.*—The Bell school house and the Plain church were the principal institutions of pioneer days. The school house stood on the northeastern corner of Section 26, and the church on the northeastern corner of Section 21. From 1835 to 1841 the church was the subject of daily conversation, and the school received attention. In the year named, John Whitehead (who died in 1895), and John E. Jenkins built a school house for the subscribers in what later was known as District No.

2, constructed a little belfry, and therein placed the bell, which formerly was used at the Mission house. Rev. Isaac Van Tassel was the donor, but there were conditions attached to the gift which left the title of it in the donor. A few years later, the house passed into the possession of the common-school trustees, and Mr. Van Tassel had the bell removed. The old school house was burned in 1857, but its memory is green, for few, if any, of the old settlers of Plain or their children, forget to mention the old Bell school house. It was by no means the first institution of learning here, for, in 1835, after the Gorrills removed to Bowling Green, Morris Brown, the great pedagogue of that day, gathered the youth in a cabin, and taught many of them their first lessons.

The enumeration of youth, between four and twenty years of age, in Plain township, made between October 1 and October 20, 1842, shows fifty-five males and fifty-one females, in Districts Nos. 2, 3 and 5 and Joint-District No. 5. The school census was taken by Abraham D. Edgerton, township clerk, who reported the following named children of school age:

District No. 2.—Martha J., Mary A. and Joseph (Jr.) Mitchell; Mary, Jane, Ann, Hannah, Stephen and William (Jr.) Hoff; Elizabeth Buzard (ward of N. A. Reed); Stella M., John and George Parsons (wards of Neptune Nearing); Mary N. and Ann E. Jones; John H., Lucius B. and Isaac Van Tassel Gatehouse; Charles W. Evers; Lois, John and Robert Eldridge; W. W. Hunter, Daniel P. and Charlotte L. Whitehead; Ellen, Sarah, Jane, Richard, Isaac and Geo. Green; Isaac and Diantha Hunter; Mary Thurstin; Alvin Coe; Susan Rebideau and Sophia H. Tebault (written Teboo), (wards of Rev. I. Van Tassel); Clavilla, Lyman and Bennett Osgood, and Stephen Eldridge.

District No. 3.—Benjamin H., Roxanna, Lucy, Celia, Sarah, Mary H. and Charlotte Woodbury; Robert B., Nathan W., William H. and Martha B. Minton; Sarah M. Condit; Eliza, Nancy M., Charles and Henry Pierce; John E. Loper; Lemuel, John, David and Milla Wagoner; Jacob, Samuel, Benjamin and Joseph Huff; Martha B., David, Hannah and Phillip P. Condit; Orville and Zilpha Hunter.

Joint-District No. 5 (part in Plain).—Horatio, Narcissa A., Betsy H., Mary, Mahlon (Jr.) and John Meeker; Elsa A., Rhewa and George Harris; John, Caleb and Sarah Clarke; Andrew J. and Ann M. Manville, and Eleanor Maginnis.

District No. 5.—James, John, Ann, Joseph (Jr.), Elizabeth and Almy L. Ralston; Sprankle,

Louisa, Caroline and Rebecca Snyder (children of Samuel); Samuel, Jacob, John, Mary, Betsy, William and P. G. Snyder (children of Daniel), and Catherine and Mary J. Woods.

They formed the school population seven years after the first class was organized in the Thurstin cabin, at Bowling Green. Many of the children of 1842 are the men and women of Plain and Bowling Green, of 1895, some residing on the spot where they were born, others inhabiting the new towns and villages which they aided in establishing. Some are in distant California, and others may be found scattered over the States and Territories of the Union.

*Modern Schools.*—Like the records of the township, the records of the schools, down to 1881, are in the deplorable condition of nihility. Many of the townships have had good records which are now in the same state; but none of them, save Henry, can approach Plain in this matter. The document on which the foregoing enumeration is based was found in the county auditor's archives, but there is nothing to show the transactions of the board of education down to 1881, though in the chapter on Schools many of the teachers hired by that board find mention.

The school board of 1881-82 comprised George Smith, Rezin Jewell and J. H. LeGalley, 2; Christian Schearer and John S. Matthews, 3; N. W. Minton, 4; George M. Brown, 5; Emanuel Constable, 6; Henry Goodenough, 7; P. Myers, 8; C. P. Fox, 9; George Smith, 10; W. T. Gillespie, 11; and Frederick Hartman, 12. A bid of \$950 for a brick school house in No. 10 was accepted in June, 1882, and one for a similar house in No. 5, in June, 1883. In November, 1885, plans for the brick house in No. 9, Sec. 15, were accepted. In April, 1886, the *personnel* of the board was changed, by the election of D. L. Thurstin, W. H. Ewing, J. S. Matthews, Justus Stearns, Henry Hughes, George W. Callin, Moses Lane, Sr., Jacob Kromer, E. Miller, John S. Dalley, W. T. Gillespie and Wilson Patterson as members. Later, the names of William English, George Knouse, Thomas Avery, William Hale and B. C. Woodbury appear; and, still later, J. B. Craw, C. W. Richardson, Matthew Munn, George Brimm, G. C. Nearing and Fred Sutton are named as members. In 1894, Joseph Hampton, J. B. Stearns, Eli Wilson, Joseph McClung and J. B. Craw were elected members for the long term; G. H. Avery, R. C. Minear and G. E. Gill were among the members in April of that year.

*Establishment of Township.*—The commissioners of Wood county, in session March 3,

1835, set off the following described territory, under the name Plain Township—commencing at the northeast corner of T. 5, R. 10, thence west to the N. W. corner of Section 3, south to the southeast corner of Section 9, west to the southwest corner of Section 7, thence to the southwest corner of T. 5, thence to the southeast corner, and north to the place of beginning. The election was ordered to be held at Henry Walker's house on April 4, 1835. By reference to the chapter on Bowling Green, the location of the first place of meeting may be learned, with other interesting facts relating to the earliest settlers along the eastern line of this township. On March 3, 1840, Sections 3 and 10 were annexed to Washington township, but on March 3, 1845, were restored to Plain. The next territorial change was made December 2, 1844, when the South  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Section 36, T. 6, R. 10 (recorded as range 12), was set off from Middleton and annexed to Plain. That territory was returned for taxation from 1849 to 1852—James Hall, S. G. Skinner, Francis Maginnis, William Lewis, and Asher Wickham, Sr., being then the known owners. James Ralston's recollections of this transaction point it out as being done in the interest of the school district. The records of this township have been subjected to the worst treatment imaginable. Most of them have been lost, so that to-day, not one of the many old settlers, who have been interviewed on the subject of their whereabouts, can tell anything of them. The county auditor's office does not present to the searcher much that would permit him to make a list of the trustees prior to 1843; but, fortunately, in the clerk of courts' office, he found the bonds of justices from 1836 to 1895, being the only perfect record, relating to this division of the county extant.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*First Election.*—There were nineteen votes recorded at the first election, namely: Mahlon Meeker, Andrew Race, Joel Osgood, Joseph Zerbe, Nathaniel Edgerton, A. D. Edgerton, Abner Charles, James Maginnis, John Wilson, David Dewitt, William Dewitt, Jacob Stauffer, David Maginnis, Joshua Wood, Henry Walker, William G. Charles, Joseph Dewitt, Joseph A. Sargent and Elisha Martindale. In October following, when twenty votes were cast, the names of Eli Manville, John Wood, Stephen Ward, Jacob Outkelt, W. C. Hunter, Christopher Stright and Leonard Pierce, with many of the older voters, appear as voters, bringing the number, in 1835, up to twenty-six. David Maginnis, Joseph De-

witt and Jacob Stauffer are said to have been chosen trustees, but there is nothing of record to show this beyond the fact that they were judges of election.

*Justices of the Peace.*—The justices of the peace who have qualified since June, 1836, are named in the following list: Henry Walker, 1836 and 1839; Joshua Wood, 1839; Joseph A. Sargent, 1840; Sylvanus Hatch, 1842; James Maginnis, 1843; Gideon Thomas, 1846; S. W. St. John, 1846 and 1850; Peleg G. Thomas, 1848, resigned October, 1851, requalified December 8, 1851; R. C. Comstock, 1851; M. B. Tracy, 1854-57; J. D. Smith, 1855; S. W. St. John, 1860, 1863, and 1866; R. C. Comstock, 1862, and continuously until re-elected in 1883; Amherst Ordway, 1869 and 1872; Samuel W. Clay, 1874 and 1877; W. A. Benschoter, 1880; Samuel Case, 1883; Nathan D. Patterson, 1886 and 1889, resigned in 1891; William Ewing, 1886 and 1889; Abel Comstock, 1890 and 1893; J. P. Battles, 1891 and 1894, and Christopher Lehman, 1893, resigned in July, 1893.

*Clerks.*—The clerks of the township, so far as documents and records show, were: A. D. Edgerton, 1842; Samuel Clark, Jr., 1845; N. W. Minton, 1853; Sylvanus Hatch, 1855; J. J. Parsons, 1857; George N. Parsons, 1858; D. Cargo, 1860; H. G. Condit, 1862; D. Cargo, 1863; W. Powers, 1864; D. Cargo, 1865; J. D. Bolles, 1871; D. Cargo, 1873; W. M. Leaming, 1874; Guy C. Nearing, 1875; H. H. Collins, 1876; W. H. Smith, 1877; W. M. Leaming, 1879; Abel Comstock, 1881; and Joseph G. Starn, 1887. I. W. Clayton, the present clerk, was elected in 1894, and re-elected in 1896.

*Trustees.*—The names and dates in the following list are based on signatures to the township levies down to 1880, on a list furnished, from 1881 to 1894, and on the records of the April elections of 1895.

1843—Joel Osgood, John Whitehead, W. G. Charles.  
 1844—Elisha Martindale, Philip Condit, John Whitehead.  
 1845—John Evers, Peleg G. Thomas, W. G. Charles.  
 1846—Alfred Condit, Peleg G. Thomas, Philip Condit.  
 1848—Joseph A. Sargent, Peleg G. Thomas, Alva Sholes.  
 1849—William G. Lamb, S. L. Brewster, Francis Maginnis.  
 1851—Jacob Minton, John Whitehead, Joshua Carr.  
 1858—J. R. Tracy, J. M. Lamb, Silas Thomas.  
 1859—S. W. St. John, R. B. Minton, Silas Thomas.  
 1860-61—S. W. St. John, R. B. Minton, Silas Thomas.  
 1862—J. W. Woodbury, R. B. Minton, A. Condit.  
 1863—J. W. Woodbury, J. R. Tracy, Silas Thomas.  
 1864—J. W. Woodbury, John Whitehead, Silas Thomas.  
 1865—J. W. Woodbury, A. Condit, H. G. Condit.  
 1866—William Gorrell, G. W. Matthews, Hugh Cargo.  
 1867—M. B. Tracy, G. W. Matthews, E. C. Minton.  
 1868—M. B. Tracy, John Whitehead, E. C. Minton.  
 1869—Guy C. Nearing, John Whitehead, John Coen.  
 1870—Guy C. Nearing, N. W. Minton, Myron LeGalley.  
 1871-72—M. B. Tracy, Allen McKenzie, Le Grand Bishop.

1873—M. B. Tracy, N. B. Patterson, (not named).  
 1874—M. B. Tracy, J. O. Avery, D. Skinner.  
 1875—G. M. Brown, J. O. Avery, A. McKenzie.  
 1876—Moses Lane, G. M. Brown, John Clarke.  
 1877—S. W. St. John, G. M. Brown, John Clarke.  
 1878—Moses Lane, G. M. Brown, J. S. Dalley, Thomas C. Reid, *rice* Brown.  
 1879—M. B. Tracy, G. M. Brown, J. S. Dalley.  
 1880—M. B. Tracy, Thomas D. Avery, Allen McKenzie.  
 1881—Wilson Patterson, S. W. St. John, Allen McKenzie.

The trustees elected since 1882 are named as follows: Allen McKenzie, 1882; Frederick Hartman, 1883 to 1886; Morgan F. Withrow, 1887 to 1895; Henry Goodenough, 1884; Charles H. Tracy, 1887, re-elected in 1890; John A. Stearns, 1889, 1892; E. H. St. John, 1893; John Hartman, 1894; Albertus Russell, 1895; and E. H. St. John, 1896.

*Treasurers.*—Jacob Minton was treasurer in 1839, and for some years later; while John W. Woodbury was chosen in 1845. The modern treasurers are named as follows: Jay P. Lashaw, 1877; John R. Hankey, 1880; Charles C. Potter, 1889; and Gus. H. Bunkey, 1895.

*Assessors.*—Isaac Van Tassel, Jr., was elected assessor in 1842; Joseph R. Tracy, in 1844; S. W. St. John, in 1844; and Caleb S. Clark, in 1850; \* \* \* Nehemiah Ordway, 1877; Nehemiah Ordway and Albertus Russell, 1880; Nehemiah Ordway and Eli Wilson, 1881; Nehemiah Ordway, 1884; A. S. Rush and James P. Woodbury, 1886; Nehemiah Ordway and A. E. Battles, 1887; Julius Walker and W. C. Battles, 1888; C. E. Matthews, D. W. Lowell, E. E. Gundy, and Carl Smith, 1893; A. E. Battles and Carl Smith, 1894; A. E. Battles, Carl Smith, C. E. Matthews and D. H. Lowell, 1895. In 1895, assessor Smith received a majority vote in East Plain. In 1896, E. A. Battles, W. M. McKenzie, A. Ordway, and D. W. Lowell, were elected.

*Board of Education.*—In 1896, G. H. Avery, J. H. Shearer, Sanford Low, and G. E. Gill, were elected.

*Nitro-Glycerine Explosion.*—Were a chapter on tragedies and accidents to be written, Plain township would require very little space. While it has not been entirely free from them, nothing strikingly tragic has been enacted within its present lines, nor did an accident occur, from March, 1849, down to December 6, 1895, to mar the quiet of the people. On the latter date, the Ohio and Indiana Torpedo Company's Magazine, located on the Fowler farm, Section 35, no less than 520 quarts of the stuff was in store at the time. Where the little building stood, a hole

eight feet deep and twenty-five feet in diameter is to be seen, a large elm, which stood near, was lifted up and fell, with branches downward, while at Bowling Green, two and one-half miles away, windows were broken and buildings shaken. Throughout this and adjoining townships, the concussion was felt, and the power of the explosive manifested to many, who heard much of it, but never understood the terrible chemical.

#### CHURCHES.

The church history of Bowling Green covers, in a measure, that of Plain township. A Methodist Episcopal and a Congregational Society were formed prior to the close of 1835, but the members gave much more attention to temporal than to spiritual affairs, for hard times, disappointments and sickness which they experienced, precluded their desire of worship, and partially dulled their religious dispositions. The advance of settlement was so gradual as to be scarcely perceptible, but, nevertheless, from among the small number of pioneers, the ministers of the Gospel, representing the Methodist and Congregational denominations, picked out a few earnest men and women and organized them into classes. The Plain Church may be credited as the first society organized in the township, and Carr's Methodist class as the second. It is not known whether the Methodist preachers, named in the chapters on Bloom, Montgomery and Perry townships, visited the settlements in Plain, but it is known that, as early as 1836, Rev. Austin Coleman preached the doctrines of John Wesley at Bowling Green, and in one or more cabins west of the Findlay road.

*Plain Congregational Church.*—The beginnings of this branch of the Christian Church, in northwestern Ohio, were made in Plain township, November 27, 1835, by Revs. Joseph Badger, Isaac Van Tassel and Benjamin Woodbury, of the first part, and Elisha Martindale, Jacob Minton, Nathaniel Edgerton, Mehetabel Woodbury, Philetta Minton and Lydia Edgerton, of the second part. The meeting was held at Jacob Minton's house, near the present Plain church. There Mr. Badger presided as moderator, with Mr. Woodbury, scribe, and there the confession of faith and the articles of practice of the Presbyteries of Grand River and Portage were adopted for the guidance of the little Church then formed in the wilderness. When it is said that the articles were adopted, it must be remembered that, instead of the words in the seventh article, "when he has not thus elected," the

words, "who will not repent," were adopted. The second meeting was held December 5, 1835, when Elliot Warner was chosen scribe. In addition to the members named above, there were received the following named: Martin and Nancy Warner and Clara Martindale. Martin Warner was chosen deacon, and, on the date last written, the society was fully organized. Eight days after, James Donaldson and Alexander Pugh were recommended for admission, and on January 3, 1836, Hannah Maria, Robert W., Nathan W. and William H. Minton were admitted. On January 4 a meeting was held at Caleb North's house, "across the prairie," when the owner and his wife Sarah, Mary Black, — Warner and Robert Black were admitted. From that time until the close of the year a number of members were enrolled, namely: James and Eliza Jane Hutchinson, Ann Clarke, with Mary P., Samuel, Jr., Joseph, John and Caleb S. Clarke, John Whitehead and wife, Isaac Van Tassel, Jr., and Phoebe Moore. In April, 1836, the old interpreter at the mission, named King, was tried for intemperance and suspended. In October, 1836, a Home Missionary Society was organized, to aid the American Home Missionary Society. On March 3, 1837, Edward C. and Louisa M. Martindale, and three members of the Minton family, with Charles Castner, were examined for admission. In March and April, several were received, among whom were four members of the Black family, Roxanna Woodbury and Mrs. Gatehouse. In the fall of that year, Johnson H. and Mary E. Hobart, Lucia Van Tassel, Samuel Clarke and John E. Jenkins were admitted. On March 2, 1838, the society resolved to build a church, 30 x 44 feet, on the northeast corner of Section 21, and to petition for incorporation. The committee for collecting building funds was not appointed until January, 1839, when necessity compelled the members to act in this matter, as Elisha Martindale had suggested that, henceforth, meetings should be held in the new school building, rather than in his house, as was then the custom. Now, the Methodists by some means claimed the use of the school house for Sabbath meetings, and the Congregationalists were compelled to return to Jacob Minton's house for religious meetings. In the "fifties" such old settlers as John Evers and others became members. Rev. Benjamin Woodbury, the first pastor, signed the record, December 7, 1845, for the last time, and twenty-two days after he died, aged fifty-three years. For over ten years he labored here, and also in Milton, West Millgrove, Freeport and Swanton, where he gath-

ered small bodies of worshipers and organized churches. Almost thirty years after his death, or September 9, 1875, a brick building was finished, at a cost of \$4,000, near the site of the old one. This, as restored in 1889-90, tells of the progress of the congregation in material wealth. The number of members is now (April, 1895), ninety-four. The clerk, William H. Minton, was present at its beginning, but all the others have passed to their reward. The list of pastors contains the following names: Revs. T. P. Emerson, P. C. Baldwin, E. B. Turner, — Thornton, Robert Hovenden, William Irons, John Vetter, S. D. Smith, A. J. Hadley, S. D. Taylor, J. K. Deering, D. Clapp, Edwin Rose, L. Kelsey, William T. Richardson, R. E. Hill, S. B. Beard, Charles Shear, M. Knowles and the present pastor, Samuel Crosby. In April, 1864, this Church ceased to be connected with the Presbytery, and in May, 1865, J. W. Woodbury represented it in the Congregational Conference, held at Mansfield.

*Carr's Methodist Episcopal Church* dates back to pioneer times. In the scant records found at Portage, and particularly in the books held by Mayor Collin, of Tontogany, mention of this class is made, while in the sketch of the Church at Bowling Green, reference is made to it. At the close of Mr. Barkdull's pastorate, there were twenty-three members in good standing, while the Sabbath-school, called Mt. Pleasant or Ridge, was carried on by N. T. Stratton. At the close of the war of the Rebellion, the class comprised R. H. Bullis and wife, Rev. Joshua, Polly, Luke and Martha B. Carr, Caroline Crandall, Mary Bullis, Martha Campbell, Harriet Conklin and E. Towne. To-day the class has an active membership and regular services.

*Lovett's Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church* elected trustees May 3, 1863, Peter F. Ferciot, John Mears and Joseph Ralston being the members elect, with John Clarke, church clerk. Among the members were William R. H. and Betsey H. Avery, J. B. and Adaline Gregory, Ann Mears, Lucy Clarke, Rebecca and Eliza Ferciot, Oliver and Abigail Mears, Sylvester and Abigail Simons, H. H. and Amelia VanCamp, Harmon and Polina Gregory, Levi S. Gregory, Caleb S. and Sarah Clarke. By January 31, 1864, the sum of \$280 was subscribed, the men gave their labor gratis, and a few of them contributed material, so that in the fall of that year the present frame house of worship was completed. William Avery was chosen trustee in 1870, *vice* Joseph Ralston; Oliver Mears, J.

B. Gregory, and H. H. Van Camp, in 1876; J. B. Craw, R. A. Boardman and H. H. VanCamp in 1879; James Klopfenstein, in 1881, for five years; H. A. Craw, R. A. Boardman, and W. R. H. Avery, 1887; while in 1889 the last named succeeded John Clarke as clerk of the board of trustees when he, with J. T. Sweet, R. A. Boardman, H. A. Craw and John Craw were elected trustees. Everett Sweet took his father's place subsequently, while, in 1892, R. A. Boardman was re-elected. Prior to 1863, the Adventists heard the message in a frame school building, which stood on W. G. Avery's land. Then, the school house on the Avery and Boardman farms, became the place for meeting, and the worshipers assembled there until 1864. The membership in July, 1895, was sixty-four.

*Union Hill United Brethren Society* is a branch of the older Center Society. The present church house was erected in 1893, during Rev. G. W. Coss' pastorate, when C. W. Thomas, J. N. Davis, William Smith, J. H. Karns and W. H. Hair were trustees. The constituent members, in 1891, were J. N. Davis, class-leader, with the trustees named and their wives; Mrs. Seger, Mary Smith, Mrs. Withrow, Philander A. and Jane Stephens, Mrs. Snyder, and Mrs. Kate Knouse. In 1894 W. H. Hair became class-leader, while John Knouse was chosen trustee *vice* J. H. Karns. There were fifty members reported in July, 1895.

*The Spiritualist Society*, in the Carr neighborhood, claimed a large class in the "seventies," causing the withdrawal of many members from the Methodist, United Brethren and Congregational Societies of Plain and Bowling Green. The seances and logic of the preachers appeared to several men and women to be reasonable, and, as a result, many who were not entirely satisfied with the older denominational forms, adopted the new.

*The Free Methodist Society* erected a house of worship, near the corners of Plain, Weston and Washington townships, in 1881, Mr. Adrett being then pastor. That society merged into the Congregational Society sometime after, bringing title to the frame of the building with it. The Consolidated Church sided the house, and plastered the interior. Among the members were Henry Finkenbinder, David Porter, Mrs. Conklin, and Mr. Baker and wife. The house ultimately became the property of the owner of the land.

*The Christian Union*, organized a few years ago, repaired and refitted up the church building, in 1888, and therein Rev. McBride preached to a small congregation.

## CONCLUSION.

The people of Plain, as shown in the foregoing record, have pursued the even tenor of their way, undisturbed by feuds within their territory. The tax for building a plank road, caused some commotion, as related in the chapter on Roads, Navigation, etc. When the clarion notes of war rang out in April, 1861, patriotism was not sleeping in Plain, for old men as well as

young responded to the summons of the Republic's President, and left home and friends to battle for the Union. The roster and record of the soldiers of Plain are given in the Military chapter. It is in itself a history of which the people of this division of the county may well be proud. In other chapters of general history references are made to this township; while, in the pages devoted to biography, a large number of family sketches are given.

## CHAPTER XLII.

## PORTAGE TOWNSHIP.

POPULATION—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION—RECORDS—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—SCHOOLS—PIONEERS—LAND BUYERS—VILLAGES; PORTAGE VILLAGE—ITS HISTORY—SCHOOLS—INCORPORATION—OFFICIALS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

**T**HIS division of the county was surveyed about the time the surveyors went through Bloom and Liberty. The population, in 1840, was only 199, increased, by 1850, to 403; by 1860, to 833; by 1870, to 1,069; by 1880, to 1,434; and by 1890, to 2,328.

*Township Organization.*—The township, as established December 3, 1832, embraced the territory, now known as Liberty, Henry, Portage, Bloom, Montgomery and Perry townships; but, on March 3, 1833, Perry was detached. Portage was not organized until July 20, 1833, owing to the fact that the act of establishment did not give satisfaction, and that it had to be reconsidered by the commissioners. On June 3, 1833, when all that part of the organized township of Middleton, known as T. 5, N. 11 E., and so much of T. 5, N. R. 10 E., as lies south of the line, dividing Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 from Sections 8, 17, 16, 15, 14 and 13 (or twenty-four sections of Plain township), was set off under the name proposed in 1832. On July 20, 1833, the first election was held, John Sargent, Benjamin Cox and Thomas Slight being judges, and Joseph A. Sargent and Joseph Cox, clerks. Joseph Cox, Jacob Eberly and John Sargent received 16, 14 and 15 votes, respectively, for trustees, and were declared elected. John B. McKnight was elected clerk; Collister Haskins, treasurer; Thomas Slight, constable; Benjamin Cox and John Gallatin, overseers of the poor; George Mercer, supervisor; Adam Phillips re-

ceived 6 votes for fence-viewer; Joseph A. Sargent, 9; Peter Johnson, 13; Thomas Cox, 11; and John M. Jaquis, 3. The electors, outside the men named, were George Heminger, Jacob Phillips and Charles McLain, so that all the voters, with three exceptions, were candidates for office.

*Records.*—The record books of the township, in possession of the clerk, date back to 1880, as minute books of trustees, and to 1873, as minute books of the school board. From the county records, however, the names of justices of the peace, from 1834 to 1895, were obtained, and, from documents in the auditor's office, the names of trustees and clerks. A thorough search in the township and village of Portage resulted in the discovery of school minutes from 1856 to 1872, and of trustees' records from 1865 to 1872, with three miscellaneous record books. They were discovered by Mrs. Hill, while other valuable books relating to Portage and Liberty were held from the destroyer by Mrs. Norris. From all available, authentic sources the following dates and names of township officials were obtained:

## TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Trustees.*—In 1841, James H. Scott and William DeWitt are named as trustees; in 1848, William Prescott, David Cook and William DeWitt; in 1849, Nathan Minard was elected, *vice* Cook, and with Johnson and Prescott formed the board in 1850; in 1853, John McCrory, *vice*



Prescott; in 1854, John Johnson and David Cook were chosen; in 1858, John Johnson, Jacob Dauterman and William Graham; and, in 1859, Aaron S. Dresser was elected, *vice* Graham, while John Johnson was re-elected in 1860. The trustees, elected from 1863 to 1878, were S. L. Sargent, J. Z. Smith and J. G. Patterson, 1863; Jacob Dauterman, Lewis Long and T. J. Vosburg, 1864; James Teller, A. L. Stevens and Jacob Dauterman, 1865-66; Lewis Long, T. J. Vosburg and James Teller, 1867; Jonas Hampshire, elected *vice* Long, in 1868; T. J. Vosburg, James Teller and Lewis Long, 1869, 1870 and 1871; Jacob Dauterman, with Vosburg and Teller, 1871 and 1872; Teller, Long and Vosburg, in 1873-74; Teller, Long and Geo. Hampshire, in 1875-76; Andrew Welton, William Caris and S. Wilcox, in 1877; John Miller served in 1878, but, resigning in November, John Shoup was appointed, and with J. C. Eberly and Miller, re-elected, served until April, 1879. The elections since that time resulted in the choice of the following named citizens as trustees: 1879, J. C. Eberly, R. P. Hillard, G. P. Gorton; 1880-81, John Johnston, Thomas W. Knight, Sr., R. P. Hillard; 1882, Thomas W. Knight, Sr., Nathan Morse, C. Ensminger; 1883, John Johnston, Jr. Reuben Hillard, Nathan Morse; 1884, John Johnston, Jr., Wilson Solether, John Troxell, Dr. T. W. Knight, *vice* Solether; 1885, George W. Stearns, John Troxell, John Johnston; 1886, J. W. Cole, John Johnston, B. Odell.

In 1887, B. Odell was elected for a term of three years; in 1888, A. J. Schauweker; in 1889, Philip McCrory; Daniel Mears appointed, *vice* Schauweker, August 30, 1889; in 1890, Lewis Shinew, George Hampshire, William Musser; in 1891, William Musser; in 1892, Daniel Mears, Jr.; in 1893, Lewis Shinew, James Teatsworth, *vice* William Musser, resigned; in 1894, Jacob Spockey, and in 1895, Daniel Mears, Jr.; 1896, James Teatsworth.

*Justices.*—The justices were John Sargent, 1834; John Groves, 1834; John B. McKnight, 1835, resigned in 1837; John Cox, 1837; Nathan Minard, 1839-42-48-51; Joseph Cox, 1840; Francis Carothers, 1841; James B. Scott, 1846 (did not qualify); Bailey Clough, 1847-51; James McFadden, 1850 to 1859; Henry Van-Schuter, 1855; Samuel Johnson, 1855; Joseph P. Bisbee, 1858 (did not qualify); N. L. Besanson, 1859 and 1889; J. P. Bisbee, 1861, 1864, to 1882; Eli Phillips, 1863; Robert McMahan, 1865; B. N. Gibson, 1866; Robert McMahan, 1868 to 1880; R. G. Palter, 1872; Daniel Mears, 1883, '86; Henry Thraikill, 1885, 1888 (died in 1890);

Philip Spackey, 1890; Thomas C. McEwen, 1890, died early in 1894; Nathan L. Besanson, 1892; Daniel Mears, Sr., 1894; W. A. Esterly, 1895; A. T. Hickerson was chosen in 1894 to serve until 1897.

*Clerks.*—John B. McKnight appears to have served as clerk until the fall of 1835. The next incumbent was William Mercer, who served until 1844, when Elisha Hanson was elected. A. B. Sayler served as clerk the same year; William Mercer was elected in 1846; Bailey Clough, in 1848; James McFadden, in 1851; A. Van Blarcum, in 1858; N. L. Besanson, 1860; Elliott Eberly, 1863; Robert McMahan, 1865-72; S. P. Harrison, 1873; Robert McMahan, 1874; C. C. Soule, 1875; John Halsey, 1876-80; Andrew Welton, appointed in March, 1882; Thomas W. Knight, Jr., 1882; N. L. Besanson, 1883; and John Johnston, Jr., 1894, re-elected 1896.

*Treasurers.*—Collister Haskins, the first treasurer, was succeeded by Jacob Eberly, who served until 1852, when John H. DeWitt was elected. Collister Haskins was re-elected in 1853, and served until 1862, when John Johnston was elected. Jacob Eberly served from 1864 to 1873; D. Housley was elected in 1873; D. S. Boyd, 1875; Jonas Hampshire, 1878; Robert Miller, 1880; L. N. Lembrich, 1886; Andrew A. Ensminger, 1888; and L. N. Lembrich, the present (1889) treasurer.

*Assessors.*—William Mercer, who was assessor in 1842, is said to have held the office for some years before, James H. Scott succeeding him in 1844, and William DeWitt, elected in 1848, served some years; Darwin Weaver, 1865; E. A. Wilson, 1868; Lewis Dienst, 1873; Daniel Mears, 1877-83; Erastus Musser, 1883; J. F. Wollam, 1885; William A. Esterly, 1886; William Caris, 1888; William A. Esterly, 1889 to '94; W. A. Esterly, D. C. Whitehead and Fred W. Lembrich, 1894; F. W. Lembrich, A. J. Hickerson and J. H. Kuhlman, 1895; N. W. Wirebaugh, Nathan Morse and A. J. Hickerson, 1896.

In 1872, a petition was presented to the trustees of Portage, asking them to call an election to vote for and against the appropriation of \$12,500 aid to the Columbus & Toledo Railroad Co. Teller, Long and Vosburg, the trustees, granted the petition, but in the record book, found in the marshal's house, at Portage, there is no record of the vote.

*School Trustees.*—In 1896 the school trustees of Portage township were Nathan Morse, L. N. Lembrich, Thomas Shinew, G. W. Simmons, W. H. Plantz, William Caris, Harvey Bateson,

A. L. Pollard, John Vosburg, William Hagamire, and George Shiple.

*Schools.*—From an old record book found in D. L. Hill's house, long after the first search for township books was made, it is learned that Samuel Johnson, W. C. Underwood, and Aaron S. Dresser, were members of the school board, in session at the Johnson school house, April 21, 1856. At that time a \$250 building was authorized for District No. 5, while a house in District No. 1, was reported nearly complete. In July, Collister Haskins presented a deed of the lot on which the house in No. 1 was built, his school tax being cancelled in recognition of his liberality. A house was erected in District No. 4, that year. In 1857, Daniel Mercer, Lewis Long, George Amos, Joseph Smith and Samuel Johnson, formed the board of education. Daniel Shoffstall and Joseph Bisbee were members in 1858; J. A. Creps, Joseph Smith, Matthias Shoup and George Tyson, in 1860, with Nathan Pickett and N. L. Besanson. In April, 1862, there were 288 children in the six districts; Jacob Dauterman was a member of the board in 1860, while Jonas Parmenter was elected in 1863. In 1870, there were eight districts, each with its school house.

The board of education in April, 1873, was presided over by J. P. Bisbee, who, with the following named clerks of Districts, was present at the Center school house—David Brown, Lewis Long, James Teller, William Musser, George Gorton, D. S. Boyd, S. J. Turner and John M. Bevard. The school directors elected in April, named in the numeral order of districts, were Sterling Wilcox, Lewis Long, John Deuel and James Teller (No. 3); George Gorton, D. S. Boyd (No. 6); A. Legron (No. 6); and C. Ensminger (No. 6); Elias Davidson, Jacob Esterly and S. J. Turner (No. 8); and John M. Bevard (No. 9). The funds for the nine districts, then in hand, amounted to \$920, while the tax levy authorized was four mills. In 1874, there was a general change made in the directors, and this system of electing new men annually appears to have taken root. In 1877, the house in District No. 2 was built. John Johnston was president of the board in 1878, and Jonas Hampshire, treasurer, in 1879, with J. M. Bevard, president. In the last named year a building was erected in District No. 6. New buildings were the rule during the ensuing decade, such as that of District 7, in 1886—Districts 8 and 9 being given new school houses at its close. George Shaffer was then

president of the board. In 1890, the school house at Mungen was built by L. H. Murray for \$729; the brick house in District No. 1, was sold to the trustees of the Methodist Church for \$75, a condition being that said trustees should donate a half acre adjoining, for a school building. In 1891, the house for District No. 12 was built by W. H. Plantz, for \$644, and in 1892 a new house was erected in District 8, by Plantz, for \$771. In 1894, N. Morse, L. N. Lembrich, J. Shinew, G. W. Simmons, Michael Durand, William Caris, Henry Adams, A. Pollard, John Vosburg, Ezra Heminger, and John T. Mitchell, represented the eleven districts. In June, 1895, Eva Pugh, Ida Gorton, Erastus Musser, Lewis Leitner, Andrew Roper, Mrs. E. E. Buzzard and Ida Mollencop, were employed as teachers, leaving Districts Nos. 1, 3 and 5 over for further consideration. John Johnston, director for many years, is now clerk of the board of education.

*Pioneers.*—The main body of the pioneers of Portage came in 1833-37. When the fall elections of 1833 were held, there were only seventeen voters in the original township, all of whom cast their votes for John E. Hunt, then candidate for State senator. Within the ensuing six years, many came to share in the joys and sorrows of the pioneers, so that, in the spring of 1839, there were thirty-seven adult males found within its boundaries by the assessor. The names listed are as follows: Daniel Adams, John Pizel, Daniel Booth, Victory Clark, Thomas Cox, Francis Carothers, Zadock Henry, Benjamin West, Israel Cowden, Aaron Dresser, John Davis, John Dudley, Benjamin Henry, Jacob Eberly, Daniel Stearns, Loring Faros, William Graham, Elisha S. Harrison, Henry Musser, Peter Johnson, William Lyons, Samuel Mendal, John Mercer, Samuel Musser, Daniel Pratt, Caleb Mercer, William Mercer, Michael Musser, — McGaffey, Nathan Minard, John Musser, Robert Piper, Edward Palmerton, Adam Ross, Jeremiah Vangilder, Henry Van Benschoter and Preston Whitacre. John Van Blarcum came in 1840, buying Ephraim Simons' improvements.

It is said that 'Squire McKnight, who was elected a justice of the peace in 1835, died in 1837, and was buried in what is now known as the Sargent cemetery, west of Portage village, being the first adult who died in the township. Two or three children preceded him to that ground to tenant the first graves. Dewitt's wife was buried there in 1841. John Wrinklekey, a soldier of 1812, is said to have been interred

there, but others say that he and James McMahan, a soldier of the Mexican war, were buried in the Portage cemetery.

*Land-Buyers.*—The early land-buyers in Portage township are named as follows, the description of purchase and date being given:

John Johnston, S. W. S. 3, Nov. 29, 1833.  
 John Sargent, S. S. W. S. 4, Mar. 10, 1836.  
 John Gallatin, N. W. N. W. S. 5, June 18, 1833.  
 Jacob Eberly, S. W. N. W. S. 5, Nov. 22, 1833.  
 Jacob Phillips, N. E. N. W. Sec. 5, May 2, 1833.  
 Collister Haskins, S. W. S. W. S. 6, Dec. 6, 1832.  
 John Cox, E. S. E. S. 6, Dec. 6, 1832.  
 John B. McKnight, S. E. S. W. S. 6, Oct. 7, 1833.  
 William Robinson, N. N. E. S. 6, Oct. 15, 1833.  
 William Schell, S. N. W. S. 6, July 23, 1834.  
 Ephraim Simmons, N. S. W. S. 6, Oct. 8, 1835.  
 Francis Carothers, Pt. S. W. S. 7, Oct. 21, 1833.  
 John Wonder, E. N. W. S. 8, Mar. 15, 1836.  
 John Osborn, S. W. S. 10, June 9, 1834.  
 Adam Ross, W. S. W. & S. E. S. W. S. 18, June 18, 1833.  
 John Mercer, S. E. S. 18, Sep. 9, 1833.  
 David M. Lyons, N. E. S. 18, Oct. 25, 1833.  
 Caleb Mercer, N. N. E. S. 19, Nov. 11, 1834.  
 Daniel Minard, E. S. W. S. 25, Ap. 5, 1836.  
 Joseph S. Dresser, N. E. N. W. S. 25, Nov. 8, 1836.  
 John Snider, N. S. E. S. 26, Oct. 10, 1836.  
 Thomas McFadden, N. W. N. W. S. 30, Jan. 25, 1836.  
 Mahlon Whitacre, S. E. S. E. S. 31, Nov. 29, 1833.  
 Preston Whitacre, S. E. S. W. S. 32, July 14, 1834.  
 William St. John, Pt. N. W. S. 34, Dec. 9, 1835.  
 Henry Van Benchoter, S. W. S. 35, Sep. 22, 1835.  
 Andrew Moore, Pt. N. W. S. 36, June 12, 1835.  
 William Graham, S. S. E. S. 36, Nov. 12, 1834.

#### VILLAGES.

*Jerry City*, which is partly in Bloom and partly in Portage, is referred to in the history of the former township. Turner & Orr's planing mill is one of the industries on the Portage side of the line, and on that side also is the post office.

*Woodbury* was surveyed by Hiram Davis May 4, 1837, for John Thompson, Henry B. Gibson and Jabez B. Larwill, on the line between Ranges 10 and 11, at the corners of Townships 3 and 4. A post office was established there prior to survey, of which Joseph Madden was postmaster in 1862. The story of the old village is told in the history of Henry township, and references made to the place in the chapters on Liberty and Bloom.

*Mungen* was surveyed by W. H. Wood for Philander McCrory, in Sec. 30, T. 4, R. 11, in May, 1888. Twenty years before that survey, a post office was established at the old Mungen, in Liberty township, with Edwin Gorton, postmaster where the widow of James McCrory now lives. Mr. Gorton carried on the office there until about 1885, when he removed it to Trombley, where he carried it on for about two years, when P. McCrory removed it to Mungen. P. McCrory served from 1887 down to August, 1889, when J. C. France succeeded him. In June,

1892, J. F. Weisinger was appointed. P. McCrory was the first merchant, building the house which has since been used as station and store, Foster Drehr & Co., the successors of McCrory, being the merchants at that point. In 1890, J. F. Weisinger built the store room in the village.

The great fire of October 27, 1895, which started on the edge of the village, burned a strip nearly a mile wide, extending two miles north-east from Mungen. The reporter for the *Commercial* of Toledo, estimated the loss at \$150,000. The Sun Oil Company lost nine derricks, four tanks and a boiler-house; the Palmer Oil Company, twelve derricks, several tanks and other property; the Ohio Oil Company, four derricks and other property; Ralf Bros., several derricks and buildings, while a number of smaller operators lost in proportion.

*Six Points* is the capital city of the south-east quarter of the township—the center of its commercial and spiritual interests. The first business house was that of M. J. Turner, who was merchant and postmaster for a long term, and carried on business in the house now owned by J. B. Bisbee. The Frankfort store, which stood where is now the Pollard store, was the next large building. It was used down to its destruction by fire. In 1890, A. L. Pollard erected his present house, which is one of a few built within the last decade.

In 1870, the United Brethren house of worship was raised a short distance south, at Mt. Zion; eastward, across the township line, the German Baptists built another church; the division in the Mt. Zion Society led the way for a third church house, and the organization of the Portage Center Methodist class, for a fourth in 1895. All may be called Six Points churches, though the village, itself, contributes very few members to any or all of them.

The postmasters, so far as memory of old residents or the records found in the office tell, were M. J. Turner, Geo. W. Redman, J. B. Bisbee, Peter Hummel, who held the office in 1887, Adam L. Pollard in 1889, and J. R. Bateson, who was appointed in 1893.

The country tributary to Six Points is fertile, and the agriculturists thrifty and prosperous. The extension of the oil field in the direction of the village, and the activity in the field during the summer and fall of 1895, have been particularly beneficial to the villagers and farmers of the territory.

The Bethel M. E. Church, north of Six Points, in School District No. 1, was organized in 1892 with the following named members:

Isaac Kuhn, Luther Kuhn, Nathan Morse, A. C. Walker, Fred Heminger, John Christeller and their wives, with Fannie, Gertrude and James Morse, Martha Shoup, Frank Heminger, Marion Histe, Clara Lain, William and Elizabeth Douge, and Clyde Walker. Rev. Charles Hoag may be said to have organized the Church. Rev. Linzell, of Tontogany, succeeded him; then came Mr. Winters, Mr. Shreves and Mr. Barker. Isaac Kuhn is the class-leader. The average attendance at Sunday-school is about thirty. The brick church was originally the school house of District No. 1, as told in the school records. The society added a frame tower belfry and chancel.

The Methodist Protestant Church, of Portage township, signed articles of incorporation April 15, 1882, and elected Daniel Hillard, Ishmael Bowers and L. K. Soule trustees.

*Trombley*, mentioned in the chapter on Bloom, is a postal village and a little oil town. In 1887 or 1888, a post office was established here, of which John W. Knight was master in February, 1888. In October, 1889, W. H. Downing was appointed and held the office until 1893, when the present postmaster was appointed.

*Mermill* is a village of staves, hoops, saws and wood-working machines. When the Brunings removed their works from the older village, near Bradner, they selected Mermill, and within five years cleared the district of all the trees which could be converted into staves and hoops. Just north of the village, Mackey, the pioneer trader of Bowling Green, established a store in the "thirties," but, removing shortly after, the immediate locality was uninhabited for many years, almost down to the time when the factory was established at Mermill.

*Cloverdale* is the name of a church and post office on the north line of the township. The church building is in Center township, while the post office is in Portage. A. Bateson was appointed postmaster February 19, 1892, while D. M. Kiser, the present incumbent, was appointed in August, 1893.

#### PORTAGE VILLAGE.

This old village, coming next to Perrysburg in its beginnings as a trading point, is to-day the center, or trading place, of a rich agricultural district. In 1829, Collister Haskins built near his cabin (just west of the present Main street, on the south bank of the river) a log house for

trading purposes; stocked it with notions suitable for Indian traffic, and with such goods as would meet the simple needs of the white pioneer. For a few years his dealings were largely carried on with the Indians, but, within half a decade, Caucasian settlers located north of the river in some numbers, and Adam Ross saw the time had come to found a town in their neighborhood, though the location chosen by him, south of the present village, was far inferior to that selected by the pioneer for the first store in the wilderness. In 1833, Collister Haskins built a log cabin on the village site for his hired man, English; therein the family of Lee Moore found shelter late that fall, and there, also, the first school, south of Bowling Green, was taught, in 1835. Collister Haskins came from New Salem, Mass., in 1818, and located at Waterville, where he was married to Fannie Gunn, by the old justice of Logan county—Seneca Allen. In April, 1821, he and his wife built a cabin on Granger's Island, in the Maumee river, where they resided until 1824. In July, of that year, Haskins bought the N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Sec. 12, R. 10, Liberty township, and in September, 1824, built a cabin thereon, his nearest neighbors at Miltonville and Waterville, assisting. At that time the mail passed that way once every two weeks; but, in 1828, he petitioned for a post office at Portage. The petition was granted and on January 29, 1829, he was appointed postmaster, holding the position for eighteen years. In April, 1836, he had the eastern half of the present village of Portage surveyed (Sec. 6, T. 4, R. 11) by Neptune Nearing, and resided there until his death, May 7, 1872. In 1862, Samuel Johnson was postmaster. Frank Munn, N. L. Besanson and Daniel Mears held the office in later days, the last named being now (1895) postmaster.

In 1842 the village was still in a very primitive condition. Beyond the little stock of goods carried by Ephraim Simmons in his tavern, there were no mercantile accommodations, so the settlers had to cross Mount Ararat to Bowling Green, and often had to go to Perrysburg for their groceries and dry goods. Simmons' tavern occupied the northeast corner of the Findlay road and Walnut street. Some years later that house was burned, and P. F. Peachon erected a tavern building on its site. That was also burned; but a third building was constructed by Hodgman, said to be the same now occupied by Dr. Fisher. John Carter's cabin was east by north of the Hodgman house; John Long's cabin stood where the widow Elizabeth Sargent now resides, while Peter Johnson had a cabin where

stands the modern residence of Nicholas Dienst, while the log house built in 1833, adjoining what is known as the Drain dwelling, was then used for school purposes. In 1844, John H. DeWitt married Wealthy Haskins, built a frame house south of and adjoining the cabin of 1833, and then razed the first human habitation on the site of the village. In 1855 Capt. Knaggs built the "Pioneer Hotel," on the northwest corner of the Findlay road and Main street, now known as the "Bradford House." The mercantile buildings, erected about that time by Henry Haskins, on the east side of the Findlay road, a half block north of the "Corners," are still in existence; and north of these buildings stands the house of Mr. Clough, who came here in 1842, and in August, 1895, related the facts about locations as here given.

*Schools.*—The first school house in the village, in fact, the first in Portage and Liberty townships, is noticed in the history of Liberty township, with its pupils and teachers. Among the last pupils who called it *Alma Mater* were Cynthia Knaggs, E. P. Clough, Wealthy, Cressie and Henry Haskins, and, it is said, William S. and Joseph Eberly. The old building was razed in 1844 or 1845, and within a year or two the directors of District No. 1 caused a new house to be built. In October, 1848, the school board confessed judgment for the balance due Gilbert Beach for material furnished to the builders of that house—Jacob Eberly, William Prescott and Collister Haskins, with J. H. DeWitt and Jacob Dauterman, directors-elect, voting for the proposition. Jane Dubbs and Almon Pray were teachers in 1848, and Samuel Johnson in 1849. Johnson received \$60 for four months' services. Joseph Clark taught the winter school of 1849–50 for \$45; Nancy L. Kelly taught over two months for twelve shillings a week. Mary Pray presided over a school of eighteen male and nineteen female pupils from April to June, 1851; Joseph F. Wade taught at \$17 a month in 1852. Joseph Clark, Miss C. M. Brown, E. S. Bradley, Elizabeth Elder, J. F. C. Malone and Mrs. Sarah Clark were teachers from 1853 to April, 1857, when the new school house was completed. Alex Brown received \$112 for his long term as teacher, and Elenora Hannon the sum of \$50. Adaline Wood and H. C. Norton taught here prior to April, 1860, when Samuel Johnson was employed at \$1 a day. On June 30, 1859, District No. 1 was called "Corporation of Portage School District," of which Collister Haskins, J. K. Harrison, J. H. DeWitt, Z. F. Willison, J. L. Roller and S. Patterson were chosen directors. In 1861,

E. H. Hull was employed to teach the high school at \$1.25 a day and "board himself," and Jane Cook, the primary school, at fifty cents a day. In October, 1863, J. H. DeWitt resigned, giving as his reason the fact that he intended to leave the county. E. P. Clough, William Sargent, R. W. McMahan, A. G. Harrison, C. Taylor and A. Kinny were directors during the closing days of the Civil war; Mrs. Kate Besanson was employed as teacher in September, 1866, when the total annual receipts of the district did not exceed \$321, and the number of pupils did not exceed forty-eight males and forty-five females. In November, 1866, Robert M. Donnelly was employed at \$2 a day, and Miss Drake at \$1.25, their examination being conducted by Dr. J. F. Meeks, E. B. Turner and Joseph Clark. Fannie Meeks was employed in 1867, and Addie Merriam in 1868. In April, 1870, S. P. Harrison succeeded R. M. Donnelly as teacher of the high school, the salary being \$35 a month; J. Q. Pray and Mary Harrison were also employed as teachers. Dr. J. W. McCracken, William A. Sargent, E. P. Clough, H. Frank, A. Besanson and A. G. Harrison were the active members of the board for the decade ending in 1871, when the old record book closes. Collister Haskins, who may be called the father of the Portage schools, was a director down to the close of the war, when he left the school interests to younger guardians.

*Incorporation.*—In June, 1857, a petition signed by thirty persons, residing in and near Portage, asking that the village be incorporated, was presented. On December 7, the petition was granted, the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 12, T. 4, R. 10, belonging to Daniel Mercer, being omitted at his request. On December 12, 1857, an amended plat of the village was placed on record, and on the same day the petition for incorporation was granted. The records from the beginning to 1878 are either lost or destroyed, but from interviews with old residents, memoranda found at Bowling Green, and notices in the Perrysburg Bowling Green newspapers, many names of the early officials have been obtained; while from modern record books and documents in the auditor's office the names of officers, elected since April, 1878, have been taken.

*Mayors.*—James McFadden, 1858; E. P. Clough, 1860; S. Johnson; Robert McMahan; J. G. Patterson, 1864; E. B. Turner, 1867; S. P. Harrison, 1873; Dr. McCracken; Robert McMahan, 1882; N. L. Besanson, 1883; W. E. Hughes, 1885; J. D. Munn, 1886 (died July 11, 1886), W. E. Hughes to fill vacancy; J. W. Tay-

lor, 1887; L. J. Fleck, 1889; Daniel Mears, 1890; E. P. Clough, 1892; Daniel Mears, 1894; and Dr. E. W. Fisher, 1896.

*Clerks.*—I. N. Van Gorder, 1858; Z. F. Willison, 1859; A. C. Davis, 1860; S. Johnson, 1861; Almon Harrison; S. A. Smith, 1863; W. A. Sargent, 1864; J. G. Patterson, 1867; R. M. Donnelly, down to 1876; H. H. Wade, 1876; R. M. Donnelly, 1876; J. D. Munn, 1882; A. C. Canfield, 1884; J. D. Shoffstall, 1886; J. C. Friend, 1887; E. P. Clough, 1888; E. W. Norris, 1892, and re-elected 1896.

*Treasurers.*—William Sargent was treasurer for eighteen or twenty years, until Dr. Merriam succeeded him late in the "seventies." H. N. Rush was elected in 1882; F. W. Stratton, 1885; H. B. Saylor, 1889; F. W. Stratton, 1891; and H. B. Saylor, 1895-97.

*Marshals.*—The office of marshal has been held by a large number of citizens. A. H. Drain, Joseph Close and D. L. Hill have held the position in later years, Alfred Drain being elected in 1896.

*Councilmen.*—The writer, though successful in finding old records of Portage and Liberty townships, was unable to find an authentic book or document dealing with the council of Portage prior to April, 1878. The members from 1878 to 1896 are named as follows:

- 1878—J. W. Knaggs, Joseph England, H. N. Rush, A. A. Ensminger, A. Patterson.
- 1882—William Watson, C. F. Bell, J. C. Eberly, M. S. Winton, A. M. Drain.
- 1883—G. F. Munn, E. W. Norris, Robert McMahan and Lewis Dienst, *vice* Drain.
- 1884—J. W. Knaggs, Lewis Dienst, G. F. Munn, J. C. Eberly, Robert McMahan, E. W. Norris.
- 1885—R. McMahan, E. B. Turner, Amos Tribble.
- 1886—Daniel Mears, N. L. Besanson, J. W. Knaggs, J. C. Eberly, L. Dienst, J. W. Taylor.
- 1887—David Mears, G. W. Friend, W. E. Hughes.
- 1888—J. W. Knaggs, William Watson, William Freyman.
- 1889—Daniel Mears, A. C. McDonald, G. W. Friend.
- 1890—William Freyman, A. C. Sargent, A. C. Canfield, G. C. Munn.
- 1891—P. Waitz, A. C. Canfield, Thomas Carr, F. Caldwell.
- 1892—W. Freyman, H. B. Saylor, J. E. Floyd.
- 1893—Thomas Carr, P. Waitz, J. E. Floyd, F. Caldwell, W. Freyman, H. B. Saylor.
- 1894—William Freyman, E. P. Clough, William Amos, J. L. Orwig, Frank Bordner.
- 1895—E. P. Clough, W. Freyman, Frank Bordner.
- 1896—Worley Knaggs, Wm. Philo and Ed Munn.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* is referred to in the record of the church at Tontogany. The old trustees' book, now in possession of J. W. Taylor, and an entry in the county records, show that a deed of Lots 95 and 96 in Portage, to John Sargent, James Talern, John B. Abbott, William DeWitt and Anson Sizer, trustees of the Methodist Church at Portage, was

made by Collister and Fanny Haskins, May 22, 1856. The membership, at the beginning of 1895, was thirty-five. Among the old members were Lewis Dienst, the trustees named above, G. H. Wright, Thomas Fearnside, Jacob Dauterman, J. B. Tracy, Adam Ross, S. Johnson and S. L. Sargent. In 1861 the meeting house was completed and dedicated. In 1863, Rev. Good was the preacher. Later, A. B. Miller was elected trustee. Rev. J. White was here in 1866, when Daniel Housley was treasurer, and L. B. Wright, secretary. The building was repaired that year. The class had then twenty-nine members, the male members being Isaiah Miller, John Abbott, Anson Sizer, George Tooth, Josiah Roscoe, Nathan C. Stratton, William DeWitt and John Hopkins. Ten years later, the names of J. Walker and J. Carr, as trustees of Carr's Church; R. Bullis, W. Patterson, J. Walker, W. Sly, W. Leavers and J. Hartman, of Mount Pleasant Church; and G. D. Insley and F. Griffin, stewards of South Liberty Church, are found in the records of Portage Circuit. The consolidation of Portage and Tontogany Circuits was effected in 1883, when the record closes. At that time, Sarah Collin, Martha Peaney, L. B. Wright, and the trustees named above, were active workers.

*The United Brethren Church (Liberal)* had, at the beginning of 1895, forty-four members. Early in the "thirties" a preacher of this denomination appeared at Collister Haskin's dwelling, but no organization was effected until the close of the war. In the records of the Church, George Buttruff is named as received in 1849, and Rev. Noah Foltz in 1854. The class-book, however, begins in 1866, when V. R. Porter and E. A. Hubbard were leaders, and John Johnston, steward. Of the original members, the following named are yet residents of the village and vicinity: Rev. Noah Foltz and wife, and Elizabeth A. Dienst, if we except George Freyman, who is not now a member. Rev. Levi Moore, who resides at Bowling Green, was here before organization, but James Long was pastor in 1866. J. W. Rhoades came in 1869; J. Powell, 1871; J. F. Naylor, 1872; L. J. Osborn, 1876; and G. L. Bender, 1885. The church house was erected, in 1881, on land donated by Mrs. William Sargent, at a cost of \$2,000. The building committee embraced J. N. Baker, Frank Munn, R. M. Donnelly, Lewis Dienst and Rev. Noah Foltz. The membership on August 2, 1895, shows a slight increase over the membership reported in January, 1895.

*Whitney Lodge, No. 589, I. O. O. F.,* was

chartered May 16, 1874, with the following named members: R. W. McMahan, T. C. Reid, J. Q. Pray, A. J. Orme, R. M. Donnelly, S. P. Harrison, James F. McClure, A. M. Drain and J. C. Lincoln. The noble grand's chair has been filled by the following named members: R. W. McMahan, J. H. Sands, Daniel Mears, L. N. Lembrich, George Nurenberger, Daniel Pugh, G. D. Insley, A. J. Orme, M. Otley, L. M. McCrory, A. L. See, Sylvester Hull, W. Freyman, W. E. Hughes, A. C. McDonald, John Flanders, James Hasson, A. C. Sargent, Frank McCrory, F. W. Lembrich, C. E. Bartlett, J. Harman and A. W. Knaggs. The secretaries were T. C. Reid, George Houck, A. J. McMahan, G. W. Robinson, G. F. Munn, Daniel Mears, C. F. Bell, Lewis Lembrich, F. W. Lembrich, A. W. Knaggs, J. W. Taylor and C. E. Bartlett. There were seventy-five members reported on September 21, 1895.

*A. Besanson Post*, No. 731, *G. A. R.*, was organized January 2, 1891, with S. G. Horsey (C.), A. A. Ensminger, D. L. Hill, E. P. Clough (Adjt.), Nathan Rickett, L. C. Carothers, J. W. Knaggs, John Johnston, Jr., W. Kenney, and Samuel Shroyer, officers in Post rank; L. C. Carothers and John Johnston served also as commanders, while E. P. Clough served as adjutant until March 18, 1893, when the last meeting was held. There were only eighteen comrades enrolled in all.

*Portage Tent*, No. 167, *K. O. T. M.*, was organized August 10, 1893, with the following named members: Thomas W. Knight, Charles G. Bower, James H. Porter, H. W. Shaw, F. G. Stratton, C. E. Stahl, John H. James, Harry G. Bowers, F. H. Burns, J. B. McDonald, E. M. McDonald, J. F. Mears, D. W. Pierce, A. J. Bridges, W. P. Bowser, H. A. Abbott, E. C.

Clay and S. Mears. There were forty-seven members enrolled down to September 12, 1895.

*Harvest Hive*, No. 98, *L. O. T. M.*, was organized July 12, 1894, with Maud Knight, Mattie Munn, Emma Wheeler, Essie Sargent, Eva Orwig, Ida Hopkins, Allie Bowser, Nancy McDonald, Truva James, Louie Pyle, Minnie Freyman, Maggie Besanson, Lessie Winton, Anna Bayless, Emma Seeley, Lena McClure, Cora Collins, Daisy Warren, Alice Bartlett, Lottie Saylor, and Emma Lembrich. Mrs. Knight, the first commander, was succeeded by Mrs. Saylor, and she by Mrs. Besanson. Mrs. Bartlett was elected secretary in December, 1894. In September, 1895, there were twenty-three members enrolled.

*Retrospect*.—In the chapter on the Oil and Gas Fields, the development of the Portage field is described. Over thirty years before the inhabitants dreamt of oil reservoirs, the village was the most important place outside the old county seat. There the old-time fairs of the Agricultural Society were generally held; political meetings were not wanting in the catalogue of its holiday amusements; trade was rampant, and in every respect the old village was looked upon as the peer, if not rival, of Perrysburg. The inhabitants busied themselves about everything. In December, 1855, a meeting was held to take steps for enforcing the liquor law of May, 1854. Collister Haskins presided, with Dr. S. H. Barnes, secretary. John McCrory, A. Rogers, S. H. Barnes, C. Haskins, Henry Haskins, James McFadden and J. H. De Witt were appointed a committee to report on violations of the law. Theological questions were discussed in store and saloon; politics in all places; internal improvements, such as roads and ditches, were subjects of daily consideration, and even the question of making Portageville the seat of justice was seriously discussed.

## CHAPTER XLIII.

### ROSS TOWNSHIP.

INTRODUCTORY—CENSUS, SURVEY, ETC.—TOWNSHIP ORGANIZATION—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—PIONEERS—EARLY LAND BUYERS—PIONEER TIMES—SCHOOLS—CONCLUSION.

**R**OSS is the cap of Wood county, a long, narrow cap, extending from the river to the eastern line. Had not Grand Rapids imbibed the notion, in her old age, of casting off the yoke of Weston, Ross would be the junior township. Prior to April, 1874, the veteran Perrysburg and Lake appropriated the fame and township taxes, too, of their northernmost settlers, and would yet govern them with iron hands, of course, had not the Legislature stepped into the breach, made the people autonomous, and gave to Wood county its nineteenth little commonwealth.

It is a township of good farmers and better horticulturists, who reap rich rewards from their labors, and who, while serving themselves, benefit their neighbors on the north together with their brothers on the south.

In 1880, the officious United States census enumerator appeared among the people of Ross, and in June of that year credited the new township with 639 inhabitants. Ten years later, in 1890, he found 728 inhabitants, representing the growth of population for a period of fifty-five years. In November, 1895, there were 138 votes cast, as shown in the reference to township officials.

The original survey of the township, outside the United States Reserve, was made by Ambrose Rice in April, 1834, while the territory within the Reserve was surveyed by Elias Grover in 1805.

*Township Organization.*—The Act establishing Ross township passed April 18, 1874. This provided that Fr. Tp. 8 N., R. 12 E., and the part of Tp. 3 in the United States Reserve lying west of and between said Township 8 and the Maumee river—Sec. 13, the north  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Secs. 23 and 24, River Tracts 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85 and 86, then included in Perrysburg township, be set off as a distinct township. The commissioners, under authority of this Act, ordered the election of officers to be held at the Coy school house, on May 23, 1874.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Trustees.*—The trustees elected in May, 1874, are named as follows: C. W. Caswell, Charles Coy, Edward Hicks, with Hiram Eggleston, clerk. The trustees elected since that time are named as follows: Elliot M. Warner, 1875; Charles Coy, Elliot M. Warner and Julius Squire, 1876 to 1879; Elijah Whitmore, Charles Coy and Julius Squire, 1879; Frank H. Venia, Elijah Whitmore, Charles Coy, 1880; George King, R. V. Chamberlain, 1881–82; Hiram Overbeck, Charles Coy, R. V. Chamberlain, 1883; R. V. Chamberlain, Hiram Eggleston and Julius Squires, 1884 and 1885; Hiram Eggleston (1 year), R. V. Chamberlain (2 years), H. H. Overbeck (3 years), 1886; Hiram Eggleston, 1887; R. V. Chamberlain, 1888; E. M. Warner and E. Overbeck, 1889; Edward Hicks, 1890; E. M. Warner, 1891; H. S. Landis, 1892; Charles H. Coy, 1893; W. N. Tracy, 1894; Edward Hicks, Jr., 1895—the three last named being trustees. The trustees in 1896 were: Charles H. Coy, W. N. Tracy and Ed. W. Hicks.

*Justices.*—The justices of the peace were as follows: J. M. Baum, 1874; P. Wales, 1874, resigned in 1875; O. L. Wales, 1875 to 1887; Cyrus Williams, 1877; W. W. Hicks, 1879, 1882, '85; W. L. Ferdig, 1888; Elijah Whitmore, 1890, resigned in 1892; J. M. Baum, 1892; James W. Wickenden, 1895; Charles A. Whitmore, 1896.

*Treasurers.*—The office of treasurer has been filled by the following: Joseph Vickers, 1874; Edward Hicks, 1879; R. B. Andrus, 1881; W. W. Hicks, 1887; Isaac Rideout, 1891; George Whitmill, 1893 to 1896, re-elected, 1896.

*Assessors.*—The men who have acted as such since 1875, have been Cyrus Williams, 1875; Edward Hicks, 1876; F. H. Venia, 1878; W. T. Miller, 1879; Elijah Whitmore, 1881; W. W. Hicks, 1882; William Hill, 1885; E. Whitmore, 1886; R. B. Andrus, 1888; Henry Scott, 1892 to 1896; Horace M. Rideout, elected in 1896.

*Clerks.*—The records have been kept by Hiram Eggleston, from 1874 to 1882; C. H. Water-



bury, 1882; Charles L. Hicks, 1886; Jerome E. Smith, from 1891 to 1896, and re-elected in the latter year.

*School Board.*—In 1896 the members of the school board were Sebastian Rinker, Charles A. Whitmore, Francis Brenot, George Smith, R. B. Andrus (president), and Jerome E. Smith (clerk).

In April, 1895, the people of this township cast aside party lines and nominated what was known as the Union Ticket. The nominees were elected without opposition. In November, 1895, there were ninety-seven votes cast for Fraker (Rep.), and forty-one for Davis (Dem.), nominees for county surveyor, being the same vote as cast for senators.

*Pioneers.*—Among the pioneers of Ross were David Hartman, who moved away, prior to 1845, from his squatter's cabin on Section 32; Robert Gardner, a deserter from the British army, cleared land on the eastern end of the present Rideout farm; Thomas Burt, who came from England in 1835, sold a part of his land to Isaac Rideout, Sr., four years before the Rideouts located here; Isaac Rideout moved from Massillon into this part of the Black Swamp in 1845; while Augustus Prentice (who died of cholera in 1852), Anson Smith, Perry Stephens, John Ketchum, Elisha and Robert Pike, Waters Whitmore, Henry Hinkley, Gabriel Crane, Levi Warner, Daniel Coy, Jerome Smith, the Wales family, Horace Hollister, and perhaps a few others, came about that time, or within half a decade later.

The cholera epidemic of 1852 carried off Prentice, named above, with Levi Warner, while the epidemic of 1854 called Daniel Coy away, and drove out a few others.

A barn, built for Isaac Rideout, in 1848, is still in use. It is one of the three first barns raised within the township.

*Early Land Buyers.*—Section 32 was entered by Thomas Burt, who bought the N. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , June 8, 1833; Stephen Turner, the S. of N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , August 7, 1833; Philander Wales, the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , August 12, 1833; and William Olney, the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , October 14, 1833. Gabriel Crane purchased sixty-six acres in the west part of Fr. Sec. 33, in 1839, and Perry Stephens, eighty acres in the east part. Lyne Starling bought the S. E. and S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , Sec. 34, from Ohio, on which he paid tax in 1842, while James Cheney and C. A. Crane purchased the balance of the section. Aristarchus Champion bought thirteen and three-fourths acres in Sec. 36, April 9, 1834, Lyne

Starling buying the remainder of the section. Among the buyers in the southern parts of Sections 25 to 30, Tp. 8, R. 12, were John G. Bergen, 28; Joseph Walters, George Keller, Jr., Henry Duhamel and Ephraim Pollock, 29; and Ephraim Pollock, 30; while among the buyers of River Tracts were William Carnahan, 79; Aten & McKnight, 80 and 81; Robert Carnahan, 82; George Wadsworth, 83; Elijah L. Bernah, 84 and 85; and John H. Pratt, 86.

*Pioneer Times.*—Only those that have had practical experience can realize the difficulties of raising cattle at any early settlement. Horses could not be raised as well as cattle, on account of the myriads of flies and mosquitoes that would proceed at once to take all the blood that was anywhere near the surface, whenever they had a chance, and as there was nothing to protect the stock but smoke, their chances were good. Hogs were raised with the least trouble. When acorns were plenty they raised themselves, and in the fall they would get fat without feeding much corn. Hunting lost hogs in the fall or early winter was about as much sport as hunting deer or other wild game, but hunting was not followed in Ross merely for sport or recreation; it was sometimes a necessity, and it was many times followed with skill and industry; men would start early in the morning, and tramp through high grass and brush until late at night, employing all the skill and ingenuity of which they were capable, to secure game. It was to them a labor of necessity. Game was plenty, but the means of capturing it was not what would be considered now-a-days first-class, so the hunter often failed, and the excitement of the chase did not pay them, as they were not always hunting for sport. Hunting for recreation, and hunting when you are out of meat, are very different affairs. A good average hunter could supply his family with meat, and get money enough from the sale of deer and coon-skins to pay his taxes.

*Schools.*—Soon after the first clearings were made in the forest, the pioneers looked round them for a teacher and a school house. Through the efforts of Anson Smith, Horace Hollister, Elisha Pike, Perry Stevens and others, a little building was raised in what, afterward, was known as District No. 10, Perrysburg township, and therein twelve pupils gathered to be instructed by a teacher, who was paid by their parents. The first log school house was erected by Augustus Prentice and Isaac Rideout, opposite the "Rideout House," in the spring of 1846, when Elizabeth Mosser was appointed teacher at \$1.50 a week. Among the pupils were six Rideouts,

three Prentices, three Coys, two adopted children of Jerome Smith, five named Wales, and a few others. Under the school law of 1853, District No. 10 was organized, with Perry Stevens, Anson Smith and Elisha Pike, directors. In 1854, a small frame house was erected for school purposes, in which the following named teachers presided down to 1876: Misses Catherine Stevens, Eliza Conrad, Laura M. Stevens, Lucy Cook, Bessie C. Hill, Hattie Bascum, Susan Cook, Emily Norton, Marian A. Hill, Pluma A. Stevens, Annie Daly, Elizabeth White, Cornelia E. Smith, Lucinda Tyler, Josie A. Timanus, Amanda Clark, H. J. Matthews and Maggie Daly. In the "seventies," a few male teachers taught therein, such as Hays Williams, Ruxton Sweet, William Nichols, and Frank Kingfield. In November, 1876, a new school house was dedicated and named the "Olney School." On March 8, 1878, there were sixty-six pupils enrolled in this district, of whom fifty-six attended school. Among the directors from 1855 to 1876, were James Stevens, W. H. Fors, W. E. Hill, W. W. Hicks, Harmon Overbeck, George King, M. Marx, J. C. Ketcham, J. B. Russell, Walter Cary, Andrew Behn, John Weiland and S. O. Crandall.

Under the township organization, R. Alden, Elijah Whitmore, Waters Whitmore and W. W. Hicks were directors. There were four districts then organized, and the levy for school purposes was five mills. In 1878, Frank H. Venia represented the new district, No. 5, on the board, with John Weiland, of No. 4; Edward Hicks, of No. 3; Elijah Whitmore, of No. 2, and R. Alden, of No. 1. In 1880, Robert Tiplady, Elijah Whitmore, Jerome B. Smith, John Weiland and Julius Squires, formed the board; while, in 1882, R. V. Chamberlain, who had formerly served, with J. B. Smith and S. O. Crandall, were the new members. The brick school house in Sub-District No. 1, was erected that year by J. B. Lomison, whose bid of \$1,050 was accepted. Abraham Forrick and Hiram Eggleston, with Messrs. Whitmore, Crandall and Squires, formed

the board in 1883. In 1885, the names of Edward Hooks, R. B. Andrus, Henry Rideout and Thomas Radcliffe, appear as members; and in 1886, those of Robert Tiplady, W. Baum, Frank H. Venia and E. Hicks. W. L. Ferdig, Frank Brenot and Ferdinand Wasserman appear in 1888; those of S. O. Crandall, Isaac Rideout, John Gray and William Smith, in 1890; those of Charles H. Coy and William Ward, in 1891; that of Charles Whitmore, in 1893, and that of Sebastian Rinker, in 1894. The name of Elijah Whitmore appears to be on the record of the board of education of this township since 1874, while others, such as Venia, Brenot and Radcliffe, have served several terms. The board of 1895 comprised Sebastian Rinker, R. B. Andrus, C. H. Whitmore, Francis Brenot and Stephen Radcliffe. The township clerk has served as clerk of this board, and the township treasurer as treasurer of the school fund.

*Conclusion.*—Ross township has neither church nor saloon. People who are religiously inclined go into Lake or Perrysburg township, or East Toledo, where they find places in which to worship or to drink — to be sacred or profane. Elijah Whitmore and Isaac Rideout are members of the Union Veteran Legion, of Toledo, while other soldiers belong to Ford Post, No. 14, of that city, or to the Posts organized in Lake township.

The territory, embraced in Ross, has been converted from its wilderness state into a land of orchards, gardens and beautiful farms. The people are industrious and intelligent. Having their regular hours for work and hours for recreation, they present to the visitor a hardy, contented, prosperous character, generally wanting in an agricultural community located so near a busy city, and in sight of the various railroads leading east and south from Toledo. There is not a tinge of the suburban character visible, unless, indeed, it crops out along the river front of the township.

## CHAPTER XLIV.

### TROY TOWNSHIP.

SURVEY AND EARLY SETTLEMENT—POPULATION—ORGANIZATION—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—SCHOOLS  
—FIRST LAND BUYERS—THE WESTERN RESERVE ROAD—MEN OF 1839—THE CHOLERA—  
LANDMARKS—CHURCHES—STONY RIDGE—LEMOYNE—LUCKEY—WEBB—CONCLUSION.

**T**HIS division of Wood county was surveyed, in 1820, by Charles Roberts. The settlement of this township may be said to have begun in 1833, when a few of the immigrants who chased the sun toward the Maumee considered they had traveled far enough west and determined to cast their fortunes in the forests of this division of the county. It is true that the Western Reserve road was open through a part of the wilderness, giving a token of civilization; but it was a trivial token of which no others would take notice, save the brave, adventurous spirits who set out from their homes in old communities to seek new lands which they could develop at will and in their own time and fashion.

The population in 1840, was 383; in 1870, increased to 1,057, and in 1890 to 1,803.

*Organization.*—This township as established December 1, 1834, embraced Congressional Township No. 6, in Range 12. The first election was ordered to be held at Thomas Leaming's house on the first Monday in April, 1835. In the matter of territory the township was left intact until December 8, 1846, when Secs. 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 and 32 were attached to the new township of Webster. The old records are in very poor shape, but research in offices of the county clerk and auditor, and in the office of Township Clerk Metzger, resulted in finding many names.

The election of justices of the peace, held June 5, 1835, resulted in the choice of David Phenicie and Daniel H. Cole for each of whom the following named electors, including the candidates, voted—Adam Bates, John Gallagher, Samuel Wagoner, Orange Howard, Daniel Wallace, Isaac L. Russell, Ichabod Spencer, Thomas Leaming, Huckins Spencer, David Phenicie, James La Farree, Daniel H. Cole, Thomas Crago, Jacob Furry and Michael Rogers.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Trustees.*—The names of the trustees, elected since 1838, are given in the following list, based on documents in Auditor Gahan's office, and records in possession of Mr. Metzger, the clerk:

1838—James La Farree, Henry Boose, Orange Howard.  
1841—James La Farree, Daniel Blandin, Jacob Furry.  
1842—James La Farree, Daniel Blandin, B. B. Van Camp.  
1843—Seth Phillips, Charles Stoner, John Noel.  
1844—Seth Phillips, B. B. Van Camp, John Noel.  
1845—E. Tyler, Charles Stoner, B. B. Van Camp.  
1846—Daniel Blandin, J. A. Smith, B. B. Van Camp.  
1847—Cornelius Daly, J. F. Myrose, Charles Stoner.  
1848—John Slines, David Kaley, Charles Stoner.  
1849—L. M. Gilbert, J. F. Myrose, Charles Stoner.  
1850—L. M. Gilbert, J. F. Myrose, D. Elderkin.  
1851—J. P. Elderkin, J. F. Myrose, Charles Stoner.  
1852—H. L. Wood, J. A. Smith, Fred Rolfes.  
1853-54—H. L. Wood, Jacob Moyer, William Harmeyer.  
1855—Robert Daly, Daniel Rife, Charles Stoner.  
1856—Robert Daly, Henry Rolfes, Charles Stoner.  
1857—Samuel Shriner, Henry Rolfes, Charles Stoner.  
1858—Henry Siebert, W. Harmeyer, J. S. Smith.  
1859—Henry Siebert, M. W. Gilbert, Henry Sherman.  
1860-61—J. Mayer, Aaron Smith, Henry Sherman.  
1862—J. Mayer, L. Metzger, W. Harmeyer.  
1863—J. Mayer, Robert Daly, W. Harmeyer.  
1864—Abraham Lehman, D. Van Camp, W. Harmeyer.  
1865—Samuel Shook, John Christen, Rudolf Hartman.  
1866—Henry Siebert, Daniel Rife, Rudolf Hartman.  
1867—Henry Siebert, Daniel Rife, John Emch.  
1868—Garret Spade, Louis Metzger, John Emch.  
1869—Aaron Smith, Henry Rolfes, Louis Metzger. (Isaiah Chamberlain appears to have filled a vacancy in 1869).  
1870—Val. Hahn, Henry Rolfes, Aaron Smith.  
1870-71—Val. Hahn, Henry Rolfes, Aaron Smith.  
1872-73—F. Seibert, John Frontz, F. Sealscott.  
1874-75—George Brough, John Frontz, F. Henry Freyer.  
1876—Val. Hahn, Louis Metzger, F. Henry Freyer.  
1877—Aaron Smith, Louis Metzger, W. Harmeyer.  
1878—John Frontz, Val. Hahn, W. Harmeyer.  
1879—Henry Rolfes, William Ricker, W. Armbruster.  
1880—William Menter, William Ricker, W. Armbruster.  
1881—William Menter, Val. Hahn, W. Armbruster.  
1882—Andrew Rudaloff, Val. Hahn, James McCutchen, Sr.  
1883—J. C. Ricker, William Elder, S. P. Hathaway.  
1884—Samuel Shook, Fred Schwan, John Myers.  
1885-86—Samuel Shook, Fred Schwan, Henry Hoelter.  
1887—Samuel Shook, Fred Schwan, Frank Brough.  
1888—Paul Greulich, Fred Schwan, Frank Brough.  
1889—Paul Greulich, Fred Schwan, Henry Hoelter.  
1890-91—Paul Greulich, John Fark, Henry Hoelter.  
1892-93—Paul Greulich, John Fark, F. W. Welling.  
1894-95—John F. Myers, John Fark, F. W. Welling.  
1896—Dennis E. Kaley was elected.

*Justices.*—The justices of Troy were Daniel H. Cole, 1835; David Phenicie, 1835; Jehial P. Martin, 1836; Julius Blinn, 1838; Henry A. Harris, 1839; Thomas Gorrill, 1840 to 1853; Ephraim Tyler, 1842; Hiram Pratt, 1847; L. Gilbert, 1849 (did not qualify); Stillwell Truax, 1850; Jonathan Stoner, 1852; Joshua Chappel, 1852; Solomon Phillips, 1853 to 1862; August La Farree, 1857; Joseph Shook, 1860 and 1863; Caleb Root, 1862; William Welling, 1865 to 1871, and 1875 to 1881; Jerome B. McCutchen, 1866 to 1877, when he resigned, and 1881 to 1896; John S. La Farree, 1878; F. W. Welling, 1875, and 1881 to 1896; F. W. Welling, 1896.

*Clerks.*—The clerks: D. H. Cole, 1837; James La Farree, 1839; J. P. Martin, 1841; DeWitt Van Camp, 1842; Cornelius Daly, 1848; DeWitt Van Camp, 1851; Joseph Shook, 1853; James Lynch, 1855; A. La Farree, 1857; Caleb Root, 1858; A. La Farree, 1860; Joseph Shook, 1861–62; Jerome B. McCutchen, 1863; H. H. Dennis, 1877; Jerome B. McCutchen, 1878; H. H. Dennis, 1881; William Garner, 1884; J. B. McCutchen, 1885; E. H. Myers, 1886; E. F. Metzger, appointed Sept., 1892, re-elected 1896.

*Miscellaneous.*—In 1896 Samuel Shook was elected assessor; Louis Leaking, constable; Fred Claus, cemetery sexton; and G. W. Wagoner, J. C. Webb, Jr., John J. Deuble, and S. N. Fox, members of the school board.

*Schools.*—In 1833, when William Gorrill and his wife made their first home in Wood county, within this township, Mrs. Gorrill organized a school in her cabin, and thus became the pioneer teacher in Troy, as she was one of the township's pioneer women.

The enumeration taken by D. H. Cole, clerk of the township, in October, 1837, credits District No. 2 with thirty-three children of school age. On that date Isaac L. Russell had one child attending; Henry Elder, also 1; Silas H. Howard, 2 children; Orange Howard, 3; Thomas Leaming, 8; Joshua Smith, 5; Benedict Cramer, 2; Charles Stoner, 2; Elijah Emerson, 3; Elijah Baker, 1; and Daniel Smith, 5. Of the number, 20 were females. The value of the school house was \$25, and the annual salary of the teacher \$72.50. Section 16 was then unsold, and a non-producer of revenue.

This township appears to have conceded the rights of women to participate in affairs of the school board as early as 1856, for, in December of that year, Eliza Mary Winter was clerk of the board of education. The taxpayers of District No. 4, or Sections 25, 26, 35 and 36, appear to

have been Alto Gorton, Mary, Jacob and Wm. Sternaman, F. H. Freyer, J. H., Harry and Fred Hartman, G. Helker, George Joseph, Lewis, Ed. H. and J. F. Linker, John, Fred and Frank Rolfes, Joanna C. Shellenbarger, John and Stillwell Truax, Christian and Garrett Tape, Henry Holtmeyer, Jacob Emch, Mary O. Epker and daughter, Henry Epker, F. Neiman, Henry Kohring, Henry Menter, Daniel Rife, Eberhardt Samson, Fred. Samson, and E. H. Menter, Harmon Sanders, F. Schwan, Daniel Blandin, J. F. W. Heminger, C. Rothenbuhler, John H. Puck, Fred Sealscott, Wm. Titcommeyer, C. H. Winter and J. H. Fahle, with John Waterberry and Wm. Seurs, who are called "speculators."

The oldest school record, in possession of Clerk Metzger, dates back to April, 1857, when Thomas Gorrill, George Hopper, B. F. Dennis, Caleb Root, William Sternaman, Robert Daly, John Goss, Q. G. Smith, George Joseph and Daniel Blandin formed the board. An enumeration, made in 1857, credits Sub-District No. 1 with 27 male and 17 female children, belonging to Henry Elder, Thomas Gorrill, James McCutchen, James K. Knaly, H. Siebert, Joseph and S. Shook, Fred. Swarts, A. Snyder, William Zacharias and Augustus La Farree. In Sub-District No. 2 were 19 male and 17 female children, of Jacob Mayer, C. Stoner, Harvey Haines, V. Hahn, B. F. Dennis, John Shifferly, B. Cramer, Jacob Smith (killed by a falling tree later), J. V. Smith, John Moore, D. Van Camp and S. Howard. In District No. 3 were 27 male and 18 female pupils, children of H. L. Wood, George Denison, D. Gibson, Jacob Furry, Wm. Mann, L. Myrose, H. Buckland, D. D. Foster, Adam Caris, P. Hartman, W. Witzler, Henry Sherman, H. Harr, S. Phillips, James Lynch, C. Root and Mary Pratt. In District No. 4 were 58 male and 40 female children, the parents of whom are named under date of 1856; in No. 5 (where a house was erected in 1856), were 23 male and 32 female children of Robert Daly, D. Hagarty, John Conway, Aaron Smith, Mary Smith, John Gilbert, C. Goodell, O. Goodell, George Griner and A. Perkins, while in District No. 6 were 16 male and 10 female children of Samuel Shriner, S. Gushard, George Hopper, Daniel Snyder, G. Kepler and George Miller. Among the teachers mentioned in the record of the board of trustees, under date 1855–56, are Mary G. Gorrill, Augustus La Farree, W. J. Dennis, Mary Ann Daly, Mary Goodell, Henry Buckland, Henry Averill, Helen C. Bradley, Arnold McMahan, and others whose names are not written distinctly. In recent years, as in the

past, many, if not all, of the men named in the lists of township officers have taken a leading part in school affairs.

*First Land Buyers.*—The surveys of exterior and sectional lines of Troy were made by Alexander Holmes and Ambrose Rice, the first in 1820, and the second in December, 1833. The vanguard of the pioneers possessed the land before the final survey, but immediately after bought United States land. The first entries are recorded as follows:

Andrew Stoner, N. W. S. 2, May 29, 1834.  
 Charles Stoner, S. W. S. 2, May 29, 1834.  
 Thomas Bossler, S. N. E. & S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$ , S. 2, June 5, 1834.  
 Junius Patterson, S. W. S. 3, May 28, 1834.  
 John Knowles, N. W. N. E. S. 3, March 3, 1835 (a soldier of 1812).  
 Thomas Phillips, S. W. N. W. S. 12, Nov. 13, 1833.  
 James Kinney, N. N. E. S. 12, April 6, 1836.  
 George Whitestone, N. S. W. S. 21, Aug. 6, 1834.  
 Michael Rogers, N. E. S. 21, July 31, 1834.  
 Gad Sutliff, W. S. W. S. 22, Aug. 8, 1834.  
 Stillwell Truax, E. N. E. S. 25, May 15, 1834.  
 Abraham Whisler, W. S. E. S. 25, April 14, 1834.  
 Christian Tape, E. N. W. S. 25, Nov. 11, 1834.  
 Fred. Rolfes, pt. of S. 25, 1836.  
 Jacob Emch, E. S. E. S. 26, April 16, 1834.  
 Henry Munshower, N. W. S. E. S. 26, May 14, 1835.  
 Wm. Hearst, pt. N. W. S. 28, June 27, 1834.  
 John Davis, W. S. E. S. 28, Oct. 28, 1835.  
 David Hoyt, W. N. E. & N. N. W. S. 33, Oct. 16, 1835.  
 Samuel Dixon, S. S. W. S. 35, July 1, 1834.  
 Edward Lockwood, N. S. E. N. S. W. S. 35, Oct. 16, 1835.  
 Daniel Carsner, N. S. W. S. N. W. S. 36, April 16, 1834.  
 J. P. Martin, S. E. S. W. S. 36, July 15, 1835.  
 Fred. Zileschote (Sealscott), N. E. N. W. S. 36, Feb. 20, 1836.

Jacob Furry entered Road Tract, No. 41, in 1833, and others, named in the list of first voters, invested in road, canal and swamp lands, taking deeds from the State.

*The Western Reserve Road.*—One of the most important improvements, in this part of Ohio, was commenced in 1825, when a "mud pike" was constructed from Lower Sandusky to Perrysburg, a distance of thirty-one miles. Notwithstanding the fact that schooner, brig and steamboat carried many of the thousands, who settled in the West, the direct route for other thousands, who traveled overland, was through the Black Swamp. For this reason, the building of the "mud pike" was looked upon as a great advance. About 1825, Artemus Beebe and Ezra S. Adams, of Elyria, bought the interests of Silas Wolverton in the mail route, between Cleveland and Lower Sandusky, and in 1827 placed the first mail coaches on that line, which they extended to Detroit, *via* Fremont and Perrysburg, in 1830. In 1836, Neil, Moore & Co.'s coaches were placed on this end of the route, and in 1838 Toledo was made a terminal point, and the railroad began to make inroads on the old-time coach. By degrees the number

of coaches lessened, and ultimately disappeared. In 1875, the Chicago and New York fast mail made the trip between the two cities, in twenty-six hours and forty minutes, or about one-third of the time required by the mail carriers of 1823 to run from Norwalk, Ohio, to Detroit, Mich. The pioneers and old settlers of Troy, Lake and Perrysburg well remember the early days along this road. They relate that mud-holes were created for revenue purposes, that yokes of oxen for helping to extricate teams were kept in readiness, and that the mud holes, convenient to each tavern, were the perquisites of the nearest taverner. Indeed, it is said that one of the mud-hole owners, becoming tired of this holey department of his business, sold his interest therein to a neighbor for \$5, hoping by this means, to escape retribution in the next world, and the curses of the immigrants, who were delayed in their westward travels, in this.

Neil, Moore & Co., whose coaches plied over the old mud-road, were made the butt of ridicule. One of the early poets of Wood county, writing for the *Maumee Express*, in 1837, describes the road at that period:

No more we hear the Jarvey say: "Load in, gents, all is right,"  
 The horn that used to sound by day, alas! now sounds by night,  
 And soon, deep-stalled in endless mud, no more the coach can go—  
 A lumber wagon takes the road—alas! Neil, Moore & Co.

In wet seasons, or when the spring sun peeped through the forest and warmed the frosty ground, the mud-road was well-nigh impassable. At all times it was a *dernier resort* for the traveler, and the bug-a-boo of thousands, who dared the delays, troubles and expenses of a journey over it. Time, which heals all troubles, covered it with rocks and broken stone; but, ten years after the work was completed, the railroad came to rob it of its travelers, and to leave it only a small fraction of its former vast patronage.

*Men of 1839.*—The male inhabitants of the original township, over twenty-one years of age, in 1839, were: Orrin Kellogg, Joseph Kellogg, Casper Noel, Jacob Furry, John Gallaher, James More, Simon Wagoner, Thomas Crago, James McLargan, Daniel Walden, Peter Fisher, Jehiel P. Martin, Joseph Webster, Adam Harmire, Daniel Carsner, George Albert, Jr., Joshua Main, Anthony Ewing, Dexter Leffingwell, Thomas Phillips, Solomon Phillips, Nathan White, Charles Stoner, Benedict Cramer, Joshua Smith, John L. Smith, William Barr, Simon Stevenson, Daniel Stevenson, Hugh Nugent, Thomas Leaming, Edward Leaming, John Anderson, Julius Blinn,

James Jeffery, William Jeffery, Frederick Sealscott, Harman Saunders, Jacob Emch, John Buck, Daniel Blandin, Stilwell Truax, Jacob Whisler, Henry Epker, Henry Hartman, Henry Fry, John Rolf, Garrett Sealscott, Abraham Whisler, John Sinker, Christian Tape, Henry Harris, Meredith Pitcher, John Gidsbey, Thomas Harrison, Hollis Deater, Russel Case, James Brown, Samuel Harvey, Orange Howard, Silas M. Howard, Robert Rugg, Ellis Eisinghuit, Henry I. Elder, Isaac Russell, Jerry Smith, Thomas Gorrell, John Martin, William McKnight, Benjamin Van Camp, John Goss, Solomon Wright, Garret Tape, Frederick Rolfes, William Bushnell, Seth Phillips, Elijah Baker, William Phillips, Seth S. Phillips, Sanford G. Baker, Benjamin Bromley, Ambrose Rogers, Daniel Smith, James Dubois, Sanford Main, Henry Boose, George Albert, Philip Harns, Henry Harns, Alonzo Utley, Cameron, Cornelius Darley, John Elderkin (who built the present "Empire House"), George Newton, Arnold Sutton, William Corvett, George Willson, Martin Burns, Patrick Welch, Richard Close.

The list embraces the names of many whose lives were identified with Lake and Webster townships, and of a few who became prominent in the history of Perrysburg.

*The Cholera.*—In 1852 and 1854 the cholera plague struck Troy, taking away Fred, Julia and William Rolfes, Philip Hartman, James La Farree, and others in 1852, and one or two from every family in 1854.

*Landmarks.*—The umbrella barn, about three miles southeast of Stony Ridge, was one of the landmarks of the road. The old "Howard House," at LeMoyne, is a good specimen of the ancient tavern. "Elders Tavern," owned by Russell in 1835, was the only frame house on the old Reserve road. It stands three-quarters of a mile southeast of the railroad depot, at Stony Ridge, and is occupied by William Elder. The villages of LeMoyne and Stony Ridge, on the old road, are modern in style of buildings and in the habits and customs of their inhabitants.

*Churches.*—The Troy German Evangelical Lutheran Church, of which Henry Rolfes, Louis Meierrose, E. Samsen and Fred Nieman were trustees, purchased, in 1864, from George Joseph, the lands in the western quarter of Sec. 25, T. 6, R. 12, where the society began building a church early that year. To-day there are about fifty members. The heads of families, named in the record of School District No. 4, in 1856, were nearly all members of this society. Rev. M. A. Johanson is the resident pastor and teacher

of the Lutheran school at that point. About fourteen years ago, he succeeded Adam Burkey, who succeeded Rev. George Cronewett.

Andrew Hays, well-known in Montgomery and Perry townships, has been a local preacher in the M. E. Church since 1844. He has probably officiated at more marriages and funerals than any other local preacher in the county, and has had more Gospel adventures than a dozen of his fellows. A little incident which took place a few years ago in which the gentleman was the principal actor, and which relates to Troy township, deserves mention. It was told by Mrs. Carter, and, of course, is fact throughout. He was notified to fill an appointment for a brother minister somewhere in the northern part of the county, Troy township. It was a bright Sabbath morning, and Andrew went riding leisurely along, probably thinking over the heads of his discourse. Looking up he saw just ahead of him a church and people gathering for service. As it was about the place where he expected to find the church, and about the time to begin service, he made no inquiries of any one, but hitched his horse, walked into the church and entered the pulpit. He announced the opening hymn, which was sung by the congregation, offered prayer, the congregation sung the second time, and as Rev. Hays was about to announce his text, a gentleman stepped into the pulpit and placing his hand on Hays' shoulder, said to him: "My good brother, it may be your *sing* and *pray*, but it is my *preach*." Mutual explanations followed, when Brother Hays discovered it was about four miles farther on to his appointment. It is only necessary to remark that he arrived some time after his congregation had got tired of waiting, and dispersed to their homes.

In the matter of churches, Woodville was the Mecca of worshipers of Troy township for some years. In 1840, a Lutheran class was organized by Messrs. Konrad and Cronewett; a Catholic congregation was formed by Father Rappe, in 1843; a German Methodist Society was organized the same year; a Methodist Society in 1844; and the United Brethren Society about the same time.

#### STONY RIDGE.

The village was surveyed in May, 1872, for Caleb Bean, on Road-tract 59, and that part on Tract 38, for Samuel Shriner, George Kirk being the surveyor. The name, taken from the physical character of the locality, is altogether appropriate. The pioneers of Stony Ridge find

mention in the sketch of the township, and in more than one chapter of the general history; while her soldiers are named in the Military chapter. The "Empire House," built in 1848 or 1849, stands on the hill southeast of the village, and near it are the church buildings of the community. The postmaster is E. F. Metzger, who is also township clerk.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* was organized about 1840, with the following named members: Jacob and Fanny Furry, John and Peggy Noel, James McLargan, James Moore, John Goss, James La Farree, Sr., Joshua Smith, Sr., and their wives, Mrs. Gorrill, Mary Smith and John Reid. There were others belonging, but the names can not be given. Fifteen or sixteen years ago the Stewarts, McCutchens, Mrs. Eliza Robinson, and Catherine Eagle became members; but the *personnel* of the first class got religion during a camp meeting held down on Mud creek, in 1839 or 1840. The first church, erected in 1856, is now the temporary dwelling of Eugene Morris. In 1889, the present house of worship was erected, and dedicated December 1, 1889. Mr. Albrittor is presiding elder, with Rev. C. M. Myers, preacher-in-charge. Rev. John Stewart has supplied the pulpit for over a decade.

*St. John's Lutheran Church* was founded by Rev. E. Cronewett, of Woodville, Ohio. Among the early members were John F. and Joshua G. Swartz, Ludwig Metzger, George Miller, George Lederer, Daniel Snyder, C. Hazel, C. Meyers, Adam Snyder, Jacob Kurfess, and Samuel Gossert. For the first few years services were held very irregularly as the society had no church building. In 1872, the present house of worship was erected at an approximate cost of \$2,500, and the parsonage, which was built about 1880, cost \$800. The pastors of the charge have been Revs. Buerkle, Sheips and George Wolf, until 1887, when, in July of that year, the present incumbent, Rev. John Born, assumed the pastorate. The present membership is about 150, which is in a thriving condition. The Sabbath-school has an attendance of about seventy.

*The Union League*, of which Thomas Gorrill was president, and DeWitt Van Camp, secretary, was organized May 30, 1863, with fifty-one male and nineteen female members.

*Sydney Brewster Post*, No. 160, G. A. R., was chartered October 28, 1881, and named in honor of a soldier of Company C, 21st O. V. I., who fell mortally wounded at Chickamauga, September 20, 1863. The charter was granted to M. Kopf, H. S. Clifford, Thomas Mears, C. D.

Dennis, Thomas Lee, John Priest, Richard Priest, C. Guisbuehler, George Miller, Jacob Baker, Isaiah Chamberlain, J. V. Smith and Michael Burgemeister. The four first named filled the offices in Post rank, with M. Burgemeister as adjutant. In 1884, H. S. Clifford was commander, M. M. Carr, adjutant, there being thirty-one members at that time, with headquarters at Le-Moyne. Meetings were also held at Stony Ridge until the decrease in membership caused the dissolution of the organization.

*Knights of Honor Lodge*, No. 3490, was organized June 28, 1889, with twenty-five members, among whom were Wesley Bean, Nathan and George Robinson, Marshall Cole, James and Frank Wagoner, Dr. H. A. Noble, Michael Hackley, Lucian Snyder, A. C. Calkins and Solomon Bouncer. There are now eighty members enrolled.

#### LEMOYNE.

This little railroad village of the present day, was at one time an important stage-coach station, one well remembered by tens of thousands, who traveled over the Western Reserve road before the days of railroading were introduced in the Maumee Country. The "Howard House," a brick building in Colonial style, was the first pretentious structure in the eastern townships.

The village, as surveyed in February, 1877, for S. Howard, Alfred Dennis, John Webb and U. J. Dennis, shortly after the opening of the railroad, was named Le Moyne, now spelled Lemoyne.

The first store was established in 1877, by H. H. Dennis; R. Bollini opened the second the same year, and James Nicholson, the third, a few years later. The old brick caravansary has long been divorced from tavern uses, and is now the property of Harman Hartman.

The office of the C. H. V. & T. railroad was opened in 1876, by J. W. Crawford, who was agent until 1880, when A. N. Newell, the present agent, took charge.

The post office was opened in 1880, and in April, 1881, created a registry office. The incumbents have been Jacob Mayer, who signs the record in April, 1881; H. H. Dennis, June, 1883; Michael Kopf, September, 1885, and Thomas A. Spencer, 1889. John D. Bringman was appointed in 1893.

The Trowbridge Stave Works was an important industry here for some years, or until the forests round the new village of Dunbridge won the industry for that point.

The Sawyer limekiln, established twelve or thirteen years ago, was abandoned after a short run, owing to the poor quality of the lime rock found here.

The early ventures of oildom south of the village, though earnest, did not succeed in finding petroleum in paying quantities, though latter-day explorations in Troy and Lake leave little room for doubting the existence of a pool in the old territory.

*Salem Evangelical Church* adopted a constitution November 2, 1871, signed by Rev. S. E. Rife, preacher, and members of the society. The church building was then finished, and rules made for attending worship. Among such rules was No. 5: "The Males to be seated to the left of the preacher on the stand, and the Females to the right of the preacher on the stand." The society is said to have been organized in November, 1841.

*United Brethren Church (Radical)*, was organized in 1881, by Rev. J. M. Crim, with the following named members: D. Van Camp, R. L. Van Camp, H. S. Clifford, and their wives, Wm. Andrews (then a widower), A. N. Newall, Benedict Emch, Fred. Barnes and their wives, Ellen Van Camp, Laura, Katie and Barbara Hahn, and a number of young members, making in all about forty members. The present church building was finished in 1882, at a cost of \$1,800, including lot. The trustees, since organization, have been A. N. Newell, H. S. Clifford and William Andrews, while the other two places on the board have been filled by various members. There are twenty-five communicants. Rev. C. T. Doane is pastor.

#### LUCKEY.

This village was surveyed, in April, 1881, for Isaac W. Krotzer, by George Kirk. The location could not be better; for, between the railroad and a small feeder of the Toussaint, in Section 28, the ridge assumes a form peculiarly adapted to a town site. The main street, running west from the railroad, is a broad thoroughfare, wanting only in lines of shade trees to become a boulevard. On the north side of this street are the principal business buildings—a row of brick houses which would do credit to a town of 10,000 inhabitants. West of the business center are the cottages of the people; while on parallel streets are several cozy homes and the church and school buildings of the community. Along the railroad are the limekilns and

stave works, and round the village, in every direction, are the well-cultivated farms and houses of an industrious people.

The store of Samuel P. Hathaway must be considered the first mercantile venture at this point, and the limekiln of Riddle, Krotzer & Krotzer, the first industry.

The post office was established in 1881, with George Luckey, postmaster. Samuel P. Hathaway succeeded him in 1882, and, on his resignation, Charles F. Greiner was appointed. In 1885, Edward Myers was commissioned; in 1889, Samuel P. Hathaway; and, in 1893, G. F. Peabody, who resigned in January, 1895, when G. F. Claus, the present incumbent, was appointed.

C. C. Layman, who located at Luckey in 1884, was the first lawyer of the village; while Dr. Peabody must be named as the first physician, though one or two medical men resided here, for short terms, before he began practice.

S. P. Hathaway made the commercial beginnings of the village in 1871, when the grading of the A. & L. E. railroad (now the T. & O. C.) was commenced. Ten years later he built on Main street, sold that house to the Myers brothers, and built on the site of his present store. After the village was platted the other pioneers of trade came in.

The fire of July 12, 1893, destroyed the two blocks extending along the north side of Main street, from Charles to Walnut, including the stores of Myers Bros., S. P. Hathaway, E. F. Peabody and G. F. Claus; Krotz's saloon; the Hathaway dwelling, and Mrs. Wagner's millinery. In the fall of that year, the Hathaway-Peabody brick block was erected, and also the Myers block. The Claus and Daniel Rife buildings were erected at the same time, and before the winter of 1893-94 a row or terrace of brick mercantile houses had taken the place of the old-time frame structures.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church* was organized in Webster township at the Walker school house a number of years ago. The headquarters of the class were, in 1882 or 1883, moved to Luckey, where a building was erected on a lot donated to the society. Among the first members were Ira Austin (who has been steward or secretary since reorganization), Richard Priest, Martin Tooley, Thomas Holden, Elisha Holden, Fred Miller, Wm. Goss, Orlin Goodell, Daniel Caris, James Hopper, William Lance, William Barber and their wives, Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Lehman, Mrs. Vleckie, Mrs. Clegg, Mrs. Krotzer. The Church is in the Pemberville Circuit.



*The German Lutheran Church* was incorporated January 23, 1884, with Conrad Kuttler and Gerhard Dierkey, elders, and H. Hoelter, Franz Vahle and Peter Lehman, trustees. The work of church building was commenced that year, and the house of worship was dedicated in the fall.

*The Salem Evangelical Church* was dedicated November 19, 1893, Rev. Berger, of Perrysburg, being pastor. The house cost \$1,500. The society was organized by Rev. Rosenbarger years ago, and services were held in the old school house until the society purchased the house from the district, about twelve years ago, moved it to the site of the present church, and worshiped therein until 1892, when the Catholic congregation bought the old building, moved it to Luckey, where it is used for worship. The heads of families of the Evangelical Society, at or about the time of organization, included John Jacob, John Christian, Jacob Christian, J. W. Rothenbuehler, Samuel Jacob, and their wives, with Mrs. Brandt. Gott. Burkholder is steward. The membership in October, 1895, was sixty-eight.

*The Catholic Mission* was established in 1892 by Father Kress, when the old Evangelical building was purchased, and fitted up as a mission chapel. Among the members were James Powers, Sr., M. McCluskey, Leonard Karns, John Hagartys, John Berning, James Maginn, Henry Berning, Joseph Whalen, Joseph Kehn and M. Biskey. The mission is now attended by Father O'Connor.

#### WEBB.

Webb, in the northeast corner, was the postal center and shipping point for parts of the two counties. In the fall of 1895, the post office was discontinued, owing to the proximity of Lemoyne, Latchie and Stony Ridge.

#### CONCLUSION.

The township may be called a rural or predial one. The agriculturists are sturdy and industrious, and their farms and homes show how thoroughly they understand and appreciate their advantages.

## CHAPTER XLV.

### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP.

SURVEYS, POPULATION, ESTABLISHMENT, AND BOUNDARIES—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS, ETC.—PIONEERS—FIRST MURDER—A FALSE ALARM—A SWEET SPECULATION—EARLY SCHOOLS—BOARD OF EDUCATION—OTSEGO—BENTON—GERMANY.  
TONTOGANY VILLAGE—MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, AND OFFICIALS—POST OFFICE—TRADE AND TRADERS—CHURCHES—SOCIETIES.

**T**HE surveys of this township were made in 1819 and 1820, as related in the chapter on Land Titles. The population in 1840 was 244; in 1850, increased to 504; in 1860, to 899, and in 1890, to 1,212.

The establishment of Washington, on June 5, 1837, was agreed to by the commissioners, and the following declared to be its boundaries: "Commencing at the Maumee, taking all of fractional townships No. 6, N., and R., No. 9, E., and Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13 and 14 in T. No. 5, R. 9, E., and Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 in T. 5, R. 10, thence from N. E. corner of Section 4 in said township, north on the east line of Sections 33, 28 and 21, and Fractional Section 16, in

T. 6, R. 10, and thence west to the Maumee," thus taking territory from Middleton, Plain and Weston townships.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

The first election was held July 4, that year, when the following named officers were chosen: Trustees—John Crom, Sr., Elias W. Hedges, Robert Bamber, Sr.; clerk—Michael Sypher; treasurer—Frederick Bassett; overseers of the poor—John Skinner, James Henry; fence viewers—John Graham and Levi Eggleston; supervisors—Caleb North, Sr., M. P. Morgan, David Whitney; constables—Edmund Buttles and James T. Skinner, and school examiner—

Emilius Wood. By the second election, in the spring of 1838, Samuel Flanders succeeded John Crom, Sr., as trustee, the clerk and treasurer and the other trustees being re-elected. In 1839 Jeremiah Ward succeeded E. W. Hedges on the board of trustees, and served with Samuel Flanders and Robert Bamber; Elliott Warner was elected clerk, and R. Black, treasurer. In 1840 Jeremiah Ward, Robert Black and Robert Bamber were elected trustees; M. Sypher, clerk, and Samuel Flanders, treasurer. In April, 1841, Ward, Black and Flanders were re-elected, and Elliott Warner was elected clerk. In 1842, John Skinner was elected treasurer, Robert Black remaining on the board of trustees, with Martin Warner and Phineas H. Durphy as his associates. Emilius Wood was the first justice of the peace.

*The Trustees*, elected annually since that time, are named as follows:

- 1843—Martin Warner, Jr., Joseph A. Creps, J. T. Skinner.
- 1844—Martin Warner, Jr., Henry Mandell, Robert Black.
- 1845—Martin Warner, Jr., Robert Black, Jacob Crom.
- 1846—Martin Warner, Jr., Robert Bamber, Jacob Crom.
- 1847—Edward A. Ketchum, Robert Bamber, Jesse Huff.
- 1848—Edward A. Ketchum, J. A. Creps, John Bamber.
- 1849—Martin Warner, Jr., Edmund Buttles, Henry Burkhardt.
- 1850—Edwin Tuller, J. T. Skinner, Martin Warner, Jr.
- 1851—David W. Bamber, Martin Warner, Jr., Jacob Crom.
- 1852—P. H. Durphy, John Bamber, Jacob Crom.
- 1853—P. H. Durphy, E. Wood, John Bamber.
- 1854—Edwin Tuller, Nelson Kuder, John Gundy.
- 1855—Edwin Tuller, Martin Warner, Caleb North, Jr.
- 1856—Edwin Tuller, Martin Warner, William North.
- 1857-58—Hiram Cuning, James W. Condit, Joseph A. Creps.
- 1859—J. A. Creps, G. L. Warner, J. Q. Adams.
- 1860-61—G. L. Warner, Septimus Mawer, George Green.
- 1862—Septimus Mawer, Robert Bamber, J. Q. Adams.
- 1863-64—John Q. Adams, Septimus Mawer, Jacob Gundy.
- 1865—James Raymond, Nelson Kuder, Septimus Mawer.
- 1866—Sidney Van Tassel, Abner Cummings, J. Q. Adams.
- 1867—Jacob Gundy, Septimus Mawer, J. Q. Adams.
- 1868—Nelson Kuder, George Green, Jacob Gundy.
- 1869—James W. Condit, Elliott Warner, J. Q. Adams.
- 1870—Bernard Phillips, Thomas Stone, J. L. McColley.
- 1871—Joel Foote, James Davis, J. Q. Adams.
- 1872—Nelson Kuder, Joel Foote, J. Q. Adams.
- 1873—Joel Foote, Septimus Mawer, James Davis.
- 1874—Joel Foote, Nelson Kuder, J. Q. Adams.
- 1875-76—Edward Beverstock, Joel Foote, J. Q. Adams.
- 1877—C. C. Gundy, Daniel Murdock, E. B. Beverstock.
- 1878—C. C. Gundy, E. B. Beverstock, J. Q. Adams.

The trustees from 1879 to 1896 are named in the following list:

- 1879—Fred Peinert, David Petteys, S. Van Tassel.
- 1880—Silas Gray, J. S. Matthews, Fred Peinert.
- 1881—C. C. Gundy, Fred Peinert, J. S. Matthews.
- 1882—Jacob Huffman, Fred Peinert, J. J. Black.
- 1883—Jacob Huffman, Fred Peinert, J. Q. Adams.
- 1884—C. C. Gundy, Fred Peinert, Adam Scherer.
- 1885—Alex. McCombs, J. S. Matthews, C. C. Gundy.
- 1886—Alex. McCombs (3), Daniel Huffman (2), J. S. Matthews.

The election of April, 1887, was the first when a single trustee was to be chosen. John S. Matthews was elected, and, with his associates

elected in 1886, formed the board. The trustees, elected for the long term, or to fill vacancies, since April, 1888, are named as follows: 1888, Daniel W. Huffman; 1889, Alexander McCombs; 1890, Frank Adams; 1891, Adam Scherer; 1892, W. U. Baker; 1893, John Phillips; 1894, George Stone; 1895, Daniel W. Huffman; 1896, John S. Phillips.

*Transactions.*—The Sugar Creek ditch was considered in September, 1854, and Stations 22 to 31, inclusive, apportioned to Egbert Husted. In November, 1854, the trustees in session, with T. S. Sabin and William Pratt, of Weston, and M. Tracy, of Plain, awarded the contracts for excavating the Keeler Prairie and Tontogany ditch. The White Outlet was excavated in 1856; the Washington & Weston Middle ditch, the Cummings ditch, and other drains were authorized the same year. The Donaldson and Soash ditches were constructed in 1858, and also the Elliott and Russell and the Green ditches. By March, 1859, there were ten large drains existing, including all named, with the Plain and Tontogany, the Sittle Prairie, and the Weston and Washington West Town Line.

The election for stock in the Dayton & Michigan railroad, held April 4, 1853, resulted in 56 votes for and 28 *contra*. On the 12th the trustees met at the Jefferson school house to issue said bonds, but declined signing them. On May 19, W. V. Way, agent for the company, called the trustees to meet him, but nothing was accomplished; again, on the 20th, the attorney met them and urged them to sign bonds for \$10,000, which they did, after Way and Peck had given their joint bond, for \$20,000, to the township for the faithful observance of the railroad company's promises. Each of the ten bonds issued was for \$1,000, bearing 7 per cent. interest, and payable January 1, 1873. On May 28, the trustees levied sixteen mills on each dollar of valuation, to meet interest on such bonds. On June 4, 1868, there is a minute made of the fact that the trustees took 280 fifty-dollar shares in the stock of the Michigan-Dayton Railroad Company.

In April, 1888, there were 127 votes cast for issuing \$4,000 bonds for building a town hall—123 votes against, and nineteen neutral.

In December, 1893, the trustees and board of health considered the sanitary condition of the township, ordered all school children to be vaccinated, appointed Dr. B. F. Davis health officer, and Adam Scherer, sanitary policeman, and adopted a series of rules to be observed in guarding against contagious diseases.

The old journal of the trustees, in possession of Judge Ewing, with documents and records in the county offices, have enabled the writer to make almost a complete list of township officers and a summary of their transactions.

*Justices.*—Justices were Emilius Wood, 1838; Samuel Flanders, 1839; Elliott Warner, 1841; Samuel B. Campbell, 1841; Jeremiah Ward, 1843; Edmond C. Buttels, 1846; Thomas E. Jackman, 1847-52; Edwin Tuller, 1849 (did not qualify); Edmond Buttels (of the Thundergust mill), 1850; Edwin Tuller, 1850-53; John Bamber, 1851; Ebenezer Donaldson, 1856-59; Edwin Tuller, 1856 to 1898; Edward Renwick, 1862; Robert Bamber, 1862; Charles Lewis, 1863; James L. Curry, 1864; Thomas W. Mawer, 1865; Geo. H. Van Blarcum, 1865; Luther Black, 1866; Alfred B. Jeune, 1868; Richard Ingraham, 1869; George Nicholls, 1871-74; E. A. Ketchum, 1875-78; R. H. Freeman, 1875-80 (resigned in 1882); H. G. Condit, 1882; G. A. Repass, 1884-87 (resigned in 1889); John Q. Adams, 1886-89; Jesse P. Wade, 1892; and John S. Matthews, 1895.

*Clerks, Treasurers, Assessors.*—The clerks: Michael Sypher, 1837; Elliott Warner, 1839; M. Sypher, 1840; Elliott Warner, 1841 to 1868; Burt Williams, 1868; Geo. Nicholls, 1872; Silas Clark, 1873; E. A. Ketchum, 1874; Geo. R. Matthews, 1876 (served until April 10, 1884, when he resigned, and Dr. A. Eddmon was appointed to fill the vacancy); R. J. Collins, 1885; Geo. R. Matthews, 1887; W. R. Marwick, 1890 (declined to qualify, when George R. Matthews was appointed); Robert J. Collins, 1892, re-elected 1896. Treasurers were T. Bassett, 1837; R. Black, 1839; Samuel Flanders, 1840; John Skinner, 1842; James T. Skinner, 1844; Nelson Kuder, 1845; Walter Cummings, 1852; C. C. Whitmore, 1873; David Petteys, 1880; Frank Yost, 1882; and Will Waugh, 1895-97. The assessors were named as follows: Jeremiah Ward, 1842; Michael Sypher, 1845; James W. Condit, 1847; Roswell M. Skinner, assessor to 1854; Edward A. Ketchum, 1854; Joseph E. Creps, 1856; Nelson Kuder, 1857; Phillip Ballard, 1858; Jacob R. Huff, 1859; J. H. Kuder, 1860; Joseph A. Creps, 1864; Bernard Phillips, 1865; J. H. Kuder, 1866; Burt Williams, 1870; Bernard Phillips, 1871; John S. Matthews, 1872; P. H. Van Valkenburg, 1880; G. S. Kuder, 1882; Jacob Gundy, 1883; W. Cummings, 1886; W. R. Marwick, 1888; Loren C. Potter (chosen be lot), 1890; Christopher C. Gundy, 1892; C. C. Kuder, 1893; and L. A. McCombs, 1895-97, who received 160 votes on the Republican ticket

against eighty-three recorded for Jacob Douster, the Populist nominee.

*School Trustees.*—In 1896 the following were elected members of the school board: Conrad Beil, Ananias Shenower, Jacob Volmer, William Hyman, and Peter Whitmore.

*Pioneers.*—Samuel Ewing, who settled opposite Wolf Rapids in 1819, and who was killed in 1822, must be named as the pioneer of the township. His farm became the property of Valentine Winslow, who sold to David Hedges. He built the stone house in 1833. The white adult males within the township in 1839, are named as follows: Isaac Bossard, Jesse T. Pugh, John Black\*, Robert Black\*, Jacob Barnthistle, Robert Bamber, Jr., John Bamber\*, Jonathan Crom, Josiah Cummings, Abraham Crom, Josiah Crom, Solomon Kuder, Jonas Stockwell, Jeremiah Ward, John Skinner\*, William North\*, Henry Comager, Joseph North, Caleb North\*, Emilius Wood, Elliott Warner, Martin Warner, Martin Warner, Jr., John Warner, John Williner, Richard Hoff, Alexander Howard, Levi Lazell, John Soash, Edmund Buttels, Noah Reed, Phineas Durphy, Samuel Flanders, St. John Wilson, Michael Sypher\*, David Whitney, Benjamin Miller, Luke Van Tassel, Merrit Flint, Jacob Huffman, James Henry, Neptune Nearing, Alex Alcorn, David Hedges, Elias W. Hedges, Stephen Cook, and Robert Newell, blacksmith.

In 1833, the men whose names are marked thus \* above were among the petitioners for a road, from Miltonville to Green Encampment, or Bowling Green, with James Smith, Robert Cowan, Levi, Samuel and Horace Hamilton, Jacob Crom, Robert Bamber, Sr., and George Barron, who do not appear to be residents of the township in 1839. In 1834, the names of John Barker, Jesse T. Pugh, C. Collett, John Graber, David Hedges, the three Hamiltons, the two elder Warners, Robert Shuman, John Feagles, Widow Linscott, Joseph Haines and Elias W. Hedges were here. Michael Sypher settled in 1831; William North and Samuel Hamilton, in the fall of 1830 (settled on site of Tontogany); John Crom in 1831; and John Skinner in 1832. When these pioneers went into the forest from the river, that part of the Fort Meigs and Wappa-koneta road, from the Mission station into the prairie, on the east bank of the Tontogany, was not cut out or bridged. The Haskins and Bear Rapids road running from the river to the Perrysburg and Findlay road, at Mackey's, at Mt. Ararat, was next cut through, and then the road

referred to above, as petitioned for in 1833. Michael Sypher moved in the spring of 1831, from his first location, a half-mile above Miltonville, into what is now Washington township. As stated above, William North and Samuel Hamilton arrived the year before, or the same year; John Skinner, Sr., with his wife and seven children, came in 1832, while John and Robert Black located north of Tontogany the same year. The Barnhistles, Solomon Kuder, Elliott Warner, Sr., and the Bambers came next, followed in quick succession by others until the pioneer circle of the township was completed.

*First Murder.*—The township has not been without its tragedies and alarms. In 1819 Samuel Ewing settled at Wolf Rapids, near where David Hedges established the town of Benton in later years. One day, in 1822, while visiting Richardson's tavern, at Roche de Bœuf, he quarrelled with a man named John Lewis, who struck him in such a manner as to dislocate his neck, killing him at once. Lewis was imprisoned in the jail at Maumee, but escaped that night. Eight years after, Porter killed the owner of that tavern, and suffered the death penalty for the act.

*A False Alarm.*—The Huckleberry war of 1837 left its impress on the pioneers of this township. A half-breed named Tibault carried the news from Gilead that the Sacs and Foxes had induced the Pottawattamies and Ottawas to don the war-paint, and exterminate the whites. The Ottawas were guiltless of the charge, but the report was sufficient to drive the settlers to arms; so that on the night after the first new moon, succeeding the Indian council, Rev. Isaac Van Tassel and his missionary family were in a boat, anchored in mid-stream, ready to fly; a number of pioneers, fully armed, garrisoned Guy Nearing's old mill at Otsego, and another party garrisoned John Crom's log house, north of Tontogany.

*A Sweet Speculation.*—Many stories are related of Guy Nearing, the pioneer. On one occasion (some time in the "thirties") he made a bargain with the Deckers to pay them a dollar a tree for every bee tree they could find. At that time wild flowers were so abundant on the prairies that wild bees prospered better than tame ones do now, and it was no trouble to find a bee tree. The Deckers, who were skillful bee hunters had marked a great number in the openings skirting the prairie north of where Bowling Green now is. Nearing took his men and ox-wagons, filled with barrels and supplies, including some whisky, and came out and a merry, sweet, jolly time they had of it. Nearing, who had feet as large as a small

store box, attended the "commissary," and packed the honey in the barrels, which he would do by getting in the barrels with his feet and stamping it down. After getting a full cargo they took it to the river, and shipped it by steamer to the Buffalo market.

*Early Schools.*—The first school house in Washington township was a log "structure" 12 x 14 feet, built near where the Washington chapel, U. B., now stands, about 1833. After the house was built the question came up: "Who shall be our teacher?" As that commodity was not as plentiful as at present, it was decided, in 1834, that Michael Sypher and Elliott Warner, Sr., should take charge of the school, each by turn teaching a month, their only pay being the satisfaction of seeing the rapid advancement of the pupils, who, we may mention, are now some of the old and substantial citizens of Washington. Thus began the first educational effort in a public way in that township. Probably the first Sunday-school of the vicinity was organized in the same building, with Warner, superintendent, and when the people on the Sabbath wished to attend church and hear a sermon, they sometimes went to the "Mission Station" to hear Rev. Isaac Van Tassel read a sermon of the Old-School Presbyterian kind.

The "Washington" school house, near John McColly's, completed in 1842, was the first frame school house in the township. The meetings of the lyceum were held in the old house, and debates carried on there were generally hot and heavy. The cemetery has now spread over the school site. Dr. Lathrop taught in 1835-36. The "Jefferson," or old Tontogany, school house, built in 1845, was the second. It stood north of the village, on the old Wood farm, now owned by Hiram Cuning. The old frame was purchased by S. L. Irwin, moved to Tontogany by W. D. Herrick, and forms a part of the Irwin homestead to-day. It is said that a log house was built in District No. 2 before township organization, and that the Sypher-Warner house was the second building.

*Board of Education.*—The first record-book of the board of education, in possession of the clerk, begins April 18, 1853, and ends April 10, 1882. The clerks of the five districts, in 1853, were Edward A. Ketchum, James T. Skinner, Josiah H. Kuder, John Bamber and J. A. Creps. E. A. Ketchum, Jesse Huff and Samuel Minard were elected directors of Sub-District No. 1; James T. Skinner, Walter Cummings and Robert Black, of No. 2; J. H. Kuder, Martin Warner, Jr., and Syrenus Condit, of No. 3; (No. 4

not mentioned); and J. A. Creps, S. Mawer and Hiram West, of No. 5. About that time a school house was almost finished in No. 5; William Trill was appointed agent to obtain title to a site for the Otsego school house. In December, 1853, there was \$513.51 in the school-house fund, including \$19.03 accrued interest on Sec. 16, and \$280.79 from State common-school fund. The township tax on county duplicate for 1853 was \$181.45; the sub-district tax, \$118.57, and orders of former years, \$42.23, making a total of \$855.76. In 1854, the names of John Crom, William North, Joseph Jeffries, Robert Bamber and Philip S. Jones appear as directors, while in April, 1855, the members of the board of 1853 appear as librarians for their respective districts; the number of books committed to each being twelve or thirteen volumes. Sections 8 and 7 were established as Sub-District No. 7, or Oak Ridge, in 1857, and a levy made for school-building purposes. In the six districts of October, 1856, there were 233 children of school age. Edwin Tuller, Hiram Cuning and E. A. Ketchum, directors of the new district, had a school house erected in 1857-58, which is now George Merk's dwelling house. During the ensuing twelve years, two districts were added, requiring nine school buildings, ranging in value from \$150 to \$450 each for building and ground. In September, 1870, there were 240 male and 210 female children in the township, and the township tuition fund was \$932.84. In April, 1871, District No. 10 was established, and J. W. Sargent was chosen clerk. A few months later a new school house was erected at Tontogany at a cost of \$1,947, being the first school building, above the cabin style, in the township. By 1880, the ten districts were consolidated into seven, of which Thomas Stone, Jacob Gundy, C. C. Gundy, Henry Thomas, Joel Foote, A. S. Taft and Thomas Aldrich were clerks or members of the township board. There were then 148 male and 128 female pupils enumerated. In 1884 modern school equipment began to find its way into the schools, for in February of that year seven cases of the "Complete School Charts" were purchased at \$50 a set, from Nickerson & Willoughby. Dr. A. Eddmon was elected secretary of the school board in April, 1884; in April, 1885, mention is made of a brick school house, the first in the township, 26x36 feet in floor area, to be erected in District No. 3, at a cost not to exceed \$1,101.88. In April, 1885, R. J. Collins was elected secretary of the board. In 1886-87, modern school furniture was introduced, Jacob Minard, C. C. Gundy, L. R. Van Tassel, George

Cummings, Joel Foote, A. S. Taft and P. Eiler voting for this innovation. In 1888, authority was given to purchase a site and build a school house in District No. 6, and one in Joint-District No. 2, or Snyder Town, in connection with Grand Rapids township. In 1893, Zahm Stephens, N. Shenower, William Burditt, John Baker, Eugene Huff, Michael Seetz and Charles Cook formed the board.

#### VILLAGES.

*Otsego.*—This quaint old town owed its beginnings to Nearing's sawmill, which he sold, in 1834 or 1835, to Asa Gilbert, who came from New York State. The place was then called "Gilbert's Mill." Prior to that time Eagle & Culbertson established a store there; but in 1834 moved to Grand Rapids, then named "Gilead." Emerson H. Eaton succeeded them as merchants; Samuel Flanders next purchased the property on which the Nearing mill stood, with the dwelling house and store room; rebuilt the gristmill, put in three buhrs, and added a sawmill, so that the flood which carried away the first mill in 1839-40 was rather beneficial than otherwise.

South Otsego was surveyed in May, 1836, by Hiram Davis, for Samuel B. Campbell, agent and attorney for Levi Beardsley, James O. Morse and Jeremiah Fowler, of Cherry Valley, New York. The location was at Bear Rapids, on the N. E. Fr.  $\frac{1}{2}$ , Sec. 35, T. 6, R. 9. Samuel Flanders, above named, must have succeeded Campbell, for he was here in 1839, and the most prominent man on the river above Perrysburg. About the time the village was surveyed an old sea captain, named Wilson, carried on mercantile business; but Edwin Tuller was the merchant in the hard winter of 1842, when he transacted a large trade in the hides of frozen cattle. Willard became owner of the mill, but when Samuel Clymer bought Tuller's interest in the store, Trull sold him the mill. There is scarcely a trace of this old town to be found to-day. As early as 1839 G. M. Gunther kept a hotel, but in 1842 the hotel was the dwelling of Alexander Howard. Robert Newell was the old-time blacksmith. Before the dam was constructed at Bear Rapids for the Nearing mill a little steamer named "Crockett," and one named "The Sun," plied between Gilead and Defiance, and between Otsego and Defiance, when the water warranted such trips. Of Asa Gilbert, it is said that he repaired the old mill, erected a house and store for himself, and two small houses for his employes, among whom were Charles Smith and Sarah Smith, his sister. This girl married Gilbert shortly after, and when

he sold the property she accompanied him to New York State. The post office, as related in the history of Tontogany, was discontinued in 1861 or 1862. Samuel Flanders is said to have been the first postmaster; Henry Mandell was appointed about 1842; Joseph A. Creps followed; then, at the close of the "forties," Edwin Tuller was appointed; then P. H. Durphy; and lastly, Samuel Clymer, who was the incumbent in 1861 or 1862, when the office was discontinued.

*Benton*, like Otsego, passed out of existence many years ago. It was founded by David Hedges a few years after his settlement in this township, because it appeared to him that Wolf Rapids offered a good mill-site and a market town to the settlers living between Otsego and Miltonville. He was an admirer of Tom Benton, and in his honor named the village, which he laid out on the northeast corner of the farm. Emerson H. Eaton moved from Otsego to the new town and opened a store, while Alexander Alcorn, a chair-maker, established a shop there. Hedges constructed a dam across the river, built a saw-mill and launched the village on a commercial career; but circumstances opposed his enterprise, destroyed the town and left nothing of it, save the cellar of Eaton's store. To the traveler who goes north from Tontogany to the river, and walks a little southwest on the river road, the reward may be given of seeing where Benton stood, just as the searcher for Orleans of the north, who visits the quadrangle at Fort Meigs and looks into the bottom lands, will see where Hollister's four-story building stood, and the home of the Wilkinsons. The Stone House, now Morehouse, built by John Whitehead, Close, the mason, *et. al.*, in the year 1833, may, however, be seen, reminding the traveler of the ideas of construction and architecture which then obtained; of 1819, when the Ewings selected the location for a home, and of the tragic end of Samuel Ewing, in 1822.

*Germany*.—There never was a village surveyed under this name in Wood county, but the title was given to Gwynndale, two miles south of Tontogany, where Dr. Nieblung purchased a tract of land in the "forties," and attempted to establish a colony. Gwynn came from Ireland or England after the panic of 1837, built a three-story house, which he never completed; attempted to build a corduroy road from his home to Otsego, which attempt also failed, and he fled, leaving the forest and land and tall house to any adventurer who might dare to locate there. Dr. Nieblung came in 1845, bought the Gwynn house, pulled it down, had it sawed into two parts, converted the upper stories into a hen-house, and sold the lower

stories to Dr. Waitz, who, in 1876, occupied it as a dwelling. Among the settlers who followed Dr. Nieblung were Ernest Mische, Guido Marx (who, in Centennial year, was mayor of Toledo), E. W. E. Koch, Albert and Robert Just, C. Marksheifle, Conrad Bobel, and a few others, with a party of merry young men and musicians. The Doctor was wealthy, but his wealth did not save him from the mosquitoes and ague. Having lost his money and patience, he was pleased to get away alive out of the Western Germany, which he aimed to establish in the wilderness. Moving to St. Louis, he established himself as a physician. His daughter, who became the wife of Orrin Tyler, of Plain township, is still a resident of the township. Many stories are told of Nieblung and his colonists, the best among the lot being the attempt of the musicians to amuse the cattle, with the result of destroying their domestic character and converting them into a herd as wild as buffalo!

#### • TONTOGANY VILLAGE.

The first settlement on the village site may be credited to Samuel Hamilton, who came from New York State in the fall of 1830, and selected a home where the village now stands. William North came about the same time, with his parents, and built a cabin where the fair grounds of a later day were fenced in. A better cabin was erected by him near the site of the Presbyterian church, into which he introduced, as house-keeper, and wife, Matilda, daughter of John Skinner. Such were the beginnings of settlement in the vicinity. On the town site, Pinnock's little store, 10 x 12, was the first structure. S. W. Whitmore located here shortly after; in 1856, Edwin Tuller settled near the west line of the village, and made his home there until elected judge of probate.

Tontogany was surveyed by Sylvanus Jefferson May 5, 1855, for Willard V. Way and E. D. Peck, who named it in honor of the Indian chief, referred to in the chapter on Indians. The village was incorporated September 9, 1874, on petition of forty-two residents, presented by W. H. Wood, April 17; re-presented June 2, that year, and, in opposition to a remonstrance signed by sixteen residents, presented on May 11. The first election was held April 11, 1875, when J. Patchen was elected mayor; C. C. Whitmore, treasurer; T. Klussman, clerk; Wm. Crom, marshal; William Allen, George Reed and Dr. B. F. Davis, councilmen for two years; C. C. Burton, Peter

Van Valkenburg and R. Freeman, for one year. In 1876, the three last named were elected for two years.

The mayor's chair has been filled by the following named citizens: J. Patchen, 1875; E. A. Ketchum, 1877; J. Y. Petteys, 1879; J. H. Kuder, 1881; A. F. Klinepeter, elected in June, 1882; G. A. Repass, 1885; Edwin Tuller, appointed December 31, 1888; A. Eddmon, 1888-1895; and R. J. Collin, 1895-96.

*Municipal Elections.*—The councilmen elected annually since April, 1877, are named as follows: Martin Warner, Z. S. Davenport, David Petteys, John Whitehead, in 1877; David Petteys, L. S. Pair and George Reed, 1879; W. D. Herrick, C. Burton, P. Whitmore, 1880; G. Dawler, C. Champion, M. Markley, 1881; S. Pair (*vice* W. D. Herrick), W. A. More, J. A. Parsons, 1882; G. Dowler, C. Champion, S. Pair, 1883; W. D. Herrick, William Heyman, S. Clark, C. C. Whitmore, J. A. Creps, 1884; A. Barger, C. Hollis, F. Yost, W. Crom, Peter Peany, 1885; W. Parker, F. Banks, S. Clark, Peter Whitmore, William Chapman, 1886; William Heyman, Peter Peany, Peter Whitmore, John Patchen, 1887; William Leaker, F. Banks, W. Crom, C. Hollis, 1888; S. L. Irwin, A. D. Foote, William Heyman, 1889; Ed. Foster, F. Banks, C. Hollis, 1890. Messrs. Foote, Foster, Heyman, Hollis, A. Beverstock and J. S. Phillips formed the council in 1891. In 1892, Ed. Foster, C. W. Hollis and B. Tasker were elected for two years, and John Huston for one year. In July, 1892, J. L. Braden and S. L. Irwin were appointed, *vice* Heyman, and Hollis, resigned. William Heyman, J. L. Braden and J. Huston were elected in 1893 for two years, and William Scott, for one year; while, in 1894, C. W. McColley and Ed. Foster were elected for the long term, and William Scott for the short term. In 1896 John Huston and C. Hafner were elected councilmen. The Union ticket, nominated in 1895, was endorsed. The candidates elected were: Mayor—R. J. Collins (R.); treasurer—P. H. VanValkenburg (R.); councilmen—W. H. Heyman (D.); John Phillips (R.); William Chapman (D); marshal—William Earl (R); street commissioner—William Earl; sealer of weights and measures—Harry Rudd (R.); school board—Mrs. Anna Skinner, Mrs. Viola Foote. The fifty-four votes cast for mayor and three votes not recorded made up the total male vote. There were twenty-two votes cast by women for school officers.

The treasurer's office has been administered, since 1883, by H. G. Condit, 1883; S. W. Whit-

more, 1885; F. Yost, 1886; R. J. Collins, 1887; P. H. VanValkenburg, 1895; William Waugh, 1896.

The clerks of the village are named in the order of service: T. J. Klussman, 1875; W. H. Wood, appointed in January, 1877; R. J. Collins, 1879; O. Beverstock, 1887; W. H. Leaker, appointed January 7, 1889; F. A. Boor, 1890; R. W. Johnson, 1892-95; John S. Matthews, elected in 1896.

The marshals were William Crom, 1875; L. S. Pair, 1877; Henry Champion, 1879; Al. Wickham, 1881; G. A. Repass, 1884; J. C. Wickham, 1885; William VanValkenburg, 1889; Charles Challin, 1890; C. R. Crom, 189-; and William Crom, 1896.

*School Trustees.*—In 1896 William Heyman and Peter Whitmore were elected.

*Post Office.*—The first postmaster was E. Pennock, appointed September 12, 1857; the second, S. W. Whitmore, followed by Abraham Edgerton, George Lewis, George Moore, Fred. Foote (1868), H. L. Thorndyke, Luther Black, William Crom, A. D. Foote (1885), C. C. Gundy (1889), Frank Yost (1892) and A. D. Foote (1893-97).

*Trade and Traders.*—The C. H. & D. railroad was completed to Tontogany June 17, 1859, and the last rail placed by Superintendent R. M. Shoemaker, August 18, when the train from Cincinnati ran over the road to Toledo. After the war, the Bowling Green people discussed the subject of building a branch line to connect their village with the C. H. & D.; but the project did not take proper shape until May, 1874, when a route was surveyed by David Donaldson. As told in the pages devoted to Transportation, and to Bowling Green, this branch line was constructed, and in April, 1875, was dubbed "The Slippery Elm Road," by the railroaders at Tontogany. The completion of the trunk line, in 1859, gave an impetus to trade, and the village became a thriving little town. In 1862, it boasted of a good hotel kept by A. C. B. Drury; two grain houses with a capacity of 50,000 bushels; two church buildings; one sawmill, and four or five stores. In 1859, S. W. Whitmore established a general store, which, in 1862, as in later years, was the center of village trade.

The Tontogany fire of December 31, 1876, destroyed Black & Ingraham's drug store, William Allen's store, George Reed's store, and the Masonic hall above it; Cooley's grocery and Ridgeway's tailor shop. The burned territory was rebuilt, and within a few years there were established Black's grocery store, Davis & Collins'



and Dr. Eddmon's drugstores, E. J. Matthew's livery, Champion & Son's implement warehouse, William Moore's harness shop, William Ladd's harness shop, Merkley's furniture store, Van-Valkenburg's general store, Jacob Huffman's elevator, W. D. Herrick's saw and planing-mill, and the Tontogany gristmill. The gristmill was burned in 1893, while the planing-mill is operated by George Gill. Royce & Coon's elevator, built by S. W. Whitmore sixteen years ago, and the steel grain tanks constructed in 1895, tell at once that the village is in the center of a great grain region.

*Churches.*—The Methodist Episcopal Church of Tontogany received a deed to lot 124 on May 18, 1861, from James T. Skinner and others. The building was completed later that year, and dedicated by Thomas Barkdull, an uncle of Rev. T. N. Barkdull, then supply in the Bowling Green Circuit. He was preacher-in-charge from 1869 to 1872, and noted the Tontogany choir as the best in his five appointments. J. S. Skinner was then superintendent of the Sunday-school; the church house was refitted, and the membership in stanch order. The class in 1866 comprised Thomas B. and Sarah Smith, Walter, Olive and Lucy Cummings, Jonathan and S. M. White, Nancy Green, Andrew J. and Ellen Ketchum, Nevin and Ann Custar, and Mrs. S. Parks, with Sarah and James L. Curry. The officials of Tontogany charge, in 1873, were J. T. Skinner, W. Cummings and A. S. Condit, stewards; William Allen, J. S. Skinner, S. E. Clark and Josephine Wood, class leaders; Henry Warner and A. Taft, local preachers; A. Taft, H. Warner, W. Cummings and S. W. Whitmore, trustees. The second quarterly Conference of the Weston Circuit was held at Tontogany January 31, 1874, W. W. Winters presiding, with A. S. Condit, secretary. A. C. Barnes signed the records in 1874 as pastor. In 1881, R. J. Collins was appointed secretary of the Conference of Tontogany and Weston charges. The first quarterly Conference of the Tontogany and Portage Circuit was held at Mount Pleasant church, October 21, 1882, Rev. J. R. Henderson being then pastor, with R. J. Collins, J. J. Black and J. T. Skinner, stewards. The pastor's salary was then \$550, Tontogany class contributing \$215, Mount Pleasant \$135, Portage \$150, and South Liberty, \$50; while the total revenue of the four Churches was \$675.50. In the records of the Gilead Society, references are made to this Church in common with others in the old circuit.

The First Presbyterian Church of Tontogany was incorporated in 1867, with Martin Warner

and George Reed, trustees, and Elliott Warner clerk. It was organized September 4, 1861, with Elliott\* and Amelia, Martin\* and Hannah and Nancy Warner, Harriet Tupper, J. W.\* and Sarah Condit, George S. and Charlotte Warner, Henry Pierce, William, Rhoda and Mary Binn, William and Sarah Feathers and Nelson and Eliza Kuder. The members whose names are marked thus\*, with H. G. Condit, A. D. Foote, R. M. Skinner and C. W. McColley have served as elders, while Elliott Warner and A. D. Foote have been the clerks. No less than eleven pastors have been called since 1861, namely: Revs. Perry C. Baldwin, G. R. McCarthy, William McLaren, James E. Vance, Chauncy Taylor, Sherman Taylor, N. C. Helfrich, John R. Fevey, H. G. Dennison, H. W. Cross and C. L. Herold. The present house of worship was erected in 1861, at a cost of \$1,600, and in it the sixty-three members worship to-day.

The German Reformed Congregation of Beaver Creek was organized by Rev. A. Tusmeire May 21, 1868, with John Niehoff, clerk.

The Evangelical Association is represented here, but the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches claim as members the larger portion of the church-going population.

*Old Masonic Lodge.*—In 1843 Emilius Wood, Martin Warner, David Maginnis, Sr., Sylvanus Hatch, Morrison McMillen, Jairus Curtis, Morris Brown and Leonard Pierce organized the first lodge of Free Masons in Wood county, excepting the military lodge formed at Fort Meigs in 1813, and for several years they held their meetings in an upper room of Wood's log house, on Tontogany creek, about one mile north of the present village. It was moved to Mt. Ararat above Bowling Green, and thence to Bowling Green, where it is now working.

*Tontogany Lodge, No. 451, A. F. & A. M.,* was organized U. D., January 10, 1870, with seventeen members: L. W. Moe, Luther Black, Fred Foote, J. T. and J. S. Skinner, C. C. Burton, H. L. Thorndyke, George Pitcher, R. Ingraham, J. M. Cumming, Myron Legalley, E. C. Ketchum, Hiram West, J. H. Stadden, P. J. Feagles, and George S. Kuder. The charter was issued October 22, 1870, and under this the lodge was instituted, November 30, 1870, Rev. G. A. Adams, of Perrysburg, delivering the address. L. W. Moe was the first master, followed by Luther Black, 1871 to 1873; Myron Legalley, 1874 to 1883; John Q. Adams, 1884 to 1886; G. S. Kuder, 1887-89; George R. Matthews, 1890; G. S. Kuder, 1891, S. L. Irwin, 1892 to 1893, and O. C. Peinert, 1894-96. The



first secretary was J. S. Skinner, followed by Edwin Tuller, 1872-1874; Frank Yost, 1875; E. C. Ketchum, 1876; C. C. Whitmore, 1877; Edwin Tuller, 1878-80; J. S. Matthews, 1881 to 1887; W. R. Marwick, 1888; J. S. Matthews, 1889; C. W. Whitmore, 1891; Frank Yost, 1892-93; J. C. Freeman, 1894-96. There were thirty-seven members on August 23, 1893, to whom four have been added, but one has been demitted, making forty members.

*Tontogany Lodge, No. 755, I. O. O. F.*, was chartered May 20, 1887, and instituted August 4, 1887, with the following charter members: A. D. Foote, H. C. Daniels, J. W. Van Valkenburg, Jacob Douster, D. C. Bemis, C. W. McColley, W. M. Cobby, M. Wilcox, A. Eddmon, R. W. Johnson, G. E. Matthews, Henry Goodenough, John A. Mason, W. M. Sly, and Henry Hughes. The roll of past grands is as follows: A. D. Foote, G. E. Matthews, 1888; A. Eddmon and C. W. McColley, 1889; J. M. Gundy and L. C. Potter, 1890; C. L. Cook and C. C. Kuder, 1891; E. P. Lee and R. W. Johnson, 1892; U. E. Coen and James Gillespie, 1893; A. E. Battles and Frank Adams, 1894; Ed. Hemelspeck and Ezra Hoyt, 1895. The secretaries were A. Eddmon, C. W. McColley, J. M. Gundy, L. C. Potter, R. W. Johnson, (1890), A. D. Foote (1890), F. A. Boor (1891), F. Adams (1892), and E. G. Gill (1893 to January, 1896). The past grands who held that office prior to coming here are Jacob Dauster, Moses Wilcox and D. C. Bemis. There are sixty-six members.

*Oriana Lodge, No. 400, Daughters of Rebekah*, was chartered June 28, 1894, with the following members: Della Kuder, Ella Battles, Mollie Gill, Sophia Hemelspeck, Catherine Bobel, Jennie Gundy, E. G. Gill, Ed. Hemelspeck, C. C. Kuder, A. E. Battles, C. C. Gundy, Adam Bobel, and Jacob Dauster. The chair has been filled by Mrs. Della Kuder, Mrs. Ella Battles, and Mrs. C. C. Gundy, the present noble grand. Mrs. Mollie Gill, the first secretary, was succeeded in 1895 by Mrs. Waugh. There are about thirty members.

*Walter Wood Post, No. 48, G. A. R.*, was formally organized March 23, 1881, with the following members: William Crom, A. R. and J. C. Wickham, J. H. Kuder, D. Murdock, P. H., W.

M. and I. B. Van Valkenburg, F. Franklin, J. Bobel, C. C. Burton, A. McCombs, P. S. Whitmore, D. W. Wright, B. S. Aldrich, Bernard Phillips, J. L. McColley, Charles Champion, C. W. Hollis, G. S. Kuder, B. F. Davis, Luther Black, George R. and John S. Matthews, E. B. Beverstock, W. D. Herrick, D. C. Bliss and C. C. Gundy; the seven last named by transfer from Neibling Post. The past commanders are: C. C. Gundy, L. Black, C. B. Beverstock, W. D. Herrick, 1884-85; C. C. Gundy, 1886; Albertus Russell, 1887; Bernard Phillips, 1889; S. L. Irwin, 1891; C. C. Gundy, 1893; J. S. Matthews, 1894-96. The past adjutants: George S. Kuder, 1881; John S. Matthews, 1884; George S. Kuder, 1886; D. V. Gundy, 1887; George S. Kuder, 1889; I. B. Van Valkenburg, 1892; and Albertus Russell, 1893-96. There are sixteen members in good standing of the forty-four ex-soldiers residing in the township.

*Women's Relief Corps, No. 87*, was chartered June 10, 1885, with the following members: Frances S. Burton (1. 2. 3.), Mary E. Herrick (B.), Sarah Wickham, Caroline Barger, Olive Peany, Julia Russell, Eunice Matthews (A. C.), Sarah Davis, Elizabeth Johnson, Alcina Card, Jennie Gundy, Augusta Kuder (8. 9.), Elizabeth Phillips, Caroline Benn, Belle Matthews, Sarah Van Valkenburg, Ida Irwin (4. 5. 6.), Helen Repass, Charlotte Parsons, Katie Phillips, Belle Beverstock, Katie Creps and Ella Beverstock (7.), Frances S. Burton was secretary in 1888-96, and Mrs. E. B. Hines elected president in 1895, with Mary Whitmore, secretary. The figures denote terms as president, and the letters as secretary.

*John B. Kreps Camp, No. 61, S. of V.*, was chartered March 9, 1884, with R. W. Johnson, W. N. Davenport, A. D. Herrick, T. D. Rice, U. E. Coen, D. Rice, Lewis Kuder, G. A. Repass, J. Repass, John S. Phillips, E. B. Wright, C. R. Crom, C. Benn, C. Champion and D. Jeffers. The captains in order of service are: G. A. Repass, J. W. Van Valkenburg, J. S. Phillips, R. W. Johnson, J. A. Mason, L. A. McCombs, and C. E. Gundy, the present captain. R. W. Johnson served as adjutant from 1884 to 1889, followed by J. S. Phillips, L. A. McCombs, C. Berry, and L. A. McCombs, the present adjutant. There are seventeen members, with quarters in the Grand Army hall.

## CHAPTER XLVI.

### WEBSTER TOWNSHIP.

SURVEY—POPULATION—GROWTH—ESTABLISHMENT OF TOWNSHIP—ORGANIZATION—TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS—TAX LEVIES—SCHOOLS—EARLY LAND BUYERS—FENTON'S REMINISCENCES—CEMETERIES—FENTON—TEN MILE HOUSE—SCOTCH RIDGE.

THE survey of the exterior lines of the southern part of this township was made in 1819, by Alexander and Samuel Holmes, and of the interior lines, in 1821, by S. Bourne. The northwestern part was surveyed by the Holmes brothers, in 1819, and the interior lines run in 1821, by I. T. Worthington, while Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 and 32 were surveyed in 1820, by Charles Roberts.

The United States Census enumerator credited the township with 237 inhabitants in 1850. In 1860, there were 674 inhabitants reported; ten years later, 922; in 1880, the population was 1,197, and in 1890 it was found to be 1,420.

As related in the reminiscences of the pioneers, the first impressions of civilization on the wilderness were made in 1833. Within a decade the industry and labor of the settlers had made several clearings in the forest, and within thirty years a number of well-cultivated farms were to be seen by the traveler; while a greater number of little clearings showed, unquestionably, that the people who located here knew that they found land worthy of their best efforts, and were in earnest in its reclamation.

*Establishment of Township.*—This division of Wood county was established December 8, 1846. The territory so named included Sections 13, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 34 and 35 in fractional T. 6, R. 11, formerly attached to Perrysburg; Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31 and 32, formerly belonging to Troy; Sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17 and 18, formerly attached to Freedom, and Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13 and 14, detached from Center. The inhabitants of the territory named, petitioned for this change, and the justice of their claims being unquestionable, the commissioners were prompt in granting their prayer.

*Organization.*—The first meeting was held at the cabin of Joseph Kellogg, on January 2, 1847, with John Fenton, Thomas Jolley and John Muir, judges, and Thomas Thompson and

Hugh Stewart, clerks. The trustees and clerks named in the following lists, with John Muir, treasurer, were then elected. On March 1, the board held a meeting at Kellogg's house, when seventy-five cents were granted to Stewart and Bushnell for services as trustees; \$1.87 to Thompson for his services as clerk, and \$1.75 to John Muir for his services as treasurer and judge. Bonds were accepted from Muir as township and school treasurer, and the township was divided into four school districts. The annual election of 1847 was held April 5. John Muir was re-elected treasurer; Daniel Hathaway, Jr., assessor; Robert Fenton, Daniel Hathaway, John Householder and Robert Forrester, supervisors.

On June 19, 1847, two justices of the peace, named hereafter, with John Muir, Jr., and Robert Fenton, constables, were elected. The order for that election was made April 5, when a one-mill tax for township purposes was ordered.

#### TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS.

*Trustees.*—The trustees of Webster township, so far as records in possession of the township clerk, or in the auditor's office, show, are named as follows:

1847—Hugh Stewart, L. Bushnell, W. Zimmerman.  
1847 (April)—Hugh Stewart, W. Zimmerman, J. W. Phillips.  
1848—George Loomis, W. Zimmerman, J. W. Phillips.  
1849—Hugh Stewart, William Burgess, Robert Davidson.  
1850-51—James Muir, John Fenton, Jr., William Zimmerman.  
1852-53—James Muir, George Loomis, William Zimmerman.  
1854—Robert Forrester, Guy Caswell, George Loomis.  
1855-56—Robert Fenton, J. W. Phillips, Robert Davidson.  
1857-58—A. Ordway, Dudley Loomis, Alanson Bushnell.  
1859-60—James Muir, Dudley Loomis, Robert Fenton.  
1861—James Muir, James Waugh, W. S. Hurlburt.  
1862—James Muir, Dudley Loomis, Robert Fenton.  
1863-65—Robert Dunipace, Dudley Loomis, Robert Fenton.  
1866—Adam Hinds, John Muir, Jr., Robert Fenton.  
1867—Robert Dunipace, John Muir, Robert Fenton.  
1868—Hugh Stewart, John Muir, William D. Muir.  
1869—Hugh Stewart, L. H. Forrest, Henry Clague.  
1870—Hugh Stewart, E. H. Hopper, Henry Clague.  
1871—Hugh Stewart, Robert Forrester, Adam Hinds.  
1872—Hugh Stewart, John Muir, John A. McKean.  
1873—Johann Landwehr, James H. Muir, John A. McKean.  
1874—Robert Dunipace, James H. Muir, John A. McKean.

1875—Robert Dunipace, James H. Muir, Hugh Stewart.  
 1876—Robert Dunipace, Charles Roper, Charles W. Russell.  
 1877—E. M. Holden, Henry Lang, Charles W. Russell.  
 1878—E. M. Holden, Adam Hinds, Charles W. Russell.  
 1879-80—W. D. Richardson, Garrett Hebler, Enos Bellville.  
 1881—C. W. Russell, David Main, Robert Dunipace.  
 1882—G. A. Hebler, David Main, Robert Dunipace.  
 1883—G. A. Hebler, David Main, Robert D. Forrester.  
 1884—Robert Shanks, David Main, James Waugh.  
 1885—Robert Shanks, Thomas Clague, James Waugh.  
 1886—Robert Shanks, John Landwehr, James Waugh.  
 1887—Robert Shanks, E. H. Hopper, Briton Russell.  
 1888—Robert Shanks, E. H. Hopper, Briton Russell.  
 1889—E. H. Hopper, J. D. Muir, Briton Russell.  
 1890—E. H. Hopper, J. D. Muir, Fred. Bushman.  
 1891—J. D. Philo, J. D. Muir, Fred. Bushman.  
 1892-93—J. D. Philo, John McConnell, Fred. Bushman.  
 1894—Phayon E. Shaburg, John McConnell, J. D. Philo.

The election of April, 1895, is recorded as follows: Trustees—R. D. Forrester (R.), 105; Antony Seifert (D.), 96; A. Philo (Pro.), 16. Treasurer—R. S. Davidson (R.), 114; Charles Roper (D.), 88. Assessor—Milan Jameson (D.), 106; Gordon Duncan (R.), 95. Constable—Joseph Fuller (D.), 104; F. Hinds (R.), 95. In 1896, W. McKean and W. H. Williamson were elected.

*Clerks.*—The clerks of the township since its organization are named as follows: Thomas Thompson, 1847; Daniel Hathaway, 1849; N. Brewster, 1850; Robert Fenton, 1851-55; G. C. Phelps, 1855; S. S. Canfield, 1859; G. M. Bell, 1862; George C. Phelps, 1863; John Wight, 1869; W. W. Dunipace, 1872; W. Zimmerman, 1877-79; Thomas S. Forrest, 1881; Andrew Ickes, 1884; T. A. Davidson, 1885; James Rogers, 1891-96; C. W. Greiner, elected in 1896.

*Treasurers.*—The treasurers are named as follows: John Muir, 1847; Robert Forrester, 1849; J. Muir, re-elected, 1850; Dudley Loomis, 1858; George Loomis, 1859-66; Robert Stewart, 1866; John W. Phillips, 1867; Robert S. Davidson, 1868; William S. Forrester, 1884; Robert S. Davidson, 1888-96.

*Assessor.*—Samuel Muir was elected assessor in 1896.

*Justices.*—The justices were Thomas Thompson, 1847; John Fenton, 1847, elected June 19, resigned in October, 1848; reappointed in 1849; John W. Phillips, 1849 (did not qualify); N. Patch, 1852; Walter Davidson, 1853 to 1874; Amherst Ordway, 1856; James Waugh, 1859; G. R. Tift, 1862; Robert Fenton, 1864-69; George C. Phelps, 1866; David Philo, 1872; William Weddell, 1873 to 1882; Albert Marks, 1877; A. Philo, 1879; E. M. Holden, 1882; Thomas S. Forrest, 1884; David Main, 1885, '88; Charles W. Russell, 1888, resigned in 1890; James Rogers, 1890; William H. Williamson, 1891; and Myron Chamberlain, 1894.

*School Trustees.*—In 1896, Jane Dunipace, Charles Wight, Marion Goodell and William Fletcher were elected.

*Tax Levies.*—The trustees, as a rule, have exercised great economy in their dealings with the public purse. From 1874 to 1876, the annual levy for township purposes did not exceed 2.4 mills. In 1877, it reached five mills, lowered gradually until, in 1883, it was one mill. In 1884, a levy of 2.2 mills was made, but not until 1892 did it again reach the two-mill mark, since which time it has been kept above two mills. The figures are based on a report by W. and J. M. Forrester and R. B. Moore, a committee that examined the records in June, 1895, under authority of the trustees.

*Schools.*—The records of the board of education of Webster township, date back to April 11, 1853, when John Fenton, Jr., Robert Fenton and Guy Caswell were elected directors for District 1; Robert Dunipace, John W. Phillips and Rufus Austin were elected for District 2; Walter Davidson, John Forrester and John Householder, for District 3; John F. Butler, John Muir, Jr., and William Zimmerman, for District 4. The board organized April 18, 1853, and ordered a levy of two mills on the assessed value, for school purposes. Ellen C. Bradley taught in District 2; and Mary Jane Hannon, in District 4, west of Scotch Ridge. In 1855, the State appropriated \$292.97, while the local school-house tax amounted to only \$96.51. A school house was erected in Sub-District 3, in 1854, and one in District 4, in 1855. There were 130 school children in the four Districts in that year, exclusive of the number enumerated in the joint districts. In June, 1856, Geo. C. Phelps furnished the house in District 4, for \$81, and, during the ensuing few years, marked progress was made in school matters. In 1858, there were six districts and 236 pupils; in 1861, there were 288 children, and in 1863 there were 349. There were eight districts in 1864, when 366 children were enumerated.

Among the early teachers, not already named, were Louisa Caswell, Sarah Kemmel, Helen Willard, Margaret Birdsall, Aurilla Borden, George Weddell, Mary Conrad, Phoebe E. Osburn, Elizabeth Kelley, Byron Pember, Mary Jane Fox, Martha (Scott) Householder, Mary M. Wilson, W. H. Gorrill, Pamela Smith, Emiline Benedict, Louisa Lowell, Matilda Gorrill, Calista Hatch, Geo. C. Phelps, Mary Peck, Chauncy Stephens, Catherine Muir, Jane Buel, Jennette

Forrest, Lewis Morse, S. S. Canfield and Emma J. Fox. They were the teachers of this township from April, 1853, to the close of 1859.

*Early Land Buyers.*—The first land buyers in the sections of T. 6, R. 12, now included in Webster, were Joel Munn, S. E. 19, Dec. 5, 1835; Enoch Jones, N. W. 19, Mar. 8, 1836; Michael Houseman, N. S. E. 20, Aug. 6, 1834; Jesse Stone, S. N. W. and N. S. W. 29, April 5, 1836; A. M. C. Smith, S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  30, Jan. 25, 1836; Orrin Kellogg, S. W. 31, Oct. 31, 1835; Daniel S. Cash, S. E. 31, Jan. 25, 1836.

In the sections of T. 6, R. 11, Nos. 22 to 36 inclusive, the following named settlers purchased lands at Bucyrus, in 1834 and 1835: Hugh Stewart, N. S. W. 23, Sept. 3, 1834; John Fenton, parts of N. E. and S. E. 23, Sept. 3, 1834; John P. Pifer, N. S. E. 31, May 2, 1834; Henry Pifer, S. S. E. 31, May 2, 1834; Isaac McKim, S. S. W. 33, Aug. 6, 1836; Henry Hood, Jr., N. E. S. E. 36, Feb. 18, 1836; James Shanks, S. S. W. 36, Feb. 29, 1836; Jennette Muir, N. E. S. W. 36, Feb. 29, 1836; John Pearson, N. W. S. W. 36, Mar. 23, 1836.

The early buyers in T. 5, R. 12, within the present limits of Webster, were Robert Dunipace, pt. N. W. 5, Sept. 7, 1836; William Muir, S. pt. N. W. 5, Sept. 7, 1836; Thomas Forrester, S. S. W. 6, Aug. 21, 1834; Levi Loomis, N. W. 7, May 9, 1834; Adam Householder, E. S. W. 7, June 17, 1834; Jacob Myers, W. N. E. 17, May 28, 1834; Adam Householder, E. N. W. 18, June 17, 1834; William Muir, S. N. E. 5, April 16, 1836.

In the sections of Webster with T. 5, R. 11, the following named settlers purchased lands: Henry Graber, S. pt. N. E. 2, Jan. 23, 1836; Alex. Vass, N. N. E. 12, Aug. 21, 1834; Robert Reid, S. S. E. 12, Aug. 21, 1834; William Zimmerman, S. W. 13, June 17, 1834.

*Fenton's Reminiscences.*—The story of the emigration, arrival and settlement of the Scotch colony in Webster township is valuable, not only in its descriptions of the trials and successes of its *personnel*, but also for the lessons which it teaches. It is given here, as told by Robert Fenton, before the pioneers assembled, at Bowling Green, in September, 1883:

On the 19th day of April, 1834, a hardy little band of Scotch people started from the city of Glasgow, Scotland, for America. A more robust, healthy, determined lot of people seldom have left Scotland. We took shipping at Greenock. As it was when Columbus started on his first exploring expedition in such small vessels, it does seem as though it was too much risk to brave the Atlantic in such small crafts, so it was with some of the oldest residents of Webster. Our little brig, when she turned her prow westward for the land of promise, registered just 284 tons. Vessels of far greater

tonnage could be once seen at the dock at Perrysburg. After forty-two days buffeting the billows, we were brought safely into the bay of New York.

No person, unless one who has been similarly situated, can have any idea the anxiety the head of a family has in going to a land of strangers, and more especially a person in the situation of my father. He was a shoemaker by trade, not having done one day of out-door labor in his life, with a family of small children and still smaller capital. I have heard him say that after our passage was paid he had one hundred sovereigns left—a sum equal to \$484. As to matter of wealth, all of us were about on equal footing. As it now is, so it was then; every one is ready to take the advantage of emigrants. It was not as to the matter of comfort we had to consult, but the way we could be taken the cheapest. After two days we came to Albany. One incident occurred in that city, and I sometimes have to recall it, when I get in company with your townsman, Robert Stewart, and Robert Davidson, who were two of us. As I said before, emigrants have a great many rogues to deal with; so we had. It used to be a trick for three or four rascally canal boatmen to buy an old water-logged canal boat and get her afloat, and agree, at a cheap rate, to take a load of emigrants on the canal to Buffalo. They would hire some old canal livery horse and, after going a few miles on the canal, commonly in the night, abandon her, first getting mostly all the passage money. By such were we victimized. We called these fellows smooth-tongued Yankees, and so they were. One of the sailors who came with us across the ocean came with us to Albany, he having more knowledge of water-craft than we had. After our luggage was aboard we discovered that the boat was in a sinking condition, and only by vigorous pumping could she be kept afloat, and that she had no rudder that she could be steered by. He informed us that we had better get our stuff out, or we would soon lose all we had; and he was right. Now came the tug of war, when we began to get our luggage ashore, and the boatmen saw their plans to cheat us frustrated. Our sailor was a regular John L. Sullivan, and Hugh Stewart was a man whose rights could not be trampled on without testing them. I will say that I never saw two men defend their rights against so many, and come off victorious. Any way, we got our luggage ashore, and some blood was spilt. Then those fellows went and swore out a warrant, and most all the heads of the families were arrested. We hired a pettifogger, and were cleared. We thought this a pretty rough introduction into this land of promise. We got along well enough on the raging Erie canal except the seeing of those what we thought monster snakes, and hearing the blood-a-nouns of the bull-frogs, something we had never seen or heard of before. So at length we arrived at Buffalo.

From Buffalo we came to Cleveland in an old steamer, "William Penn," that might have been built before the Revolution, and condemned as unfit for use. There was one incident happened in coming up the lake which I can never forget. A German woman, the mother of a large family, while drawing a bucket of water from the lake, fell overboard and was drowned. The rascally captain did not try to stop the boat, which he could have done, and perhaps have saved the woman's life, but the heartless wretch actually wanted to know if the pail had been lost also. He seemed more concerned for the bucket than for the woman's life. What became of the poor orphan children I never learned, but their pitiful cries haunt my ears to this day.

At Cleveland we chartered a small schooner called the "Rain Bow of Avon," not finished or painted. One of the sailors, an old man, had once been up the Maumee river; all of the others knew no more about Perrysburg and the navigation of the Maumee than they knew of the course of the Nile. We sailed around half a day hunting to get into the mouth of the river. Finally we got to where Toledo now is; it was then Vistula and Port Lawrence. Between Toledo and Perrysburg, we were becalmed for one day, all of us being anxious to get to Perrysburg. Robert Stewart's father, who was a carpenter by trade, suggested the idea that we go ashore to the woods opposite, where is now Toledo, and he superintend the making of large oars or sweeps. This was

carried out, and I think this was the first vessel ever propelled up the Maumee river by the strong arms of a lot of sturdy Scotchmen. We arrived at Perrysburg. Now "a friend in need is a friend indeed," and this friend we found in honest Shibnah Spink, who always had a kind heart for the stranger. He befriended us in every possible way, but no house could be found in Perrysburg to rent. David Ladd had a log house with the walls up and the place for windows cut out, but no floor in or door on. With a few boards to put our chests on, four large families of us spent our first night in Perrysburg, in this shelter, on the 26th day of June, 1834. We got work in a brickyard owned by James Stafford. I had worked nine days when I was taken with fever and ague. I recollect how terrified we were; not knowing anything of ague, they thought I had a fit of palsy. Robert Stewart says that one time he went into the house I have just mentioned, and saw thirteen shaking with the ague at one time; it was high nine months before I got better.

After being in Perrysburg a few weeks, we had to think of getting homes for ourselves. My father and the father of Robert Stewart, and the father of Robert Davidson, went into Michigan to hunt land; it must have been near where Adrian now is. In going through openings and swamps on the road they got parted from one another, and each had to find his way home as best he could, one having to stay out all night. The father of Robert and Walter Davidson was restless, and was bound to find a home soon for his family; hearing of good land to be bought cheap in western Pennsylvania, he determined to go and see it. So he and the father of Robert Stewart, started on foot, saw land that suited, and bought, in Erie county, Penn. They returned on foot; the weather was very warm, and they were anxious to get back to their families yet in Perrysburg. When a few miles west of Lower Sandusky, they went to a house to get some water, and, being very warm and thirsty, drank freely and hastily. Davidson fell dead in the yard; now imagine Mr. Stewart's feelings; his comrade and friend, who a few moments before was a strong, healthy man, yet in so short a time laying a lifeless corpse. But now to get the remains to his family; he had to get a rude box and hire a team to get to Perrysburg, and over the then almost impassable road, and as Davidson was in the prime of life, decomposition set in very quickly. I shall never forget that awful solemn evening, between daylight and dark, when a wagon drove up to the house through the brush with the remains of Mr. Davidson. I shall not attempt to describe that sorrowful scene. Mrs. Davidson's situation and feelings, with a family of small children, and in a land of strangers, can better be imagined than described.

Not very long after, my father and Robert Stewart's father went to hunt land out the McCutchenville road, which had been underbrushed out the winter before, William Muir, Sr., being one of the party, and living in tents while cutting the road, as far as the Portage river, now Householder's Corners. They came to where Levi Loomis had just started in the woods and had made a small opening. He was a man who had a good knowledge of the woods and where the section lines were, the land having been but a short time before surveyed. Mr. Loomis showed my father and Mr. Stewart the land where Hugh Stewart now lives, and adjoining the farm that David Main now lives on, eighty acres each. Mr. Loomis gave them a description of the land, and the men had to go to Bucyrus to the land office to enter it at \$1.25 per acre. The difficulty they went through in getting to and from Bucyrus would take too long to tell. They got lost in what was known as the Indian Reserve, and had much trouble. In going through Rome (now part of Fostoria) they called in at Foster's little grocery store, and got some crackers and cheese, and some whisky to wash it down with. For many years Mr. Stewart's house was the only one between Perrysburg and the Portage river.

We, as foreigners, had many difficulties to encounter that Americans had not, having no knowledge of chopping; but it was not long till some of the Scotchmen could be numbered with the best choppers in the county. But one other incident to discourage us was in the fall of 1834. Hugh Stewart's grandfather lived in a house on the farm of Thompson, near the Parks place, three miles from Perrys-

burg; he used to come in the morning and go back home in the evening, over a trail, known as the Hughy trail, till not many years ago. One evening in going home he got benighted, and had to stay in the woods, on a wet, cold night, caught cold and died not long after. That same winter Hugh Stewart moved all his household stuff on a hand-sled. Many a time I think how poorly clad we were to go through the cold winters, and some times our provisions very scanty, and at the same time I cannot but think what a merry lot we were. There was a lot of us boys just getting to be men; girls just growing into womanhood, and we used to have lots of shindigs in the winter. I have known them as often as four in one week, and in those days, some of the grandmothers and grandfathers in Webster used to trip it of night. Not long after we came to the woods, some of the Scotch boys got married to some of the Scotch girls, and everything had to be done in old Scotch style, that was, the lad went to the home of the girl's parents and there got married, and in almost every instance the wedding party would go a-foot to the home provided for himself and wife. Robert Davidson married a daughter of grandmother Forrester, living near Householder's Corners, and he had a house prepared to live in at Perrysburg, which was nearly twelve miles. The Scotch boys and girls traveled those twelve miles on foot, and a more merry lot has not gone over the road to this day, and plenty of whisky, too, in the bargain, "and danced all night till broad daylight, and went home with the gals in the morning." This is a sample of the many Scotch weddings that we had among us.

Our nearest mill was either Waterville or Bank's mill, near Woodville, and the greatest difficulty was in getting to the mill. It was for a long time we had no team, and those we had were oxen, and in winter it was one continued sheet of ice, so that oxen not shod would slip, so we could not go. I recollect nearly all one winter we had to live wholly on potatoes, and as we had for many years no wheat, the rest of our living was corn meal, and that meal made from frost-bitten corn. Sometimes our hogs used to be gone from us for months, and sometimes we had big times hunting them. I and my brothers have many a time gone to the woods with a little sack of parched corn, to use when hungry. My father had heard that a man by the name of Painter, in Portage township, made hand-mills to grind corn. He went and got one, and hired a man and yoke of oxen to go after it. There never was anyone so glad to see the finest piano come into the house, as we were to see that hand-mill. Every morning we had to grind one peck of corn; there were two watches of us—father and brother James, one; my brother John and myself, the other. We earned hard all the meal we got, but we ground it at home. The mill-stones are at the old house to-day. I think sometime I will bring the mill to the Pioneer meeting to show young America how things have improved. There was an Indian camp not far from us, on the Bellville Ridge, not far from the village of Dowling, on the T. & I. railroad. Many a night the Indians used to sleep by our fireplace. After getting some clearing done, and putting in corn, we used to be greatly troubled with the raccoons eating it up for us. We had a good coon dog, and nearly every night we had to watch, or we would have had no corn left. In the fall, when the fur began to get good, as a matter of necessity we had to hunt nearly every night, and I have known us to catch from one to three coons of an evening. This money we used to buy our winter clothing with.

Before going farther I will refer to the particular incident or cause which brought this little band of the sons of Scotia to this particular part of God's vineyard. In 1832, just two years prior to the date which begins this story, Henry Hood, Sr., with his wife and daughter, Jane, and two sons, John and Henry; also John Muir, Sr., and wife, with his sons, William, James, Samuel and John, and daughters, Jean (now Mrs. Robert Dunipace, of Webster), Maggie (now Mrs. John Fenton, of Fulton), and Fannie (now deceased), landed at Quebec, Canada. The cholera was raging, and they all left and went to Buffalo, scarcely knowing whither they would go. Here they accidentally met that well-known lake navigator, Capt. David Wilkinson, of Perrysburg, then in command of the schooner "Eagle," who induced them to

go with him to Perrysburg. They liked the location so well, and wrote back so encouragingly to their neighbors in Scotland, that our journey hither was the result. The heads of families who followed in 1833 and '34 are as follows: Alex. Thompson, Robert Davidson, John Fenton, Hugh Stewart, William Muir, Thomas Forrester, William Hadda (removed to Cleveland), Robert Reed, William Dunipace, Peter Shanks, James Shanks, William Weddell and Alexander Vass, of Perrysburg.

What was originally called the Perrysburg Scotch Settlement, where our little colony squatted for a time, some of them several years perhaps, was on land just above Perrysburg, on what is now the Michael Hayes place, not far from the present cemetery, and possibly yet indicated by an old well dug there at the time.

As before stated, we had many discouragements. Death came among us to claim one of our band quite often. Besides Davidson's and Stewart's death, before alluded to, Dunipace died suddenly of bilious fever the same fall we came; and about the same time William Muir walked over to Ralph Keeler's on the prairie to see his nephews, who were there, and on the road on his return, when near his home, he fell down to rise no more. The next year Thomas Forrester died, and so it was our ranks were decimated. In 1836 Mrs. Stewart, Hugh's mother, who died the past spring, had her cabin and her little store of worldly effects all burned, and herself and children were without shelter.

While the beasts of the forest, such as the coon, deer and turkeys, were a great blessing to us, we found the sneaking, prowling wolves a great pest. They were very bold at times, and their dismal howling at night was terrifying to the uninitiated. Mrs. Robert Davidson had a fine heifer dragged down and killed by them. One night, when my father was gone, they came near the house, where two calves were penned up. The cows on the outside of the inclosure were nearly frantic, and bellowed until between wolves, calves and cows, there was a pandemonium of noises. The dog whined piteously at the door to get in; my mother expected every moment that the calves would be attacked, and she scarcely dared open the door. Finally she opened it a little and fired off the gun. The dog bounced in and went under the bed, and the wolves left. Shortly after Carter, the wolf hunter, came over and killed three wolves, and the Howards killed three more. This was near where Fenton post office now is. Afterward an Irishman named Tom Flynn killed a full-grown wolf with an ox-bow. He got the wolf cornered in an old cabin or near a high fence, and knocked its brains out. Wild honey was quite plenty, but the plentiest thing in the season was gnats and mosquitoes.

One year—my old Webster friends will remember it very well—porcupines were unusually plenty. It seemed as if, like the squirrels, they were migrating. Near the end of our cabin stood an old salt barrel, and every night there was a continuous grating, rooping noise there. My sister, now Mrs. Robert Stewart, who was not as timid as some girls are, got up one night, and, seizing a hoe, sallied out. Just as she turned the corner she saw a dark, clumsy animal spring past her and into the open cabin door behind her. She heard the uneasy animal under the bed, and by a dim light she run him out and dispatched him. He was a large, old fellow, and the quills and blood on the floor next morning showed that he had not died without a desperate struggle for his life. I don't think there are many of the Wood county belles of to-day who would, barefooted, care to encounter an old "porky" in the night time.

Deer and turkey were so plenty that we often had a bountiful supply for the table. William Davidson, while threshing oats with a flail in a field one day, noticed a deer, followed by a swarm of mosquitoes, go into a little clump of brush near by and lie down. He approached cautiously, and as it sprang out, broke its back with his flail. My wife, formerly Miss Ellen Forrester, one winter, at our place, trapped twenty-five wild turkeys, and Robert Davidson killed three deer and one turkey in his little clearing near the house one day. I mention these instances to show how plenty game was then.

At the time of the death of Mr. Loomis, which was at a very early day, roads were nearly impassable, and the settlement was without material with which to make a coffin for his burial. In this emergency, Alex. Vass, of Perrysburg, a carpenter by trade, cut a straight green oak tree, split out slabs, dressed them nicely, and made a coffin. It was so heavy that it took the united strength of all the men present to handle the coffin after the body was in it. Such were the rude devices which necessity forced us to. Still, we were happy, since we were all on about a common level, and the exigencies of the situation made us alert, active and energetic. We had to be up and doing, and we rather seemed to enjoy it.

The Zimmerman settlement forms an important part of the early history of Webster. Adam Householder and his family, and William Zimmerman, with his wife, Isabella Householder, and three children, came from Virginia in 1834, arriving at the Forks of the Portage, November 2, that year. Householder located in Center township. The little party of pioneers made immediate preparations for building a cabin, which was completed in a few days. Both families became the occupants of the none too spacious room until such time as Mr. Zimmerman could erect a cabin for himself on lands which he had selected a short distance farther up the river, and within the bounds of what was then Center township. This was completed in January following, the family moving in when there was neither floor nor windows. This became his future home, and year by year witnessed the steady inroads upon the forest; the little patch for "garden truck" widened into broad fields which waved with golden grain or rustled with the yellow corn. In common with all others, they had to endure many privations and hardships incident to frontier life. The pioneer died in April, 1884, leaving the partner of his life to tell the story of their settlement in the wilderness.

The cemetery of Scotch Ridge speaks in marble and granite of the end of many of the pioneers. Of others, who went forth into the wide world outside Webster township, many are referred to in the pages devoted to Biography, and a few names are recorded in the Military chapter.

*Cemeteries.*—The old cemetery of Scotch Ridge is the most historic spot in the county. Many monuments, not a few of them works of art, remind the visitor of the pioneers, and tell plainly how their children respect their memory. Among the old settlers buried there are Thomas Forrester, who died in 1835; Levi Loomis, 1836; died on the road near the Ten Mile House; Ellen S. Davidson, 1841; Ann Anderson, 1844; James Waugh, 1845; Philinda D. Sneed and Mary Dunipace, 1846; William Waugh, 1847; Margaret and William Stewart, and Roswell Can-

field, 1848; James Corbett, 1850; Samuel Muir's child, 1851; Daniel Hathaway, Lewis Zimmerman, Jean Addie Forrest and Hugh Stewart, 1852; Robert Reed, Christina Burke, Adam Householder, 1853; Jane E. Newville, Horatio N. Merrill, William Cummins, Laura E. Carr, James Dunipace, Francis M. Davidson, and Henry J. Sieple, 1854; Christopher Sieple, 1855; Nathan H. Merrill, Andrew Merkle and David Merkle, 1856; James Shanks, who was killed under a falling tree, James M. Davidson, R. F. Austin's son, and Mary Muir, 1857. West of this cemetery, about a quarter of a mile, is an older burying ground, in which James Shanks, who was killed by his team, was buried. A Miss Mell, William Muir, who died in 1851, and an infant child of James Muir, who died in 1840, were buried in that ground. In the new cemetery lies Solomon Van Gilder, a soldier of 1812, who died in 1883.

#### FENTON.

Where the village of Fenton now stands, was known to Harrison's soldiers, in 1813, as the "Devil's Hole Prairie." One of his scouts, who became lost in that portion of the wilderness, being interrogated about his delay, said he strolled into the veritable home of Satan. From 1830 to 1869, it was the rendezvous of thieves. In the fall and winter of 1872, George Roiter and P. D. Nuel built a mill on C. V. Black's farm, and the notorious characters, who haunted the locality, disappeared before this emblem of progress, leaving the farmers in peace.

The first postmaster was John Fenton, appointed about 1857. David Main, who came in 1848, remembers the establishment of this office, and thinks the date given is correct. Hugh Stewart held the office after the war, John Greiner followed him, then came Thomas Harrington, and, lastly, Isaac Dent, who has been postmaster since 1886.

The post office is near the south line of one of the richest agricultural districts in Wood county. Large farm houses and well-fenced farms speak of the character of the men who developed it.

*Fenton School.*—John Ewing taught the school at Fenton in a room (from which a hand-mill was removed) between Mrs. Robert Davidson's and Mrs. Hugh Stewart's house. Among the pupils were John and William Fenton; Thomas and Margaret Davidson, and Hugh, Janette, Robert, John and Margaret Stewart.

For four months, in 1844 or 1845, Mr. Ewing taught here; he then became a phrenologist, set out for California, in 1849, and died *en route*. Delia Spink taught a school, in 1846, in a log-house near Fenton. Then Deacon Brown's daughter taught for two terms; Mary Nutt came next; Eliza Bruce and Ann Vass followed, while Martha Scott, who married Lewis Householder, taught one of the early schools.

The railroad villages of Dowling and Dunbridge have usurped the proud position once held by Fenton, and destroyed its prestige as a trading point.

#### TEN MILE HOUSE.

The Ten Mile House is one of the oldest land-marks in the township. Long before the present hamlet of Scotch Ridge was recognized, this was an important stopping place, and the post office of a wide district. In the "fifties," and from the organization of the township, the trustees assembled here to transact business, the electors to cast their votes, and the disciples of Terpsichore to dance. The church was only a short distance southeast, and the burial ground near the church, so that the funeral, marriage, dance and Sabbath meeting insured for the Ten Mile House an ebb and flow of visitors which the other settlements did not experience. The place lost its glories long years ago, when the post office was removed to the Loomis store. West of it is the United Brethren church building; south of it, the pleasant hamlet of Scotch Ridge; and, round it, fertile farms and the homes of practical, ambitious agriculturists.

*The Webster United Brethren Church (Liberal)* was organized March 11, 1887, with A. Philo, D. A. Pope, Joshiel Thompson, G. W. Loomis and Clarence Greiner, trustees. All were members except G. W. Loomis, Stephen Cupp and wife, Laura Pope, and about five others. In the spring of 1887 a building fund of \$1,000 was collected, and the present building in Sec. 36, T. 6, R. 11, was dedicated August 20, 1887, by Rev. T. J. Harbaugh, P. E., and Joseph Crim, pastor. Rev. L. Moore succeeded Mr. Crim, then Messrs. Tussing, Wells, Fletcher, Ingalls, and then Rev. J. W. Hicks of Fostoria, who was appointed in 1894. The Webster, Center, Maple Grove, Dowling, and the Davenport in Perrysburg township, are all in this circuit. The membership of the Webster Church is about one hundred. A. Philo is superintendent of the Sunday-school. The present trustees are A. Philo, Myron Chamberlain, M. Meisters, Henry Wei-



land and D. A. Pope, with Mr. Pope, secretary, since 1889 (succeeding George Housekeeper), except in 1894, when Thomas Cross filled the office.

*The Methodist Episcopal Church*, of Luckey, was organized within the Walker school house a number of years ago, and continued in existence there until 1882, when headquarters were established at Luckey.

#### SCOTCH RIDGE.

This hamlet on the banks of the Portage may be considered the successor of Ten Mile House, and Loomis Store, as the commercial Mecca of Webster. John Myers built the "Householder House," a smaller building where is now the Davidson store, the cottage where William Fenton lives, and Hanson's cottage. He was the creator of the hamlet. Walter Davidson built a mercantile house on the southeast corner of the cross-roads, about twenty years ago, where business was carried on until 1882, when the present Davidson building was erected. A few pioneers such as "Uncle Robert" and Mr. Fenton reside within the hamlet's limits, while scarcely a day passes without a visit from others, such as "Aunt Margaret" and one or two other survivors of pioneer days.

The post office known as "Ten Mile House," was established long before the war, with Charles Beaupret master. During or immediately after the war, George Loomis had the office removed to his store, near the United Presbyterian's building. John Myers was postmaster for almost a quarter of a century, or until Dr. L. L. Loomis succeeded him. Robert S. Davidson was the next incumbent, followed by James Rogers, who served during President Cleveland's first administration, and, in 1885, was again appointed to succeed Robert S. Davidson.

*The United Presbyterian Church* of Scotch Ridge, was organized in 1841, by Rev. James A. Woodbury. John Muir, James Waugh, Sr., and Alexander Vass were elected elders, and James Waugh, clerk. The members at that time were Peter Shanks, John Fenton, Hugh Stewart, Robert Dunipace, Robert Stewart, James Muir, Walter Davidson, Robert Davidson, John Fenton, Jr., Robert Forrester, Alex. Vass, John Muir, Sr., Lewis Forrest, James Waugh, Thomas Adams, John McDowell, and their wives, with James Waugh, Jr., Forrester, Samuel and John (Jr.) Muir, Robert Milk, Margaret, William and James Davidson, and Mrs. Smith.

Mr. Woodbury was succeeded, in 1843, by Rev. John Bonner, and he, in 1845, by Rev. James Miller, who with others supplied the pulpit until Rev. Jackson Duff came in 1852. Ten years later, in 1862, the present frame building took the place of the old log house.

The record book of this Church, in possession of Miss Davidson, of New Rochester, dates back to January, 1862, Rev. Jackson Duff being then pastor, and James Davidson, clerk, *vice* John Muir, who held the office from 1847 to 1861. There were eighty-six members, including two members of the Vass family, nine of the Davidson, eight of the Dunipace, four of the Weddell, six of the Muir, one of the Galloway, one of the Kelly, five of the Forrester, one of the Waugh, five of the Fenton, three of the Forrest, one of the Main, two of the Lamont, four of the Dodd, one of the Smith, Alvin Carey, Margaret Johnston, Catherine Banks, four of the Stewarts, two of the Philos, six of the Shanks, three of the Merkles, Margaret Gregg, two of the Kassons, three of the Eatons, Charles and Elizabeth Roper, David Main, Elset Christie, William and Margaret Donald, Isaac and Eliza J. Kelly, Sarah J. Weddell and William Bandeen. Of the number, forty-five died prior to the close of 1894, while a number removed or were dismissed to other Churches. In 1864, a collection amounting to \$9.65 was taken up for the Freedmen's mission at Nashville. In 1865, there were seventy-eight communicants who subscribed \$475.60 for the support of pastor and Church, and other sums for foreign missions. In April, 1869, Rev. Wright preached here, and declared the pulpit vacant. Rev. S. C. Hubbell was installed pastor in 1869; David Main and George Weddell were elected elders in January, 1872, and they administered the Church affairs until 1877, when Rev. J. C. Murch was called as pastor. In 1879, Rev. J. T. Caldwell preached here, and continued for a few years. Revs. John Williamson, J. K. Black, H. H. Thompson, Rev. Levy, a Jew, T. W. Monteith, and others preached here down to July, 1882, but Mr. Thompson was prominent in Church work. Mr. Caldwell was the pastor down to 1893, when Rev. E. H. Huston was called.

The records, in possession of David Main, date back to the beginning of Rev. S. C. Hubbell's pastorate, or to August 1, 1871. James Davidson was then clerk of Session. David Main and George Weddell were elected ruling elders. Among the officials, other than those mentioned, were Robert Dunipace and Robert Forrester. In January, 1872, a number of members were received, and the affairs of the society were re-



ported in a flourishing condition. William Bandeen was elected elder in 1875, *vice* Robert Forrester, deceased. Rev. J. C. Murch was called in June, 1878. In April, 1879 (another statement says 1882), David Main succeeded James Davidson as clerk of the Session. John Wight was elected elder in April, 1882, *vice* Robert Dunipace, deceased, while in November, 1886, James Davidson resigned the treasurership, and Robert S. Davidson was elected. In July, 1888,

Edmond Loomis and William Bandeen were chosen elders, while John Wight and David Main were members of the Session. In 1891, the question of permitting instrumental music received favorable consideration, and Jessie Eckis was appointed organist; Mattie Wight succeeded her, but recently Margaret Davidson and others have filled the position. The board of elders, in 1895, comprised David Main, E. L. Loomis, Wm. Bandeen and John Wight.

## CHAPTER XLVII.

### WESTON TOWNSHIP.

PREAMBLE—POPULATION—SURVEYOR—ORGANIZATION AND OFFICIALS—LIST OF PIONEERS—EARLY SCHOOLS—FIRST DITCH—A CURIOUS RECORD—PIONEER ROAD—CHURCHES.

WESTON VILLAGE—ITS GROWTH, INDUSTRIES, ETC.—SETTLEMENTS [FROM DR. SPENCER'S SKETCH OF EARLY SETTLEMENT]—CORPORATION AND OFFICIALS—POST OFFICE—SCHOOLS—CHURCHES—THE WESTON GAS CO.—BANKS—FIRES—SOCIETIES, ASSOCIATIONS, OPERA HOUSE, ETC.

THE territory, now known as Weston township, was among the first municipal divisions of the county to attract the agricultural pioneer from the river front, and prove later that the back lands were as fertile as the lands along the river, if not more so. In 1840, when the census enumerator first considered the township, he counted heads in what are known as Weston, Grand Rapids and Milton, and reported a population of 539. In the half century ending in 1890, the population of the same territory inbred to 4,866, while it boasted of four incorporated villages—Weston township and village being credited with 1,558 inhabitants, of which number 845 belonged to the village.

Sixty-six years have vanished into the past since the first faint gleams of civilization were introduced into this portion of the wilderness. It is true that Chicago was built and destroyed and rebuilt within that time; but it is questionable if a small band of settlers ever carved out of the forest so many rich farms, or so many happy homes, as the pioneers of Weston did.

The United States surveyor, Samuel Holmes, ran the exterior lines in 1819, while P. F. Kellogg surveyed the township into sections, in 1821.

*Organization and Officials.*—Weston township, was established June 14, 1830, under the name "Ottawa Township," included a large

part of the territory (western Grand Rapids, Milton, Jackson and western part of Washington) in Range 9, south of the Maumee, with the islands in that river. The place of meeting was fixed at Edward Howard's house; but for some reason the Act of the commissioners was ignored. On December 6, 1830, the name was changed to Weston, and an election was ordered to be held on April 4, 1831, at the same house. On the appointed day, the voters assembled, and elected themselves to fill the following named offices: Trustees—Edward Howard, William Pratt and Emanuel Arnold; clerk—R. A. Howard; treasurer—R. M. W. Howard; overseers of the poor—M. P. Morgan, Jacob Crom and James Donaldson; fence-viewers—William Loughrey and Joseph North; constables—William North and William Wonderly; road-supervisor—James Donaldson; justices of the peace (elected June 21, 1831)—Emanuel Arnold and Alexander Pugh. The road supervisor received seventy-five cents, and the treasurer, seventy-five cents, for their labors that year, the trustees making their pay equal to the work performed. Of course, what is now Grand Rapids township was then the settled part of Weston, and the officers named resided therein. The twenty-even voters present in April, 1831, were the officials named above, with John Flavel, Joseph Kling, Isaac Maires,

Levi Cartwright, George W. Bement, Joseph Keith, Levi Felton, John Wonderly, Silas George, Joel Smith, Moses Marsh, Jacob Macklin, John Gingery, and John Melinger. At the election for justices, held June 21, 1831, twenty-five votes were cast—the new voters being Allen Green, Sr., and Allen Green, Jr., Hezekiah and Samuel Green, Deake Taylor, Samuel Van Horn, Charles McKenan, Jacob Walters, Jacob Martin, Daniel Crom, Matthias Reams and Henry Kimberlin. The document from which this list of voters is taken, is in possession of Ed. H. Bag-galey, of Weston, who, in September, 1895, offered it to the *Herald* for publication.

In 1832, Edward Howard, William Pratt and Emanuel Arnold, the trustees, established five school districts, and entered earnestly on the work of public improvement.

The fall election of 1834 was presided over by Thomas Davis, James Donaldson and William Wonderly, with R. A. Howard and A. W. Oliver, clerks. There were 17 votes cast for James Findlay, and 26 for Robert Lucas, gubernatorial candidates; 24 for Epaphroditus Foote, and 19 for James Wilkinson, candidates for commissioner; 18 for Addison Smith, and 7 for George W. Wood, candidates for coroner; and 22 for Joshua Chappel, candidate for county assessor.

The whole force of forty-three voters included the following named old residents: John W. Hooper, Benjamin Atkinson, Elias Hedges, Thomas Davis, Ira S. Patterson, Robert A. Howard\*, Peter Smith, David Harbaugh, A. W. Oliver, James Donaldson\*, Reed Wilber, Benjamin Harbaugh, William Wonderly\*, Joseph Keith\*, Nicholas Gee, Harvey Burritt, a physician, Oliver Campbell, Emanuel Arnold\*, Tilton Bunting, Peleg Attwood, Henry Kimberlin (June, 1831), Peter Keith, Al. Shell, William Laughrey\*, Thomas Silsbey, William Martin, Edward Howard\*, Thomas Goundry[?], Robert Bamber, Jr., Richard Close, Matthias S. Van Fleet, John Crom, Charles McCarns, John Grim, David Hedges, John W. Yates, John Fowler, Levi Fulton, A. Brown, Samuel Van Horn, Joseph Kling, John Gingery and David Taylor. Of the number, those marked thus\* voted at the first meeting. From 1831 to the date of the organization of Grand Rapids, residents of that township took a leading part in the official life of Weston. Therefore, for the purposes of the two chapters, the lists of trustees, justices, clerks, treasurers and assessors are given here.

Among the office holders from April, 1831 to April, 1841, may be named Gabriel Guyer, John Gingery, Neptune Nearing, Jacob Harris, Lewis

Bortel, Jonathan Crom, William Patten, B. McCue, Edmund Buttles, Matthias Oberdorf, Jacob Macklin, John O'Campbell, Joseph Keith, Francis Hinsdale, William Baker, Joseph Henry, Jacob Walters, David Hedges, Moses P. Morgan, Samuel Dull, John Crom, Enoch Gruber, H. M. Lone, William Gruber, John Wood, Alex. Pugh, David Harbaugh, Asa Gilbert, John Fowler, A. R. Williams, Hiram Scoville and Anson Owens. Many of the men named served in after years. From the county records we learn that Thomas Davis and William Pratt were trustees in 1834; in 1838, James Donaldson, E. Arnold, Enoch Gruber; in 1839, Benjamin Olney, Alex. Brown, William Pratt; and in 1848, C. Honeywell and William Pratt.

An entry in the trustee's journal, made April 3, 1849, by Clerk Olney, shows that on April 2 the board authorized him to purchase a book in which their transactions would be recorded, and one for recording indentures. In reporting the purchase of such books, he enumerates the State reports, laws, etc., turned over to him, and also names one township, one stray, one indenture and one ear-mark book received by him from his predecessor in office. He writes on page 2, of the minute book: "The records have been very imperfectly kept, and several copies of the laws are lost."

The oldest journal of trustees, in possession of clerk Coward, dates back to the record of the election of 1849. From it the following names of trustees are taken:

1849--William Pratt, Henry Kimberlin, Calvin Honeywell.  
 1850-52--William Pratt, Henry Kimberlin, Thomas S. Sabin.  
 1853-55--William Pratt, Smith Bassett, Thomas S. Sabin.  
 1856--Robert B. Mead, Joseph W. Ross, Smith Bassett.  
 1858--Joel Foote, Joseph W. Ross, Isaac A. DeWitt.  
 1859--Joel Foote, William Pratt, Isaac A. DeWitt.  
 1860-61--Levi Taylor, William Pratt, Joel Foote.  
 1862--Levi Taylor, William Ward, Joel Foote.  
 1863--Samuel McLain, David Petteys, Joel Foote.  
 1864--Levi Taylor, David Petteys, Robert M. Brown.  
 1865--Levi Taylor, David Petteys, Robert M. Brown.  
 1866--Levi Taylor, David Petteys, William Pratt.  
 1867--Ira B. Banks, William N. Chapman, William Pratt.  
 1868--Charles B. Smith, John McKee, William Pratt.  
 1869--Charles B. Smith, Samuel R. Junkins, James Donaldson.  
 1870--Charles B. Smith, Samuel R. Junkins, Edw'd Baldwin.  
 1871--Charles B. Smith, Samuel R. Junkins, B. S. Beverstock.  
 1872--Barney S. Beverstock, J. S. Benschoter, Samuel R. Junkins.  
 1873--Sandford Baldwin, J. S. Benschoter, Evan Jones.  
 1874--Sandford Baldwin, S. R. Junkins, Evan Jones.  
 1875--Sandford Baldwin, Ebenezer Donaldson, Evan Jones.  
 1876-7-8--Sandford Baldwin, John Rowland, Evan Jones.  
 1879--Richard Green, John Rowland, Evan Jones.  
 1880--John Ward, John Rowland, Evan Jones.  
 1881--John Ward, John Rowland, S. H. Wood.  
 1882--John Ward, John Rowland, Lewis Fitch.  
 1883--Richard Green, Sandford Baldwin, Joseph H. Wright.  
 1884--John Rowland, Robert D. Henderson, Jos. H. Wright.  
 1885--John Rowland, Robert D. Henderson, John W. Brown.  
 1886--R. D. Henderson, J. H. Wright, Ebenezer Donaldson.

The trustees elected since April, 1887, are named in this paragraph: Ebenezer Donaldson, 1887; Joseph H. Wright, 1888; R. D. Henderson (3 years), William Stretsberry (1 year), 1889; William Stretsberry (3 years), 1890; Joseph H. Wright, 1891; Sandford Baldwin, 1892; W. H. Pugh, 1893; W. E. Jones (died in April, 1895), 1894; Sandford Baldwin, 1895 (3 years), Joseph H. Wright appointed *vice* Jones. The death of Mr. Baldwin, in 1895, created a second vacancy. James Stretsberry, Luther Wisely, A. S. Taft, 1896.

The funds in the Weston township treasury in November, 1848, amounted to \$3.34, to which \$156.57 was added by April 11, 1849. Of the total, the sum of \$136.07 was expended in 1849, leaving a larger balance to the credit of the succeeding year.

In early times it was customary in Wood county to sell poor people to the best bidder. More than one case is credited to Weston township. On March 7, 1859, the trustees sold Spencer Parley, a pauper, to Wesley Ebert, who agreed to pay the trustees \$2 a week for one year, except for the time the trustees would have him away for medical treatment. In April, 1862, Jonathan Crom agreed to board and lodge Parley for \$1.75 a week. This is only one of several cases of the same character.

The justices were Alexander Pugh (written "Brown" in record), who qualified August 15, 1831, and resigned May 5, 1832; Emanuel Arnold, 1831, resigned November 5, 1832; Robert A. Howard, 1832; Henry Kimberlin, 1833-38; Andrew W. Oliver, 1835; Frederick Bassett, 1836; John W. Culbertson, 1837; Thomas Davis, 1838 to 1856; Benjamin Olney, 1840; Bela M. Bennett, 1841; William Martin, 1843-46 to 1855; Tobias Rudesill, 1850; Gabriel E. Guyer, 1854; Charles Hollis, 1855; Isaac B. Snively, 1856 and 1873; James J. Vorhes, 1856; Samuel Dewese, 1856; R. B. Mead, 1859; George W. Wade, 1859; Seneca E. Sterling, 1861; Edward Quigley, 1862; John A. Miller, 1864-67; David Donaldson, 1864; John Campbell, 1866; John Campbell, 1869-72; S. J. Harper, 1870; Barney Beverstock, 1870 and 1888; Solomon Phillips, 1873; Ebenezer Donaldson, 1875-79; D. A. Gunn, 1876, resigned in 1878; John A. Henry, 1878; Carlo Call, 1881-84; Stephen G. Robinson, 1882-91; James W. Williams, 1885; James Long, 1888, resigned same year; B. S. Beverstock, 1891; G. P. Thompson, 1894; and G. P. Thompson, 1896.

The assessors elected since 1842 have been: James Donaldson, 1842; William Martin, 1845-

49; William Martin, 1849-53; Henry Kimberlin, 1854; James Donaldson, 1855; Thomas S. Sabin and Matthew Wilson, 1856; David Petteys and Allen Bortel, 1858; David Donaldson, appointed in 1858; Joseph W. Ross, 1859; Jesse Kerr, 1860; Jacob Crom, 1861; Edward Gallagher, 1862; Jacob Crom, 1863; Thomas Sterling, 1864; Jesse Kerr, 1865; David H. Bassett, 1869, 1873-74; David Petteys, 1872; William B. Kerr, 1876-79; D. B. Pugh, 1880; John Q. Wade and John McLain, 1881-82; John Q. Wade and J. S. Benschotter, 1883; David L. Dull, 1885; W. B. Kerr, 1885; David L. Dull, 1886; Jerry Huffman, 1886-88; W. H. Walters, 1887-88; L. S. Baker, 1888; Albert Neifer, 1889-90-91; Burt Dewese, 1892-93; T. J. Winnup, 1894-95.

The clerks chosen since 1838 are named as follows: P. B. Brown, 1838; G. E. Guyer, 1848; Stephen B. Olney, 1849; Gabriel E. Guyer, 1850; George Kimberlin, 1853; Gabriel E. Guyer, 1854; Hamilton R. Pratt, 1855; Foster H. Pratt, 1858; George Kimberlin, 1859 to 1871; D. A. Avery, 1871; John Freyman, 1872; Frank M. Young, 1873; Daniel B. Pugh, 1874; W. W. Hill, 1880; George Hospelhorn, 1882; George Oswell, 1883; Alex. Williamson, 1884; Ed. H. Baggally, 1885 and 1887; Jesse L. Pugh, 1886; Lewis S. Baker, 1888; Charles B. Saxby, 1890-92-93; A. L. Coward, 1894-95; Lewis Toan, 1896.

The treasurers, other than those elected from 1831 to 1838, were: Harvey Burritt, 1839-52; George Laskey, 1852; David Donaldson, 1855; G. E. Guyer, 1857; Jeremiah Atkinson, 1859; Isaac N. Clayton, 1869; D. A. Avery, 1875; Jacob Heater, 1882; I. B. Banks, 1883; Benjamin F. Kerr, 1884; W. C. Singer, 1885 and 1889; R. A. Housley, 1886; W. D. Mudge, 1887; Samuel C. Oswald, 1888-90; B. B. Buck, 1893, re-elected in 1896.

In 1896, William Martin and Charles Baldwin were elected school trustees.

*List of Pioneers.*—The male inhabitants of the township in 1839, aged 21 years or over, are named as follows: E. H. Eaton, Ralph O. Keeler, John Fowler, Edwin Howard, Elijah Hox, Adam Hemperly, Joseph Owens, Joseph Owens, Jr., Anson Owens, William Wonderly, John E. Carson, James Donaldson, Henry Kimberlin, John Gingery, Dennis McCornell, John Pugh, Samuel Van Horn, Gabriel Guyer, Gabriel Guyer, Jr., Alexander Pugh, Alexander Brown, Asa Smith, Samuel Carson, John Crom, Jonathan Crom, Peter Dull, Jacob Walters, Matthew McClury, James T. Martin, Jacob Harris, Joseph Ward, Gideon Cornell, Samuel Dull, Jacob Macklin, Jacob Dull, James Hecks, Matthias

Reams, Christian Kling, Joseph Kling, Allen Bortel, Lewis Bortel, Mathias Oberdorff, Samuel Oberdorff, Daniel Oberdorff, Benjamin Olney, John Ward, Calvin Honeywell, Conrad Albright, Enoch Gruber, Edward Kirkpatrick, John Bortel, Emanuel Arnold, M. B. Bennett, Robert Siften, Daniel Townsend, Alva Gillet, Harvey Bennett, Lewis Shell, William Pratt, William Long, Thomas Davis, Nathaniel Gee, James Bowerman, Edward Howard, P. B. Brown, Isaac Barkhammer, B. McGuire, Smith Phillips, James Smith, Dresden Howard, William Price, Jared Owen, Henderson Kinow, J. S. Gregory, William Grover and Hiram Seaville. This list embraces many of the settlers within what is now known as Grand Rapids township. It varies from the list given in the last named township in some particulars, but fully covers the names of the pioneer men of Weston, omitting such pioneers as Thomas Taylor, who settled across the line in Milton, in 1834. Daniel Rice, with his son John, and John's second wife, with her children, Clarissa, Thomas, Julianne and Samuel Junkins and Anna Belle Rice, also four children by his first wife, namely, Mary, Elizabeth, Nancy and Isaac Rice, came in 1833 and settled in Section 18, where Philip Hyman now lives. There Daniel Rice died in 1834, in his seventieth year, bequeathing his property to his children and grandchildren. John Rice died in September, 1833, was buried in the Howard cemetery, but a few years later his remains were taken to the newer cemetery on Beaver creek. In 1828, Alexander Brown and his father-in-law, Joseph North, were the first settlers to move back from the river into the dense forests that lay thick and dark between the river and the broad, grassy swamp now known as Keeler's prairie. Brown located a heavily-timbered tract of land along Beaver creek, or, as it was also then called, "Minard's creek," and built the first cabin in a beautiful beech and maple grove, just back of where his son Samuel erected, in 1883, a brick mansion. The bluff banks of Beaver creek, covered thickly with forests of sugar-maple, beech, oak and hickory timber, rapidly attracted the attention of settlers, and ere long Brown had neighbors on all sides of him.

*Early Schools.*—In the Beaver Creek settlement, we find a record of most interesting events. The line between District No. 4, and the gigantic District No. 5, split the Beaver Creek settlement into two parts, crossing the Gilead road, where that road crosses Beaver creek. Thus Alexander Brown, Alexander Pugh, the Norths, Jacob

Crom, Jacob Walters and other stanch patriots lived in No. 5, while in No. 4 resided the equally persistent Macklins and others. A school had been taught in the year 1832 by Miss Sarah Edwards on the east side of Beaver creek, at a private house. Now, at the spring election, a vote was to be taken for school districts of a joint school between Districts Nos. 4 and 5, and there arose a whiff of civil war in the great struggle between Districts Nos. 4 and 5 for the majority of the school board, whose power and prerogative it was to locate the proposed new school house. District No. 4 wanted the building located in the center of that district, or where the Randolph school house now is, but the residents of No. 5 wanted to locate it east of Beaver creek, near where Capt. John McKee lived. No. 4 won, but compromised, and the house was located three-quarters of a mile west of the later Randolph school, on land donated by Jacob Macklin. A teacher named Garzely presided therein first; but he was succeeded by Morris Brown, who located land, known later as the Henry Strow farm, and taught school in connection with his vague agricultural work.

The Dewese school, or District No. 7, was organized in 1851, in Barrett's log cabin, which stood on the present farm of G. W. Wade. Of the seven voters in the district, Robert Brisbin, Sam Gingery and Amos Dewese, Sr., were chosen directors. The unofficial voters were Peter Phenix, Sam Dewese, Christian Gingery and Augustus Bassett. Jonathan Crom built a log school house for \$62, in which ——— Martindale presided as master during the winter term of 1851-52; Mary Harris during the summer term, and Morris Brown during the winter of 1852-53. The succeeding teachers were Eliza Clark, George Cass, Jane Clark, Ebenezer Donaldson, Margaret Carr, Wesley Thurstin, Sarah Carrothers, John Evers, Dennis Patrick and W. H. Wood, who taught one term each, and Amanda Rogers, who taught two terms. A frame house was erected in 1859 at a cost of \$350, which was used until Centennial year, when the present house was built at a cost of \$800, and opened by Z. Waltz.

The records of the board of education, in possession of the clerk, begin April 15, 1861. At that time the members were Joseph Ward, T. Waggoner, T. S. Sabin, William Ward, Elias Walters, W. M. Bell, G. W. Wade and George C. Gilmore, with George Kimberlin, clerk. The tax levy ordered was four mills. In 1862, Joel Foote was a member. In April, of that year, a motion to cancel the salaries of members was

lost; two years later, a new school house was erected in Sub-District No. 8; John McKee was school librarian for the township, and in every particular the members were beginning to realize the responsibility of their position. In 1872, Joseph Burket, D. A. Avery and George C. Gilman were appointed a committee to draft rules for the government of schools, the trouble in District No. 5 showing the necessity for such rules.

In 1873, a petition asking that parts of Weston, Plain and Washington be established as a sub-district, was granted. Within the boundaries were fifty-one children divided according to families, as follows: George Long, J. Conklin, Harrison Gill, A. White and Dan Gingery (3 pupils each), E. W. Lamb, Joseph Richardson, W. Wade and Moses Wilcox (2 pupils each), Orrin Tyler (1), S. T. Fairbanks (4), J. Taylor and W. T. Gillespie (5 each), E. C. Minton (6), and David Porter (7). In 1882, the contract for erecting a brick school house in Sub-District No. 9, was awarded to Joseph Gill, on his bid of \$500, and the carpenter work to H. L. Phillips, for \$365. This may be called the introduction of brick houses for school purposes in this township—a modest beginning, which gradually led up to the construction of the large house at Weston, in 1895. The present school board comprises: W. H. Walters, president; M. N. Lovewell and Charles Baldwin, directors; A. S. Coward, clerk.

*First Ditch.*—The first township ditch was authorized April 26, 1855. The assessments were paid by J. Rochtee, William Brooks, Jacob Walters, Richard Green, John Williams, John Gingery, John Hill and Elizabeth Walters. Subsequently, in 1857, the east and west ditches were opened, followed by the Beaver Creek, Middle and Green and Rochtel ditches.

*A Curious Record.*—The early clerks of the township had very little work to do on the records, if one is to judge from the estray book of 1851. That book was found by the writer, and the entry, of which the following *verbatim* copy is, through the courtesy of the present township clerk, here given: "This day Dec. 13, 1851, Jacob Long made return of his ear mark for Chattle, Sheep & hogs; To be recorded as follows, to wit, a square crop of the right Ear and a slit in the left.—G. E. Guyer, Twp. Clerk."

*Pioneer Road.*—The third road established in the original township, and the first in the present township, was that very accommodating road still in use, called "the Gilead road," which ran about wherever there was dry land

enough, and wherever there was a settlement, and finally brought up at Collister Haskins' place, where the Findlay road strikes the Portage river. The description in the petition to the commissioners is as follows: "Starting from the river road above the mouth of Beaver creek, on the line between the farms of Henry Kimberlin and Richard M. W. Howard, then following the nearest and best route to the bridge over Beaver creek near James Donaldson's, thence by the nearest and best route to Hollister's farm, and from there by the nearest and best route to intersect the Findlay road at Collister Haskins'." On the surveyor's map of the road, the place where Ralph O. Keeler and his herders were camped was called "Hollister's Prairie;" this was the first name applied to the Keeler Prairie, and the settlement which afterward became New Westfield, Westfield, Taylortown and, finally, Weston. It was completed in 1834. The petitioners were Wm. Bigler, Benjamin Farnsworth, Samuel Hamilton, Neptune Nearing, N. M. Forsythe, J. H. Jerome, Volin Winslow, S. H. Wilson, Ep. Foote, Jacob Bernthisel, James Gray, C. O. P. Hunt, Jesse Decker, B. H. Howard, Nicholas Sypher, M. P. Morgan, Jesse T. Pugh, George Barron, James C. Adams, John Crom, Sr., W. L. Bellinger and Collister Haskins.

*Churches.*—The Christian or Disciples Church is located in the northeast corner of Section 26, and may be considered one of the village places of worship.

The East Beaver Creek United Brethren Society, referred to in the chapter on Grand Rapids, built a church on the N. W. corner of the N. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 27, in 1859 or 1860, which was used until the society disbanded, when the building and ground were sold to a Mr. Gill.

The Christian Union was organized a short time ago, and worshiped in the old East Beaver Creek church for a season, but the society, like its predecessor, is said to have disbanded.

In the history of Weston village, the settlement of that neighborhood is minutely described, and sketches of the churches, schools and industries of the village given.

#### WESTON VILLAGE.

The village of Weston, though one of the old settlements of Wood county, is to-day a characteristic Ohio town, with its churches, lodgerooms, mills, banks, newspaper, hotels, large mercantile houses and enterprising business men.

Practically outside the limits of the Northern Ohio oil field, so far as the tell-tale drill has explored the adjacent territory, Weston relies for trade on the beautiful country round her, and directs her energies to foster that trade. Long ago, the swaddling clothes of the hamlet were cast away, and by degrees brick blocks took the places of the little frame buildings of the olden time; while the residence streets were extended, and many fine dwelling houses were erected. In 1895, a new school house and a new church were built, old wooden sidewalks gave place to the modern stone walks on part of Main street, and, on both sides of the railroad, evidences of a strong desire for such improvements, such as water-works and street paving, were manifest.

The year 1831, when Hollister & Keeler's cattle were seen on the prairie, is the first milestone in the history of the village; in 1853, when the village was surveyed, the second; the opening of the railroad, the third; the village incorporation, the fourth; and the rebuilding after the fires of 1891, 1893 and 1894, the fifth. The events and names, connected with the evolution of Keeler's Prairie into a prosperous town, are given in the following historical notice.

*Settlements.*—From Dr. Spencer's sketch of early settlement, the following story is, in the main, taken:

Ralph O. Keeler was the first settler in this vicinity, he coming here with a drove of cattle for the Hollisters in the summer of 1831, to pasture on the prairie; the headquarters of the cattle ranch was upon the high ridge north of Weston, where is now the new cemetery. The Keeler homestead was afterward located on the same hill, the adjacent land entered by Ralph O. Keeler at Bucyrus, and the Keeler family became residents here in 1833, where the new cemetery is, and where the son, W. O. Keeler, was born in 1833 and buried in 1892. The next settler was Thomas Taylor, Sr., who moved from Richland county, Ohio, in 1834, and located 120 acres in what is now Milton, and built his log house very nearly where the well known "Taylor House" is now situated. His deeds were given May 7, 1835, and signed by Andrew Jackson, president. The forty acres upon which is located the principal part of the business houses of Weston was a part of the Keeler estate, and is described as the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the S. W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  Sec. 35, Township 5, Range 9. After Keeler died, in 1848, the administrator of the estate sold this forty acres to W. P. Raynor for \$66.68. Raynor sold it to Taylor in 1849 for the same consideration. At the same sale Joseph Middleton bought eighty acres, which lies in the southeast corner of the section, for \$133.38. The planing-mill lots and land, later owned by W. B. Ladd, is a portion of the estate, forty acres of which has since been sold for over \$4,500. Mr. Taylor, in 1851, bought ten acres where the planing-mill stands, paying for it \$100. In 1835, Moses Moore entered the eighty acres cornering at the Cook mill, and built his home on the ridge where E. H. Fox recently lived. He afterward built the frame house where Mr. Fox resided. Mr. Moore afterward built and operated the first hotel in Weston, in 1855. John Inscho located the land known as the Spangler farm, but up to 1850 no thoughts of a town here were entertained. Moore and the Morehouses, west; Samuel and Alvin Clark and Captain Russ, south; Inscho and Charles B. Smith, east; Wm. Miller and George

Blodgett, north of Thomas Taylor, were all content to farm the lucky sand ridges and go to Gilead for their groceries, without any hope or expectation of seeing a thriving village grow up where the town now is. The location of the village is therefore mostly upon land owned by Mr. Taylor. Where the hotel and Mrs. Powell's store are, are sand ridges that Taylor's boys cleared the hazel brush from and farmed, or used as herding grounds for their cattle, when the floods were deep on the prairie. The grass of the prairie grew tall and rank, furnishing fine lurking places for deer and bears. Samples of this prairie grass are yet to be found on the farm of Charles Baldwin, just east of town. I have seen it eight or ten feet tall.

Charles Smith bought the east seventy acres of Joseph Middleton in 1849, and built a cabin just west of where Ed. Baldwin lived. Wm. Miller bought the Keeler homestead in 1848. So, to recapitulate, the landed proprietors of the embryo town, in the year 1850, were Thomas Taylor, Wm. Miller, Charles B. Smith and Moses Moore. Alvin Clark, father of J. E. Clark, was located on the old homestead, and Samuel Clark on the farm now owned by Mr. White, they having come into Milton township in 1835, and settled first at Groff's Corners, in the Hutchinson settlement, but in a year or two removed to the above named locations. In 1850, there began to be talk of a railroad from Toledo to Cincinnati. Grading began in 1853, and was completed partially, but was not ironed until 1859. The location of the Dayton & Michigan railroad gave an impetus to business of all kinds; towns sprang up, sawmills were built all along the line, and there was a genuine boom in the back-woods of the Black Swamp.

In 1853, Thomas Taylor made the first plat of Taylor-town, or Westfield, and that name it bore until 1857, when it was changed to Weston. Thomas Taylor, Alvin and Samuel Clark and John Inscho conceived the idea of building a sawmill. Alvin Clark knew of a young machinist at Republic, Ohio, who could put up their mill for them. It was J. H. Covert. Thomas Taylor furnished the location for the mill, which was on the south side of the railroad, across from the remains of C. W. McDonald's old sawmill. Before the mill was erected, Inscho left the firm. The engine and boiler were hauled from Huron county on wagons. It was not until the spring of 1854 that the mill was in running order. The railroad grade was then constructed, and to make it through the swail that lay between Main street and the location of the mill, the contractor had dug deep trenches on each side, and it was thought that those trenches would furnish plenty of water to operate the mill; but the summer of 1854 was dry, the water evaporated, and the mill was forced to stop. The inventive mind of Covert set him to boring in the earth with a two-inch auger welded on to an iron rod; he welded on rods and kept on boring until, at a depth of fifty-two feet, water was reached that raised to the surface, and thus was constructed the first fountain well known in northwestern Ohio. It flowed a full two-inch stream; it flooded the mill, it filled the trenches; it kept on flowing until water impeded the operation of the mill, and the proprietors were forced to cut a ditch through the sand ridge to give their fountain room to display its running qualities. Covert says he has frequently shot deer from the mill, but that often the mosquitoes would settle on the gun barrel so thickly before he could take sight at all as to completely hide the sights, and this prevented a deadly aim at the deer. I told him to put his mosquitoes along with the grass pikes, but the old settlers corroborated the yarn.

On October 5, 1853, Thomas Taylor laid out a town plat of thirty-one lots, surveyed by Sylvanus Jefferson, which he named Westfield. In 1860, Eli Bruner, a railroad surveyor, replatted the thirty-one lots and surveyed a new plat of thirty-two lots more, which was recorded in that year, and the name of the town was New Westfield. One morning in May, 1854, Jonathan Crom, who had the contract for the first mile of the railroad in Weston township, came to the saw-mill and said he wanted some lumber, as he wanted to build a house that day. Mr. Taylor went up and "stepped off" the lot across from Baldwin's hotel, and now known as the "Gillespie lot," sold it to Mr. Crom, who got his lumber

sawed, built his house that day and moved in his family that evening. That evening, Covert and William Taylor wrote on a board in large letters, "Taylortown," and nailed it on the mill, and so gave to the village another of its many names. We may say, then, that the village of Weston was not started until in 1854, when the Taylor sawmill was put in operation. Levi Taylor established a general store in what is now Powell's clothing store. Dr. W. M. Bell is said to have erected the first frame house that year. Jonathan Crom built his shanty, started a saloon and kept a few groceries. Benjamin West came in 1854, and, wishing to get an eligible site for his blacksmith shop, went directly across the street from Crom's saloon, and located his forge just about where Indlekofer's post office building now stands. In 1855, Moses Moore got out the frame and started the first hotel building, which building later belonged to Amos Niefer, but which was not completed and in operation as a hotel until 1856. Levi Taylor built the front half of the building, later owned by Mrs. Powell, in 1854, and in the fall of that year put in the first stock of dry goods and groceries that the village ever saw.

In 1856, John Hoover came to Westfield and worked a year or so for Benjamin West, then bought the business of West, and, as he owned the lot where the hotel and the "Worth House" are now situated, he built a shop on his own lot, where Hartman's drug store stands.

In December, 1858, Henry Atkins came from Tiffin with a stock of goods which he had hauled over on wagons. He occupied Levi Taylor's building, as Levi had quit keeping store. Atkins continued in business here until his death in 1872.

Watson Baldwin, father of Ed. and Charles, came from Portage township in December, 1855. In 1856 he built and operated an ashery on the lots just east of the gristmill. He died in 1867. Ed. Baldwin is now one of the leading business men.

In 1855, in the fall, D. A. Gunn moved into More's hotel, More's wife having died in June of that year. Mr. Gunn kept the hotel one year, being succeeded by William Taylor, who kept it until the fall of 1859, when Sanford Baldwin became the landlord, and, with a vacation of only six months, Mr. Baldwin kept hotel here from 1859 down almost to his death, in 1895.

In 1857, Dr. Philo came over from Gilead, and kept a little grocery on the corner now owned by John Henry; and upstairs, in the same building, Price Cornel operated the first shoe shop of the town. Dr. W. M. Bell came soon after.

In 1859, J. E. Clark erected a store where Depew's store stands. That was burned soon after, and, in 1861, was replaced by the Depew building.

In 1859, Thomas Taylor & Son built a gristmill on the site of the present mill. It was burned a few years later. John Bamber was probably the first regular carpenter to work in the village; he built a store for Levi Taylor in 1854; also the house now occupied by Mrs. Evans, for Mr. Taylor. Levi Taylor was the first agent of the railroad company, followed by William Stone, I. W. Clayton and W. W. Winegardner.

W. O. Keeler was born, in 1833, at the old homestead north of Weston. He also, in after years, kept a store in Weston for about a year.

The first post office was established in 1857, with Dr. Philo, master, who received mails twice a week, and delivered letters at his convenience.

In 1864, I. B. Banks established his dry-goods business here, now occupying the first brick business block built here; L. Ames established a shoe store in 1866; Joseph Shipman, a meat market in 1865; John Heidelberg, a tailor shop in October, 1867, and the beginnings of Weston's trade and commerce were made.

*Corporation and Officials.*—The petition for organizing the territory known as the S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  and S.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 35, T. 5, R. 9, and the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the N.  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Sec. 2, T. 4, R. 9, as a village,

under the name "Weston," was presented December 2, 1872, by John W. Canary, and on February 10, 1873, the order of incorporation was made. The first election of village officers occurred on May 5, 1873, with the following result: Mayor, Sanford Baldwin; clerk, Frank M. Young; treasurer, Isaac W. Clayton; marshal, William Strope; councilmen, Ira B. Banks, John E. Clark, John H. Whitker, B. S. Beverstock, Henry Kiel and Lewis Dubbs. The first meeting of the council was held on May 12, 1873, in a room over Harper & Young's boot and shoe store. The first ordinance passed was the one to "protect ornamental and shade trees."

The mayors elected since the close of the first year are named as follows: Sanford Baldwin, 1874; H. C. Uhlman, 1875; L. K. Parks, September, 1875, *vice* Uhlman, resigned; John Henry, 1877; Samuel H. Wood, 1879; John Hoover, Sept., 1879, *vice* Wood, removed from Weston; J. W. Williams, 1881; Samuel L. Irwin, 1883; E. D. Moffett, appointed in October, 1883; Wallace W. Hill, 1884; George W. Pore, 1885 (did not qualify); John Hoover, 1885; G. P. Thompson, 1887; J. A. Holmes, 1888; Abner G. Wood, 1889; J. A. Holmes, 1890–1896.

The councilmen elected annually, since April, 1874, are named in the following list:

- 1874—E. L. Waltz, Thomas D. Avery, Sid Vanatta.
- 1875—William Soash, John Heidelberg, Lewis Dubbs, W. M. Bell.
- 1876—S. Baldwin, S. Sterling, G. B. Spencer and H. Kiel.
- 1877—S. Irwin, W. M. Bell, C. F. Boyer, John Hoover.
- 1878—C. W. McDonald, H. C. Uhlman, Henry Kiel.
- 1879—S. K. Saylor, H. Sattely, A. E. Smith.
- 1880—Sanford Baldwin, Theodore Smith, James W. Williams.
- 1881—B. S. Beverstock, I. B. Banks, H. A. Motley, Henry A. Kiel.
- 1882—William Foreman, Caspar Lewis, C. W. Bradshaw.
- 1883—Daniel M. Long, Henry A. Kiel, Henry A. Motley.
- 1884—William D. Mudge, Charles W. Bradshaw, John E. Clark, A. J. Munn.
- 1885—Thomas W. Taylor, Joseph W. Long, Andrew J. Munn (did not qualify.)
- 1885—Jacob Oswald, Thomas W. Taylor, Joseph W. Long.
- 1886—Luther Ames, Abner G. Wood, William Foreman.
- 1887—J. W. Long, T. W. Taylor, J. E. Clark.
- 1888—J. K. Henderson, James Blodgett, J. D. Conklin.
- 1889—Martin L. Groff, Charles Healy, A. L. Avery.
- 1890—S. C. Oswald, W. Mullally, G. H. Depew.
- 1891—James K. Henderson, Bernard Indlekofer, George W. Barnes.
- 1892—Ebenezer W. Schooley, Caleb F. Greiner, Jay Brown.
- 1893—J. K. Henderson, B. Indlekofer, G. O. Hartzel.
- 1894—W. C. Mullally, C. F. Greiner, C. W. Bradshaw.
- 1895—G. W. Taylor (R.), James V. Baldwin (R.), A. P. Thomas (D.).
- 1896—E. J. Martz, I. N. Neifer, T. J. Pugh, J. V. Baldwin, G. W. Taylor, A. P. Thomas.

*Clerks.*—Frank M. Young, 1874; Elam Day, 1874; R. D. Henderson, 1876; Frank M. Young, 1878; Carlo Call, 1880; Edwin Baggally, 1882;



W. W. Hill, 1886; Edwin H. Baggally, 1888; L. S. Baker, 1892; B. B. Buck, 1894-96.

*Treasurers.*—Isaac W. Clayton, 1874; D. A. Avery, 1875; I. B. Banks, 1883; Seneca Sterling, 1885; I. B. Banks, 1887; J. D. Conklin, 1891; George R. Banks, 1893-96.

*Marshal.*—John W. Lingo was elected marshal in 1896.

*School Trustees.*—In 1896, Edward Baldwin, J. M. C. Cook, W. C. Mullally, George H. Depew, G. B. Spencer and J. Moorhead were elected.

The *Cemetery Trustees* elected in April, 1883, were Frank M. Young, G. W. Todd and John E. Clark; in 1884, I. B. Banks; D. M. Long, 1886; R. D. Henderson, 1887; J. M. Oswald and A. J. Munn, 1888; B. S. Beverstock, 1889; E. Stearns, 1890; Al. Neifer, Seneca Sterling and E. A. Saxby, 1892; Charles Healy, 1893; George B. Spencer and W. W. Hill, 1894; E. A. Moore, 1895.

Russ addition was approved in 1876; W. P. Noble's addition in September, 1877. In December, 1881, the question of building a town hall and engine house was discussed, and for the ensuing decade many improvements were proposed. In January, 1882, the purchase of the cemetery was considered; but in July, 1882, a tract of twenty-two acres was purchased from S. J. Harper and Ed. Baldwin, at \$75 an acre, for a new cemetery. The vote on the question of constructing water works, taken in February, 1892, showed 150 votes for and 54 against. In April, 1892, S. C. Oswald, William Mullally and George H. Depew were elected water works trustees, and it appeared for a time that the village would have a good water system; but the mayor refused to sign the bonds, the court sustained him, and so ended the proposal.

*Post Office.*—The Federal officers of Weston, *i. e.*, the postmasters, are named as follows: Dr. Philo, 1856 or 1857; Levi Taylor, 1859, for whom Amos M. Neifer was deputy, is said to have succeeded Dr. William M. Bell, though old settlers state that the Doctor was never postmaster. Mr. Neifer is equally positive that the Doctor kept the office at his house, before Dr. Philo became master, and he also states that William Stone preceded Clayton; Isaac W. Clayton, 1869; Amos M. Neifer, 1873 (his cash book begins July 5, 1875); Frank M. Young, 1878; Carlo Call, April, 1882; Edwin H. Baggally, January, 1885; Bernard Indlekofer, October, 1885; J. D. Conklin, July, 1889, and Bernard Indlekofer, July, 1893, the present postmaster.

*Schools.*—The first school house in the village

was a log-hut, constructed, in 1835 or 1836, on the Cameron lot, or that known in recent years as the Henry lot, where I. B. Banks' store now stands, on Main street. The puncheon floor, benches and desks; the cut-off round logs, with ribs and weight-poles to hold down the clapboards; the small windows, with a few panes of 8x10-inch glass; and Jesse Osborne, who presided therein at a salary of twenty-five cents *per diem*—all told that it was a pioneer school house. The children attending, in 1843, were Mary Taylor, Thomas and William Taylor, Samuel McAtee, Olmsted, Amelia and Melicent Keeler, and a few precocious urchins of twenty-one years of age and over, who came at intervals to learn "readin', 'ritin' and 'rithmetic" from Dr. Osborne. The hut was called the "Taylor School," but not a few called it the "Keeler School." On September 6, 1873, the Weston village district elected J. E. Clark and H. C. Uhlman, directors for one year; T. D. Avery and E. L. Waltz, for two years; and W. J. Trimble and D. A. Gunn, for three years. Clara Foote was appointed teacher for the primary school that fall at a salary of \$25 a month, and John McConkie for the higher department, at \$50. In May, 1874, there were thirty-seven votes cast for and twenty-nine against the proposed loan of \$4,000, for a site and school building. Wyckoff & Ordway were awarded the contract for building in July, on their bid of \$4,640. In April, 1876, a tax levy of eight mills for building, five for tuition, and two for contingencies—fifteen mills in all—was made. W. C. Catlin and wife were elected teachers in June, 1876, with Louisa M. Singer, Clara Allyn and Mertie Clark. In September, 1877, there were 132 males and 124 females between the ages of six and twenty-one years in the district. In 1879, the respective numbers were 137 and 128. A reference to the list of councilmen will point out with sufficient clearness the members of the board from 1873 to 1890, for the greater number of the men who directed the affairs of the corporation were also directors of the school district for one or more terms. In December, 1891, the school board, then comprising H. C. Uhlman, Jacob Oswald, G. H. Depew, J. W. Long and L. S. Baker, with Ed. Baldwin, clerk, discussed the proposition of building a large school house. Geo. E. Ryan, who was principal of the school from June, 1890, down to June, 1895, was the teacher. In 1894, Dr. Geo. B. Spencer and William Mullally were chosen directors, and the former as secretary. George H. Depew was elected president, and W. C. Mullally, treasurer, the other members being H.



A. Kiel, Josiah Morehead and H. C. Uhlman. On April 3, 1893, the question of levying a tax not exceeding eight mills, for the purpose of erecting a \$15,000 school house, was adopted by a vote of 132 *pro* and 117 *contra*. In August, 1894, the question was re-submitted, 115 voting for, 110 against. In November, 1894, the bonds were purchased by the Citizens Bank of Weston, for \$16,002.50, and in February, 1895, the building contract was awarded to Winchester Jumper, on his bid of \$11,673.79.

*Churches.*—The Presbyterian Church of Weston was incorporated November 16, 1865. It was organized June 11, 1864, by Perry C. Baldwin, the first pastor, with Isaac Van Tassel, Eli Wilson, and Perry C. Baldwin, trustees. In 1866-67, a house of worship was erected by Presbyterians and Methodists, on a lot donated by Thomas Taylor, Sr., which continued in use down to December 18, 1887, when the present building was dedicated. This cost \$6,193.25, all of which was paid that day. In 1834, a Mr. Kimberlin preached to the Presbyterians of the settlement. The next year, Mr. Van Tassel, who had charge of the mission on the island below Grand Rapids, preached in the log school house, and long after the mission ceased to exist he was in the habit of filling the pulpit at Taylor Town, until his accidental death, in 1849. With the trustees named in the act of incorporation were Louisa Van Tassel, James, Etta, and Theresa Wilson, and John Barton as members. On August 6, 1886, a building committee, made up of I. B. Banks, W. C. Singer and H. C. Uhlman, was appointed, and by March 11, 1887, the present house of worship was completed at a cost of \$6,350, Rev. N. C. Helfrich being then pastor. In 1874, the parsonage was erected. In 1892, Rev. Adam Schaffer was called as pastor, and under his administration the membership has increased to 150. Messrs. Uhlman and Singer, named above, with A. M. White and J. W. Williams, are the elders of the Church; John A. Stearns, the third elder, moved to Bowling Green in 1895. Revs. John H. Tenney and M. L. Donahey preceded Mr. Helfrich in the pastorate. The membership is about 175.

The Methodist Episcopal Church is contemporary with the Presbyterian in its beginnings here, but older as an organized body. In 1859, the following named members were enrolled: Mary H., Sarah, Harriet M. and Martha Taylor; Hannah, Emilene, Anna and J. E. Clark; Mrs. Healy, Maria Healy, and Ed. Baldwin. Rev. John A. Shannon preached to this class in the school house until the Union church was com-

pleted in 1867. In 1871-72, when Amos Neifer was recording steward, and I. W. Clayton a member of Church committee, the class erected a building which was dedicated in July, 1872, by Rev. L. E. Belt, the successor of Mr. Graham as preacher-in-charge. The membership is over 200, while that of the Sunday-school is 312. The officers were W. B. Ladd (now deceased), Lewis Toan, H. G. Strawser, W. W. Hill, Ed. Baldwin, A. G. Wood, A. T. Munn, Geo. H. Dewese (resigned in May, 1895), Charlotte Mullally, Kate Beverstock, J. W. Long, Charles Baldwin, M. L. Groff, S. K. Saylor, J. E. Clark, and Rev. James Long. Plans for a new church building, made by architect Brown, were adopted June 11, 1895, and shortly after the construction of the new meeting house was commenced.

St. Paul's German Reformed Church was organized September 27, 1882, by Rev. W. Hustedt. F. J. Brand was secretary of the meeting. There is no mention made of this society in the *Herald* of 1883-86, but in 1894 a statement is made that the organization took place in 1885, and that in 1887 the members purchased the old Union building from the Presbyterians. In 1892 Rev. John Berry was pastor.

The Christian Church, known also as the Disciples Church, occupied the German Lutheran house in June, 1895, Rev. L. L. Carpenter being the preacher. The proposition to organize a society here was well received, and on June 23, a society was organized with Rev. G. M. Kemp, pastor; J. J. Stout, H. D. Baker, E. W. Schooley, J. M. C. Cook and H. Spray being trustees. In September, 1895, there were thirty-six members, among them being the trustees and their wives; Thomas Miller, B. J. Rosencrantz, W. P. Potter, John Bassett, and their wives; Jessie and Nellie Baker, Madams Smith, Kesler, Gingerich, Fillmore, Bruck, Bamber, Pugh, St. Clair, and Kenzie, with Vida and Hattie Miller, Eunice Mitchell and Jennie Whitney. Albert Whitney and Charles Mitchell were also named among the members.

The Catholic Church mission was established here in the "eighties," but like the older church at Wurtzburg, the mission was consolidated with the more important parish of Custar.

*The Weston Gas Co.* was organized in October, 1885, with Z. Waltz, W. D. Mudge, J. H. Biddle, G. W. Pore, Sanford Baldwin, A. J. Munn, L. Ames, J. Stratsbery, H. G. Straws e, B. S. Jones, J. W. Williams, A. L. Avery, W. H. Soash, A. C. Wood, F. J. Banks, J. E. Clark, H. C. Uhlman, W. B. Ladd, G. B. Spencer, S.

J. Harper, C. F. Lewis, Oswald Bros., J. L. Dull, E. H. Baggally, T. W. Taylor, C. W. McDonald, H. A. Motley, Edward Baldwin, G. W. Pennington, J. W. Long, Singer & Henderson, and William W. Hill. In February, 1886, the drill was down 720 feet, later a show of oil was made, near the old Taylor mill, but in a short time it resolved itself into a water well. No. 2 was drilled next, which proved a producer of sulphur water, and so on to the end, each deep well yielding a fine mineral water.

*Banks.*—The first banking-house was that established by A. J. Munn, in 1878, and carried on by him as a private bank until 1890, when it was merged into the Exchange Bank, under a State charter.

The Exchange Banking Co. was organized May 14, 1890, and the same month a charter was issued to A. J. Munn, William Mullally, J. W. Long, G. H. Depew, W. D. Mudge, J. E. Clark, J. W. Williams, B. S. Beverstock, Ed. Baldwin and Z. Waltz. The capital stock was \$100,000. In 1890, the following named officers were chosen: A. J. Munn, Pres.; W. C. Mullally, V.-P.; B. B. Buck, cashier; W. D. Mudge, assistant cashier, and they retain their positions with one exception—B. S. Beverstock being elected vice-president in 1891. George S. Depew took the place of Mr. Beverstock in 1895. A. T. Munn was appointed assistant cashier in 1894. The bank building, in which are the bank and the *Herald* office, was erected in 1886, at a cost of \$3,500.

The Citizens Bank was established April 8, 1890, under a State charter issued February 13, 1890, to Henry C. Uhlman, John R. Jones, Joseph A. Holmes, W. C. Singer, H. G. Strawser, John A. Henry and Robert D. Henderson. Henry C. Uhlman has been president since the beginning of this financial house, and Joseph A. Holmes, cashier. The banking office is in the Henry C. Uhlman brick block, erected in 1889-90.

*Fires.*—The Levi Taylor gristmill was burned early in the "sixties," being the first large fire in the village. The Weston fire of October 4, 1880, originated in Shuster's bakery, destroyed Harper & Ladd's livery, and injured Kiel's brick block and Mrs. Atkins' house. The bucket brigade did extraordinary work in saving the "Atkins House" and adjoining buildings. The burning of two children of Widow Anthony, who lived two miles northwest of the village, took place on the eve of Christmas, 1880, when the mother's house was burned. In August, 1891, the elevator was burned. The fire of December 19, 1891, destroyed the buildings on the west side of Main street from the railroad to Cherry street, includ-

ing Gingery & Co.'s and George R. Banks' stores, at the corner of Main and Cherry; J. K. Henderson's dry-goods store, and Knights of Labor hall, above; A. L. Avery's meat market next; Mrs. W. R. Worth's residence, with offices of Solon Davis and Van Tress & Holly; L. S. Dome's "Exchange Hotel" next; Mrs. Pennington's millinery store and residence; the post office; Ben Indlekofer's residence and restaurant; Stratton & Powell's harness shop, near the railroad, with J. B. Caddy's house close by. The fire originated in the rear of Henderson's store at about 1:30 A. M. There being no fire engine, the bucket brigade was called out, but its efforts were unavailing until the Deshler Fire Department arrived. The fire of October 2, 1893, destroyed the building on the east side of Main street, between the railroad and Cherry street, destroying Mrs. Worth's new "Exchange Hotel," Shipman's butchery, Gingery & Co.'s produce store, Drummer's grocery, Rickard's meat shop, Mudge's vacant drug store, C. W. McDonald's and M. Gillespie's vacant buildings, Peinert's barber shop and Baldwin's corn cribs. Baldwin's elevator was damaged. The fire of July 29, 1894, destroyed Edward Baldwin's elevator and Martz's new flouring-mill. The mill may be called a local enterprise, since the citizens contributed \$1,500 toward its construction.

*Societies, Etc.*—Neibling Post No. 30, G. A. R., was chartered June 18, 1879, with the following named members: F. M. Young, of the 99th and 50th O. V. I.; Carlo Call, 100th Inf.; G. B. Spencer, 3d Cavalry; E. P. Williams, 21st Inf.; H. G. Burdue, N. S. Lee, G. W. Rickard, D. B. Pugh, 144th Inf. (died in 1883); J. J. Clark, Capt. 140th Inf.; William W. Hill, 123d Inf.; C. Chandler, E. Gross, 102d Penn. Inf.; O. Holbrook, E. A. Cook, in cavalry; Wallace W. Hill, 10th Ohio Cavalry; A. and E. Brisbin, 21st Inf.; George Rei, S. L. Irwin, 185th Inf.; T. L. Wood, 192d Inf.; W. M. Stretsberry, S. Weirs, H. B. Smith, and H. A. Motley. Only six of the number were here in January, 1893, and four in September, 1895. The past commanders are named as follows: F. M. Young, June 18, 1879, re-elected in 1880, 1881 and 1884, and subsequently junior vice-commander of the Department of Ohio; George B. Spencer, 1882 and 1885; Wilson S. Swank, 1883; W. W. Hill, 1887-88-95; Carlo Call, 1889; John Whitker, 1886; Lewis Baker, 1890; John L. Dull, 1891; E. W. Schooley, 1892; G. H. Depew, 1893; and H. D. Baker, 1894, re-elected in December, 1895. The adjutants are named as follows: A. Brisbin, 1879; H. A. Kiel, 1880; C. F. Lewis, 1881, 1885;

Solon Davis, 1890, 1892, 1894; W. W. Hill, 1886, 1891; J. L. Dull, 1893; C. Call, 1887, 1895; Hiram D. Parker, 1888; L. S. Baker, 1889, and Solon Davis, elected in December, 1895. This Post was named in honor of James M. Neibling, the second colonel of the 21st O. V. I., from December 20, 1862, to December 6, 1864. Only one member died prior to June 18, 1883, but by January 19, 1893, there were only 109 of the 212 members mustered in, in good standing. Down to that date, the sum of \$4,000 was collected for dues. [These figures are taken from Dr. Hill's sketch of the Post, published early in 1893.]

Neibling Women's Relief Corps was organized September 20, 1887, with twenty-five members, and chartered October 29, 1887. The charter members were Elizabeth Stearns, Rachel Peininger, Cora Berry, Nettie Hill, Harriet A. Call, Alice Foreman, Lottie Blodgett, Eva Hartzell, Kate Biddle, Nettie Dull, Louisa Thompson, Laura Motley, Lewellyn Ladd, Eva Strawser, Harriet Baldwin, Sadie Dull, Jennie Munn, Molly Long (1), Mollie Long (2), Mary E. Dubbs, Lulu Jones, Libbie Gunn, Juliet Baldwin, Elizabeth Steinshauer, and Colista Hewitt. In a paper written by Mrs. Schooley, in April, 1893, she speaks of \$797.41 being collected down to that date. Mrs. Kate Biddle was president in 1887-88-89; Mrs. Schooley, in 1890; Mrs. C. Call, in 1891; Mrs. Kate E. Biddle, in 1892; Mrs. Eva Hartzell, in 1893; Mrs. Schooley, in 1894; and Mrs. Addie Morgan, in 1895; with Mrs. H. D. Baker, secretary.

William Taylor Camp, S. of V., was instituted August 8, 1887, with fifteen members. The officers in order of rank were: G. W. Taylor, Arthur Smith, H. E. Deyo, Fred Brisbin, F. H. Taylor, Orrin Brisbin, C. R. F. Berry, C. C. Richardson, F. Burdo, Ed. Seymour, Wilbur Call, Rollin Brisbin and Theodore Gross. This organization disbanded within a few years.

Keeler Camp, S. of V., was organized January 9, 1893, with Irvin Edgar, captain, and the following named officers in camp order: John Miller, John Stretsberry, Christ Linn, Charles Stern, George Marshall, J. Rosencrantz, Lemuel Walling, Charles Walling and John Horner.

Weston Lodge, No. 681, I. O. O. F., was chartered May 15, and instituted July 15, 1879, with twenty-five charter members, namely: Theodore L. Wood, J. A. Henry, S. F. Long, Barnet Older, John Kistner, Ross Boyles, Josias Smith, L. Cretzinger, Wm. H. Pugh, H. Satterly, James Stretsberry, George Askins, Peter Nyswander, Geo. W. Downs, Joseph B. Ward

(first noble grand), John Rechner, A. Brisbin, S. K. Saylor, J. W. Williams, W. Culver, John Buckingham, James Salisberry, W. O. Keeler, George Ingmire, and James T. Dean. The past grands in good standing, in March, 1893, are named as follows: J. W. Williams, Josias Smith, R. D. Henderson, W. H. Pugh, H. C. Uhlman, I. N. Neifer, W. D. Mudge, H. G. Strawser, E. A. Saxby, G. W. Barnes, G. P. Thompson, S. C. Oswald, B. S. Jones, W. T. Stretsberry, W. H. Walters, E. E. Stearns, N. T. Foster, A. S. Coward, Allen Bortel, Jacob Bohmer and H. E. Jones. In July, 1895, Charles B. Saxby was installed noble grand, and in January, 1896, William Martin succeeded him, with G. P. Thompson, recording secretary. The members who were past grands when they joined this lodge are Barnet Older, James T. Dean and Howard Cline, W. F. Peinert, F. Wetzell, W. F. Shipman, and L. A. Lathrop. The lodge was incorporated March 22, 1882.

Columbian Encampment, No. 274, I. O. O. F., was instituted June 27, 1893, with twenty members, under the charter of May 3, 1893. The first members were W. H. Walters, W. Martin, George W. Barnes, Perry Junkins, Fred Wetzell, W. F. Peinert, J. K. Henderson, H. G. Strawser, A. T. Munn, L. L. Holly, G. W. Pore, R. D. Henderson, H. E. Jones, W. Sockman, Allen Bortel, J. W. Long, James Stretsberry, Jacob Bohmer, J. M. Williams, G. P. Thompson, E. W. Schooley, S. F. Hull, William Shipman, William Stretsberry, M. A. Matheny, W. D. Mudge, John M. Wright, M. W. Hunter, I. N. Neifer, J. W. Anderson and E. A. Saxby. The patriarchs have been W. D. Mudge, R. D. Henderson, J. K. Henderson and Dr. Williams. J. V. Beverstock is the scribe. The membership is forty-three. The encampment was incorporated April 19, 1894. In July, 1895, W. F. Shipman was installed as chief patriarch.

Kokosing Rebekah Degree Lodge, No. 303, I. O. O. F., was instituted July 25, 1890. The charter members were: J. W. Williams, S. K. Saylor, E. A. Saxby, W. H. Pugh, J. B. Smith, B. Older, G. W. Barnes, E. E. Stearns, Dr. E. W. Schooley, W. F. Stretsberry, William Martin, W. H. Walters, N. T. Foster, with Mesdames S. K. Saylor, E. A. Saxby, W. H. Pugh, J. B. Smith, B. Older, G. W. Barnes, E. E. Stearns, E. W. Schooley, W. F. Stretsberry, William Martin, W. H. Walters and Emma Burson. The past grands of this lodge are named as follows: Madams Maria R. Schooley (three terms), Lucretia J. Martin, Rebecca Stretsberry, Mary Bortel (two terms), Effie Saxby, Sadie Hunter, Harriet

A. Heath (elected in November, 1894), Louisa Thompson (in June, 1895), with Mrs. G. P. Thompson, secretary; and Mrs. L. A. Lathrop in December, 1895, with Mrs. Heath, secretary.

Kenilworth Lodge, No. 340, K. of P., was instituted March 29, 1889, with the following named members: J. H. Biddle, J. M. Oswald, W. C. Singer, Ed. Baggally, G. H. Pratt, Ed. Baldwin, O. C. Sterling, J. E. Clark, D. L. Aldrich, W. W. Hill, H. G. Strawser, W. D. Mudge and Will Clark, officers; S. C. Oswald, L. E. Long, C. H. Petrie, F. H. Taylor, W. P. Smith, S. E. Burson, Carlo Call, G. W. Taylor, Herman Fell, J. T. Steinshauer, G. B. Spencer, T. W. Taylor, J. W. Long, L. S. Baker, R. D. Henderson, J. W. Lingo, W. O. Keeler, Luther Ames, J. J. Morgan, W. H. Pugh, G. W. Barnes, Ed. S. Spaulding, G. E. Lingo, John Ballmer, A. L. Avery, R. H. Ballmer, and Joseph Shipman. The chancellor's chair has been held by the following named: D. L. Aldrich, J. M. Oswald, W. L. Clark, A. L. Avery, H. G. Strawser, Fred. Schwind, W. D. Mudge, G. O. Hartzell, Carlo Call, S. Gingery, G. L. Bortle and J. W. Filmore. The keepers of records and seals have been: Ed. Baggally, F. M. G. Sibert, W. S. Stearns, G. W. Taylor, Arthur Smith and D. M. Cluxton. This lodge claims no less than 110 members. In January, 1896, M. D. Hall was installed C. C., and G. W. Taylor, K. of R. & S.

Anthony Wayne Tent, No. 140, K. O. T. M., was instituted January 31, 1893, with thirty-one members, namely: W. F. Stretsberry, B. B. Buck, George Barnes, S. F. Long, J. L. Dull, D. R. Angell, Tom Pugh, George W. Pore, E. A. Saxby, J. T. Steinshauer, W. C. Mullally, Art. T. Munn, Fred M. Hill, James V. Baldwin, W. H. Schooley, W. W. Hill, G. H. Depew, O. E. French, W. H. Lehman, F. J. Banks, H. G. Strawser, E. A. Hartman, E. W. Schooley, Henry Thomas, W. D. Mudge, Howard Wise, Dr. J. M. C. Cook, Barney Cramer, G. R. Banks, Charles F. Holland and Charles B. Saxby, who was elected P. C., with Dr. Hill, C., and Fred J. Banks, record keeper. In July, 1895, Fred Hill was installed commander.

Emerald Hive, No. 42, L. O. T. M., was instituted July 5, 1893, with the following named

officers in Hive rank: Mrs. W. W. Hill, Mrs. J. W. Miller, Sadie Ash, Mrs. C. B. Saxby, Stella Holbrook, Mrs. O. Hartzell, Mrs. Shoup, Mrs. O. E. French, Mrs. B. Older, Mrs. G. P. Thompson, Ella Reardon, Flora Fuller and Lizzie Murphy.

Weston Lodge, No. 560, A. F. & A. M., was organized U. D. October 23, 1889. The first meeting was held November 11, 1889, L. Black being master, F. M. Dubbs, S. W., and J. A. Holmes, J. W. The charter was issued October 19, 1891, to twelve members, who elected J. A. Holmes master. The officers installed December 1, 1891, were the above named, with J. H. Biddle, secretary; A. J. Munn, treasurer; A. L. Avery, S. D.; W. P. Smith, J. D.; S. Sterling and J. A. Henry, stewards; and Joseph Parrott, tyler. F. M. Dubbs succeeded Mr. Holmes as master. The number of members in June, 1895, was thirty.

The Knights of Labor had, at one time, a strong lodge here. The Grange, too, had a numerous following, while the Sons of Temperance, the A. O. U. M. and other secret organizations existed here.

The Weston Library Association was organized June 13, 1883, with 101 members, and the following officers: N. C. Helfrich, president; Ed. Baldwin, vice-president; Mary Singer, secretary; Mrs. W. B. Ladd, treasurer; and W. D. Mudge, librarian. The payment of one dollar was the only qualification for membership.

The new Opera House is a venture of 1895. In the summer of that year a few young business men purchased the old school house, moved it to a new location, and fitted it up for theatrical purposes, employing Karl B. Steers to paint the drop curtain and scenery.

A secret society existed here long before any of the present organizations existed. Though nearly all the able-bodied men were engaged in the field of Civil war, in 1863, enough remained to attend to local affairs, for, on June 13, 1863, when the formation of the Union League, of Scott's Mills, was proposed, no less than fifty-eight males and 104 females joined the organization, and they sustained it until the necessity for such a society ceased.



## BIOGRAPHICAL.

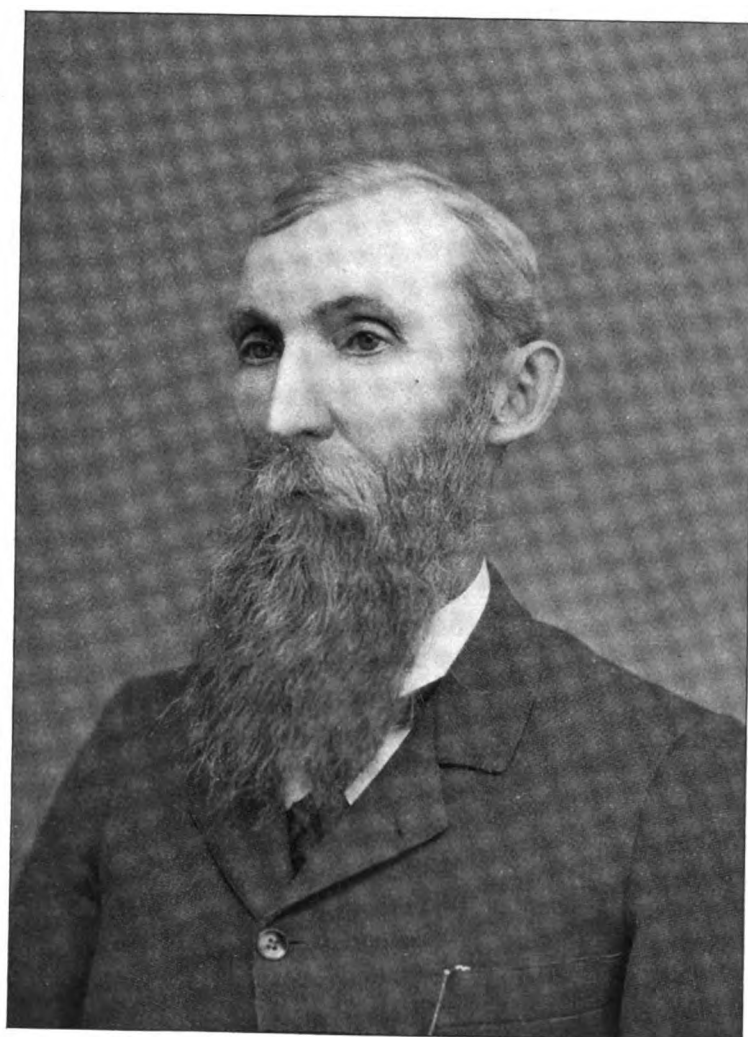


**CAPT. LUTHER BLACK**, of Bowling Green, is one of the most prominent citizens of Wood county, throughout which he is known and esteemed, not only as a successful business man, but also for his high character, and his splendid record as a brave soldier in the war of the Rebellion. On his father's side he is of Irish descent, his great-grandfather having emigrated from Ireland to this country at an early day. His grandfather Black was killed by accident while raising his barn in Perry county, Ohio. On the mother's side the grandfather was of Pennsylvania-Dutch stock, while the grandmother, who was a Miss Oatley, was a native of Scotland. From these sturdy ancestors our subject has inherited the best traits—traits that have manifested themselves in his long career of useful activity.

Capt. Black was born in Washington township, Wood Co., Ohio, May 18, 1836, and is a son of John and Phœbe (Skinner) Black, the former of whom was born in Mercer county, Penn., when ten years of age moving with his parents to Perry county, Ohio. In 1831 he took up his residence in Wood county, and was one of the first three pioneers of Washington township, where at that time over one thousand Indians dwelt. While living in Perry county he married and had two children, and on removing to this county he took up some unimproved land which he cleared and converted into a productive farm, in the meantime experiencing all the trials and privations incident to the life of early settlers. In politics he was a Democrat, in religious faith an Old-school Presbyterian, and he was a man of irreproachable character. He died August 21, 1861, his wife passing away at Hull Prairie in 1883, and both are buried at Tontogany, Wood county. To this worthy couple were born seven children, of whom the following record is given: (1) William resides in Newport, Mich., where he has held the offices of deputy sheriff and collector of the port; during the Civil war he en-

listed at Olmsted Falls, Minn., and proved a brave soldier. (2) Elizabeth A. married A. P. Treadwell, and lives at Hull Prairie, Wood county. (3) Minerva J. became the wife of Joseph Jeffers, and died at Waterville, Lucas Co., Ohio. (4) Calvin lives at Washington, Kans. (5) Luther is the subject of this review. (6) Catherine married Dr. A. Eddmon, and lives at Tontogany. (7) Mary is the wife of Dr. E. R. Wood, of Belle Plaine, Kansas.

Luther Black grew to manhood on his father's farm in this county, attending the schools of that locality and those at Waterville, and also the seminary at Maumee. After leaving school, he for four years taught in the district schools of Wood county, and for two years in Champaign, Ill. About this time the whole world was electrified by the outbreak of the Civil war, and the patriotism of the young teacher induced him to lay aside his ferule for an army musket, and offer his services in defense of the stars and stripes. On April 27, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, 21st O. V. I., three-months' service, which was passed in Virginia, at the termination of which, his father having died in the meantime, he was obliged to return home in order to take charge of the family. There he remained until 1864, on May 4 of which year he organized Company B, 144th O. V. I., of which company he was made captain. While at Berryville, Va., he and seven of his men were taken prisoners by the Rebels and sent to Lynchburg, thence to Libby prison where they suffered the horrors of slow starvation, and where all except himself and one other fell victims to cruel treatment. Three months after his capture, Capt. Black was released by exchange, and his patriotic zeal being still unabated, in spite of the terrible scenes through which he had passed, he raised another company, of which he was also made captain. This was Company K, 185th O. V. I., which afterward saw much service in Kentucky in the vicinity of Cumberland Gap, where they had frequent skirmishes with the guerrillas. The regiment was mustered out at Lexington, Ky., in September, 1865.



*L. Black*



His career as a soldier being ended by the cessation of hostilities, and the return of peace to the land, Capt. Black returned to private citizenship, and, having in the meantime purchased the old homestead, carried on farming there for two years. At the end of that time he engaged in the drug business, in Tontogany, which he conducted some eighteen years, and then, being elected county treasurer on the Republican ticket, he, in 1881, removed to Bowling Green. That responsible office he held for two terms, or four years, such being the limit of the law, fulfilling its duties in a most creditable manner. The Captain then established himself in the clothing business, and some six or seven years ago became interested in the oil wells of Wood county. On February 20, 1894, he sold out his clothing establishment, since when he has given all his attention to his oil interests. He is now a part owner in sixty-one wells in this county, and a member of various firms connected therewith, the most prominent of which is that of Black, Reese & Hazlett, who own a number of productive wells, and are doing an extensive business. He is also cultivating a couple of farms which he owns in the vicinity.

In 1860 Capt. Black was married to Miss Sarah J. Camron, a native of New York State, who died three years later, leaving one child, Frank H., who was killed by a railroad accident when fourteen years old. On January 16, 1873, the Captain married Miss Georgie A. Cooper, who was born in St. Lawrence county, N. Y., daughter of James and Almira (Brooks) Cooper, who were married in 1840. James Cooper traces his ancestry back to the year 1661, as follows:

(1) James Cooper, of Stratford-on-Avon, England, born in 1661, died in 1732; came to Philadelphia, Penn., in 1682; had eight children—Esther, James, Joseph, (2) Samuel, William, Benjamin, Isaac and Rebecca. James Cooper owned a lot on Chestnut street, Philadelphia, opposite Marble Custom-house. (2) His son William had six children—Rebecca, (3) Thomas, James, Joseph, Samuel, and Letitia. He died in 1736. (3) His son (3) James was twice married, and had fifteen children; by his first wife, Hannah (Hibbs), he had eight children—Susanna, (4) James, William, Letitia, Levi, and Benjamin; by his second wife, Elizabeth (Wager), (3) James had seven children—Amelia, Marmaduke, Meshach, Laodosia, Naboth, Noah and Alpheus.

(4) James Cooper, son of (3) James, and grandfather of Mrs. Capt. Luther Black, was born in Moreland, Montgomery Co., Penn., March 6, 1753; served in the navy and army of

Pennsylvania in the Revolutionary war, and participated in the battles of Monmouth and Germantown. He was married three times: first to Naomi Nelson, by whom he had three children—Hannah, Naomi and Caroline; by his second wife, Mary (Albertson) he had no children; by his third wife, Sarah (Comely), he had children—Courtland, (5) James, Henry, William, Nancy, Hamilton, George and Amos. The father of these died May 1, 1849, in his ninety-seventh year. He was a man of strong likes and dislikes, served as judge on the bench, and was a large land holder, owning property whereon a portion of the city of Philadelphia now stands. He and his wife were both Quakers.

(5) James Cooper, son of (4) James Cooper, and father of Mrs. Black, was born November 23, 1795, in Philadelphia. He was own cousin to James Fennimore Cooper, the distinguished American novelist. James Cooper was twice married; first time to Sarah Rice, by whom he had six children—Esther, Ezra, Ruth, Hannah, William and Alonzo; by his second wife, Almira (Brooks), he had two children—Georgie A. (Mrs. Black), and James B., an inventor who resides in Minneapolis. The sons, Ezra, Alonzo and James B., were all soldiers, making for themselves an enviable military record. The father of these was a man of superior education and acknowledged ability, for which, indeed, the entire family have been noted. He was a pronounced Abolitionist, and an outspoken advocate of the cause of freedom to all mankind. Migrating to Ohio about the year 1844, he settled at Waterville, Lucas county, where for many years he served as a magistrate. During his busy lifetime he owned several flouring-mills and saw-mills, doing an extensive business in both those lines of industry. He died there in 1868, honored and respected by all who knew him. His widow, who is now passing her declining years at the home of her daughter, was born, in 1812, in the town of Champion, Jefferson Co., N. Y., daughter of Joseph Brooks, a Revolutionary soldier from Massachusetts. She was a cousin of Amos Kendall, who was postmaster-general under President Jackson's administration, and when a young man taught in the family of Gen. Clay, afterward holding many offices of honor and trust. He became an able attorney at law, and was influential in the establishment of the first Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Washington, D. C.

To Capt. and Mrs. Black have been born two children: Marie C. and James L., the latter of whom at present is a student at Oberlin College. The Captain is a consistent member of the



Presbyterian Church, in which he is an elder; socially, he is affiliated with the F. & A. M., Wood County Lodge, No. 112; is a member of Crystal Chapter, No. 157, and of Toledo Commandery, K. T., at Toledo, Ohio. In politics he has always been an ardent Republican, his first vote being cast for Abraham Lincoln, and he has never failed to deposit his ballot, save twice—first when he was in Libby prison, and again, in 1880, when he was too ill to go to the polls. Capt. Black was delegate to the State Convention, and was honored with election as alternate delegate to the National Convention, to be held at St. Louis in June. He has served as president of the school board and of the gas board, and is a director of the American Foundry & Machine Co., also of the First National Bank, of Bowling Green. During the past year he has been interested in gold mining in California, being identified with a joint-stock company. In every relation in life, Capt. Black has borne an honorable part as an upright, patriotic, loyal citizen, and is justly classified among the social representative men of Wood county.

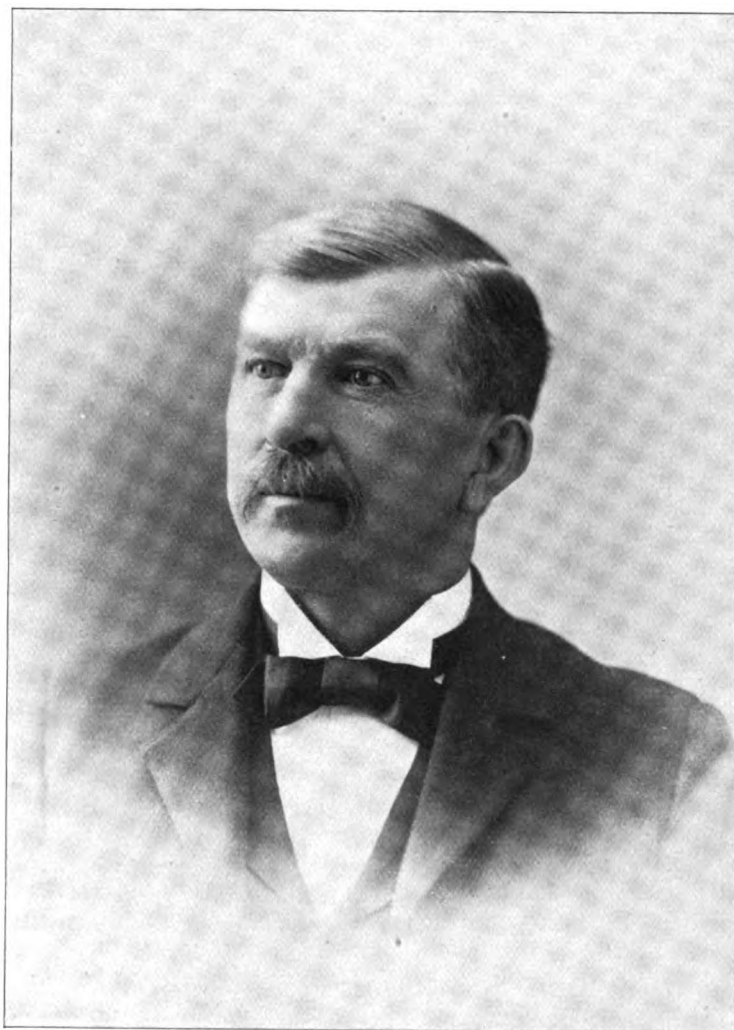
JOHN R. HANKEY, the well-known capitalist of Bowling Green, has, by his varied business enterprises, done much to develop the natural resources of this region, and to open up its commerce. In judgment of human nature, and statesmanlike manipulation of a complex situation, he has few equals; but his shrewdness is combined with rare kindness of heart, shown in many ways characteristic of the man. It has been said that if simple justice were to rule the business world, there would be no need for "charity," and the subject of this sketch is one of the first to try to bring this high ideal of human brotherhood into practical effect in his relations with his employees. In his large planing-mill at Bowling Green he inaugurated, some years ago, the co-operative system, issuing stock to his men and carrying it for them until such time as they could pay for it from their savings, and paying back money, so invested, at any time at the request of the shareholder. This plan has succeeded admirably, and to the lasting profit of all parties concerned.

The members of the Hankey family, living in Bowling Green, are descended from Louis Hankey, a native of Germany, who emigrated to America at an early day. It is related that he had just enough money to pay his way across the Atlantic and furnish his own provisions. The vessel he set sail in lost her course at sea, and the passage consumed so much more time than was antici-

pated, that his stock of food became exhausted long ere he reached land again, that he became indebted to the ship for part of his board. On reaching New York, he was "sold" by the ship's company, or agents, as was the custom in those days, they getting the money for his time, which he worked out with a farmer. He afterward became a minister of the Evangelical Church, and also followed agricultural pursuits. He married a Miss Less, whose father served in the Revolutionary war seven years, and our subject remembers hearing his grandmother often tell of how she could trace the path the soldiers took by the blood left on the ground from their shoeless feet. In later life Louis Hankey lived in both Stark and Summit counties, Ohio, in which latter he and his wife passed their last days. This estimable couple were the parents of seven children, as follows: John, father of the subject proper of this sketch; Catherine, married to John Himmelright, of Summit county; Jacob, who lived in Summit county, Ohio, near Akron; Lydia, married to Rev. Miller, a minister of the Reformed Church; Sarah, married to a Mr. Hawk; Louis, living in Wayne county, Ohio; and Samuel, a farmer, residing at Copley, Ohio.

J. R. Hankey is a native of Ohio, born in Wayne county, March 16, 1843, a son of John and Polly (Fostnight) Hankey, the former of whom was born in Schuylkill county, Penn., in 1814. He was a farmer and merchant by occupation, and early in life came to Ohio, first locating in Wayne county, during the war of the Rebellion moving to Medina county, where he died in 1868. He was three times married; first to Miss Polly Fostnight, who was born in Stark county, Ohio, in 1819, and by her he had seven children, as follows: Solomon died in infancy; Sarah married William Shammo, and is deceased; Lewis W. is a minister of the Evangelical Church at Tiffin, Ohio; John R., the subject proper of this memoir, comes next; then I. L.; two died in infancy. The mother of these departed this life in Wayne county in 1854, and Mr. Hankey subsequently married Miss Margaret Reach, who died fifteen months after marriage; she had one child that died in infancy. For his third wife he wedded Miss Sarah Strouse, of Richland county, Ohio, by which union there were two children: Isaiah S., of Bowling Green, and Sarah Katherine, wife of A. L. Sourwine, a farmer in Crawford county, Ohio.

Our subject lived on a farm until he was eleven years old, when he went to Marshallville. He received his education in the common schools, and when fifteen years old went to Wooster,



*John R. Heankey*



Ohio, where he entered the arena of business in the capacity of clerk in a clothing store. While so engaged the war of the Rebellion broke out, and at the first call by the President for three-years men to defend the Union, the lad, fired with the spirit of true patriotism, enlisted June 4, 1861, in Company E, 4th O. V. I., which was attached to the army of the Potomac, Gen. Sumner's corps, under Gen. McClellan ("Little Mac"). Private Hankey participated in many battles and skirmishes, and established for himself the record of a good, dutiful and brave soldier. He took part in the battles of Winchester, Port Royal, Port Republic, and in all the engagements in front of Richmond in 1862; was at the siege of Yorktown, the battle of Fair Oaks, the seven-days' retreat, battles of second Bull Run and Antietam, up to and including that of Fredericksburg. At second Bull Run he had a very narrow escape from death, his haversack being blown to pieces by an exploding shell. His personal injuries were not serious, but his rations were entirely lost, and for several days he had to depend upon the generosity of his comrades for food. After the battle of Fredericksburg Mr. Hankey was stricken with typhoid fever, necessitating his removal to the hospital, whence on his recovery he was transferred to the Invalid Corps, in which he served at different localities until his honorable discharge from the army, June 4, 1864, after an arduous and loyal service of three years, during which he never shirked his duty, but cheerfully and without a selfish thought risked his young life—amid shot and shell, in dreary and wearisome marches and counter-marches, in the trenches and at the storming of bastions—that the integrity of the Union might be preserved.

Returning to Wooster, Ohio, Mr. Hankey found his old position in the store awaiting him, and that his salary had recommenced from the day of his discharge. He did not remain much longer, however, with the firm, for on the first day of January, 1867, we find him engaged by a Philadelphia woolen-goods house to represent them "on the road," a line of life better suited to his natural energy and push, and no doubt palatable to a certain love he had for "adventure," inoculated into him by his army experience. With this firm he remained ten years, in all, during which time, in January, 1869, he and another established a clothing and merchant tailoring store in Findlay, Ohio (at the same time retaining his connection with the Philadelphia firm, as traveler), and they conducted the same conjointly till 1871, when Mr. Hankey sold out his interest to

his partner, and removed with his family to Wooster.

In August, 1874, he and Mr. White established a clothing business at Bowling Green, Wood county, under the firm name of Hankey & White, which they successfully carried on up to January 1, 1877, at which time our subject discontinued commercial traveling. On April 1, same year, he removed with his family to Bowling Green, where they have since made their home. In that city he has become identified with various undertakings, among them being the planing-mill already referred to; he has also been interested in gas and oil enterprises, the firm of Hankey Brothers being among the most extensive promoters in that line in this region. He assisted in organizing, and was a heavy stockholder in, both the Bowling Green and the Crystal Glass Works, formerly located at Bowling Green; and stockholder in the Foundry and Machine Shop. He was one of the founders of the First National Bank of that city, and is still vice-president thereof. He has been an extensive dealer in real estate, much valuable property in and about Bowling Green having changed hands with him. He built and owns the fine new Opera House block on Main street, the Hankey block, north of the Opera block, besides the National Bank and Exchange Bank buildings. Indeed, it can be truly said of him that he has stood ready with his energy and means to assist in any and every measure tending to the development of the industries of northwestern Ohio, more especially Wood county and the city of Bowling Green, whose present prosperity is due to him more than any other one person. For thirty-nine years he has not been a day idle, having been either in the employ of others, or in business for himself.

In 1867, at Wooster, Ohio, Mr. Hankey was united in marriage with Miss Emma T. Van Houten, who was born in Wooster, in 1846, daughter of the late Philo S. and Elizabeth (Bartol) Van-Houten, and three children have graced this union: Rufus P. (married to Miss Nettie Long, of Bowling Green), Harry G. and Philo S.; of whom, Rufus P. and Harry G. have an interest in their father's planing-mill; Philo S. was employed in a bank at Bowling Green, but at present, owing to impaired health, is sojourning in the "Sunny South."

Philo S. Van Houten, father of Mrs. Hankey, was born in Marcellus, N. Y., December 25, 1810, and by assiduous industry, strict integrity and indomitable perseverance rose from comparative obscurity to be cashier of the Wayne County Bank (now the Wayne County National Bank),

Wooster, Ohio, an incumbency he filled with fidelity and ability for the long period of nearly a third of a century—in fact up to his death, which occurred April 9, 1881. He was a man of irreproachable private character, whose domestic life and habits were of that quiet and unostentatious kind so well calculated to endear him to family and friends.

On January 2, 1840, Mr. Van Houten married Miss Elizabeth Bartol, who was born in Elizabethtown, Lancaster Co., Penn., in 1820, daughter of Mathias and Elizabeth (Jontz) Bartol, both also natives of the Keystone State. They were the parents of three sons and three daughters—George and John (who died in Ohio); Abraham (who died in California); Elizabeth; Margaret (Mrs. William Still), and Sarah (Mrs. Michael Rahn), all now deceased. The parents moved to Wayne county, Ohio, in the summer of 1831, and there passed the rest of their honored lives. The father was called to his final rest in 1843 at the age of sixty-two, the mother dying in 1863, aged seventy-two. Mrs. Elizabeth Van-Houten was a girl of eleven years when her parents removed to Wayne county, and as will be seen was nineteen at the time of her marriage. Nine children were born to her and her husband, only four of whom survive, namely: Mary (Mrs. Wellington Curry, now of Chicago); Emma (Mrs. John R. Hankey); Edward, in California, and Anna (Mrs. Frank Eshelman), of Pittsburg, Penn. Those deceased are Jane (Mrs. Lee Scobey, who died in Wooster), Harry, Charles, John, and Caroline (who died in infancy). The mother of these was called from earth February 12, 1895. Like her husband she was a sincere and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; was an ardent advocate of the cause of temperance, and a member of the organization known as the Evergreen Social Temple. By everyone who knew her she was justly held in the highest esteem, and is affectionately remembered for her many good qualities.

In his political preferences, Mr. Hankey is an uncompromising Republican, ever taking a lively interest in the affairs of the party as a recognized leader in its ranks, in Ohio, his ability, wealth and public spirit securing for him a powerful influence in the party councils. Never an office seeker himself, yet, such is his popularity and usefulness, he has oft-times been sought after to fill positions of honor and trust. He has served as township treasurer twelve years; as member of the school board; and as trustee of the State Blind Asylum, five years. In local politics he is

an honest but hard fighter, and his all-round influence enables him to assist a friend or effectually bar the way to any adversary. For years he has been one of the most zealous factors on the county executive committee, and, while honorably aggressive, has on all occasions proven himself to be a most liberal and generous opponent, true to his colors and promises, and securing alike the acclamation of his friends, and the respect of his rivals. In the fall of 1895 he was elected to the Thirty-third District of Ohio in the State Senate, the first time he has been called by election to any State office. Socially, he is a member of the F. & A. M., Royal Arcanum, I. O. O. F. and G. A. R. The family have an elegant home in Bowling Green, surrounded by an atmosphere of comfort and refinement, and enjoy the respect and esteem of a wide circle of warm friends.

ERASMUS D. PECK, M. D., deceased. Among the able and cultured people who came from the East in the early days, and settled in Perrysburg, giving to its society a notably refined and intellectual tone, none took higher rank than did the late Dr. Peck and his estimable wife.

The Doctor was born in Stafford, Conn., September 16, 1808, a member of one of the old Colonial families, and was educated in the schools of Munson, Mass., and at Yale College, where he was graduated from the Medical Department in 1829, and was well fitted for the leadership, wherever his lot might be cast. The Peck family is of English origin, and the first of the American line. William Peck, settled in Connecticut in 1720. Dr. Peck's father, Daniel Peck, was a prominent physician in his day, and married a descendant of a well-known New England family, Miss Persis Ladd, by whom he had six daughters and four sons. After his graduation Dr. Peck came to Ohio, for some time living in Portage county, but in 1834 he came to Perrysburg, where for over forty years he practiced his chosen profession. He formed a partnership, at first with Dr. E. T. Tremaine, and later with Dr. James Robertson, but in 1854 his nephew, Dr. H. A. Hamilton, joined him in practice. This partnership continued until Dr. Peck's death, which occurred December 25, 1876. A man of commanding influence in all lines of effort, Dr. Peck took a prominent place in the councils of the Republican party, which he entered on the disorganization of the old Whig party. He was a member of the Ohio Legislature in 1855-57, and in 1870 was elected to Congress, serving in the Forty-first and Forty-second sessions. He

then retired from active participation in politics, and resumed his professional work. He was married in 1834 to Miss Mary Thorndyke Lincoln, a native of Jeffrey, N. H., who was born in 1808 and died in 1873.

H. E. PECK, the only child of these honored pioneers, was born in Perrysburg, April 30, 1838. He was educated in the schools of his native place, and has made his home there except one year he spent in the South, and one year in New York State. For twenty-five years he was engaged in the mercantile business, and on retiring from that he served four years as deputy collector of customs of this district. In 1873 he was married to Miss Mary C. Robinson, who was born in Middlebury, Ohio, and they have two children: Charles L. and Augustus H., the latter of whom is at school in New York.

**COLLISTER HASKINS.** Among that dauntless set of Eastern men who, ambitious to carve out for themselves homes from the then wilds of the West, and who left peaceful firesides and braved the dangers and privations incident to a frontier life, is he whose name introduces this memoir. Born of good parentage at North Prescott, Mass., August 25, 1799, young Haskins was early educated to habits of virtue, morality, order, industry and economy, and was therefore well prepared for the task before him. He removed to the Maumee river, settling at Waterville in 1817, and, June 16, 1818, was married to Miss Fanny, daughter of Martin Gunn, of that place, the ceremony being performed by Seneca Allen, a justice of the peace. The mother of Collister Haskins, a woman of many virtues, was an own cousin to President Franklin Pierce. The parents of Mrs. Haskins—Martin and Sarah (Winslow) Gunn—were from Massachusetts, becoming early settlers in the Maumee Valley; the Gunns were of Scotch descent.

To the marriage of our subject and wife were born children, as follows: Two (a boy and a girl) who died in infancy; Delia, who died unmarried at Portage; Wealthy, the wife of John De Witt, a farmer of Wood county; Sarah, the wife of Joseph Clark, a resident of Missouri; Henry, a resident of Butler, Ind., whose first wife was Hannah Fernside, and whose present wife was a Miss Hutchinson; Chrissa, who married Isaac Van Gordner, and resides in Portage, Wood county; Cynthia, the wife of Capt. James W. Knaggs, who resides near Portage; Charles, deceased; Eunice, the wife of Jesse Lane Roller, a prominent druggist and business man of Toledo.

Pioneer Haskins, it will be observed, was only a boy of eighteen years at the time of his marriage; but, possessed of a good constitution, and being of a resolute and determined will, he at once set out to make for himself and family a home. During his stay on the Maumee river, he passed some three years on what is known as Granger's Island. In July, 1824, he entered, from the government, land in Section 12, Liberty township, this county, and in September following removed to the east half of the northeast quarter of the same section. When his cabin was ready to be raised, his friends came from Waterville, twelve miles distant, to assist him. This cabin was built of logs, and stood near the bank of a creek, not far from the old stockade made by Gen. Hull in 1812, and which was occupied by a few soldiers during the war, as an advance post on the "middle route" to the Foot of the Rapids. Here Mr. Haskins began trading with the Indians. He kept a variety store, being supplied with such goods as were then in demand, and purchasing his goods from Gen. John E. Hunt, of Maumee City. During the first four years of his residence in Wood county, Mr. Haskins' nearest neighbor was at Miltonville, twelve miles north, and his next, twenty-two miles south. Through his efforts a post office was established at "Haskins Place," in January, 1829. He laid out the village of Portage in 1836, and was an honored citizen of that place and vicinity throughout his life. For some years after Mr. Haskins settled on the site of Portage, the Indians still lingered in their old homes, retaining almost undisputed possession of their sugar camps and hunting-grounds, although the whites were rapidly appropriating the sites of their villages and their favorite fishing-grounds. A description of the Indians of this vicinity as they were from 1825 to 1840, which is of great interest, was given to history by our subject. The death of Mr. Haskins occurred at his residence in Portage, May 7, 1872, after a life of great usefulness to the pioneer people among whom he passed the vigor of his manhood. He had lived a pious life, and when death came it had no terrors for him, his last words being: "It is all right; glory to God."

With other early pioneers, Mr. Haskins passed through the hardships and privations incident to such a life, and performed the labors, which fell to his lot, with patience and cheerfulness, never murmuring at his misfortunes or losses, but ever laboring to make others happy, sacrificing his own means, ease and quiet for others without reserve. His enemies, if he had any, were few, and his

friendship was constant and sincere. He was a member of the Baptist Church. He was careful in his words and acts, calm in his demeanor, intelligent in his conclusions, and outspoken in his sentiments, when he deemed it duty to speak thus, yet always mindful lest he might needlessly give pain or offense. Such a character was not formed hastily, resembling rather the oak which is the growth of centuries. In the death of an old man, whose memory is retentive and pure, much that is valuable to society dies with him.

A. E. ROYCE. The successful career of this leading business man and capitalist, who now holds the position of president of the Commercial Banking Company, of Bowling Green, proves the truth of the old saying. "There is always room at the top." The story of the lives of such men can not too often be told, that it may become an incentive to others whose early opportunities were no greater, and whose chances for success are fully equal to those of the subject of this sketch.

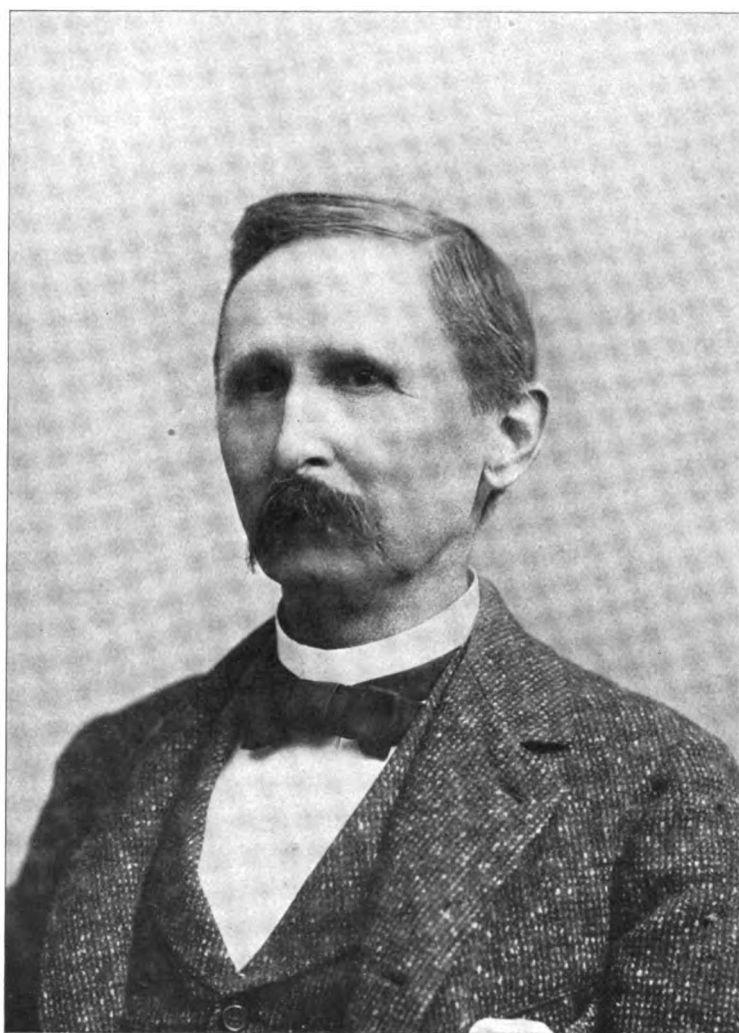
Mr. Royce was born in Huron county, Ohio, July 25, 1844, and is the only child of William and Elizabeth (Scammon) Royce. His father was born in New Hampshire in 1822, removing from that State to New York, and thence to Huron county, Ohio, where he located in Fairfield township. The greater part of his life he spent in the lumber business. In 1871 he located in Bowling Green, where his death occurred in 1884. He was a Democrat, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Elisha Royce, the father of William, was a lumberman in New England, but after removing to Huron county followed farming until his death, which occurred when he was at an advanced age. The Royce family are of Scotch and Irish extraction. The mother of our subject was born in Cayuga county, N. Y., November 23, 1824, and is still living, strong in body and mind. She makes her home in Bowling Green.

Mr. Royce spent his boyhood days in Huron county, attending the common schools and working on his grandfather's farm in his leisure hours, the first money he ever earned being made in this way. On the death of his grandfather, however, the property was divided among the heirs, and he was thrown out of employment. He was then about seventeen years of age, and with the few dollars he had saved he went to Toledo, Ohio, to seek employment and to carve out his fortune. He began in a very humble way, hiring out as a common laborer, and carrying plank into a chair factory to be modeled by more skillful hands into

furniture, receiving for this work seventy-five cents per day. The grit and pluck of his sturdy Scotch ancestors were soon manifested in this young lad, for he made himself so useful that at the end of ten years he was still in the employ of the same company, but no longer as a common laborer. At this time he was the chief engineer, at a salary of \$110 a month.

It was during the latter part of his services in this factory, that what Mr. Royce regards as the most important event in his life occurred. Almost every evening as he went home from work, carrying his tin dinner-pail, he would meet upon the street the then opulent wholesale grocer, Peter Berdan, returning after his evening meal to look after the interests of his large business. The quiet demeanor of this successful merchant attracted the attention of our subject, and he philosophised that even Mr. Berdan must have started in an humble manner, and concluded that others with sufficient tenacity of purpose could do the same. Evening after evening he passed the old merchant in his regular walk to the store, and gradually Mr. Royce formed his resolution to give up his salary and position, and start in business for himself. Thus, without having the slightest knowledge of it, Mr. Berdan wielded a strong influence over our subject, who often points out this incident as an illustration of the unconscious power each individual in society exerts for good or evil upon the younger generation around him.

With the courage of his convictions, Mr. Royce resigned his position, and with money he had saved up, purchased a horse and wagon, made his own harness, and began business as a huckster. This he carried on in Toledo, then removing to Bowling Green, where he rented a vacant room and started a grocery store. He hauled his entire stock of goods, about \$150 worth, from Toledo at one load, in his one-horse wagon, put them up on the shelves of his room at night, and at early dawn had the doors opened to customers. Thus the first great step in the career of one of the most successful men in northern Ohio had been attained, and his first ambition, which was to have a business of his own, was gratified. It was on a small scale, to be sure, but from this humble beginning Mr. Royce has built up a large and flourishing trade. As his means increased he extended his operations in various directions, investing largely in property in Bowling Green, which then village he foresaw was destined to become a place of importance in trade in northern Ohio, especially as a grain center. He sold out his grocery stock



*A. E. Royce*





in 1884. Prior to this he had embarked in the grain business, buying a car-load of corn, had it shelled by hand, and shipped it to Tontogany on the little railroad which was at that time the only one running through Bowling Green. He was obliged to act himself as fireman in order to get this shipment to market at Toledo, and thus may well lay claim to being the pioneer grain shipper of that section of the county. Subsequently Mr. Royce built a small corn crib, which was afterward converted into an elevator, run by horse power, which he operated alone for some years, finally taking in as a partner Mr. J. J. Coon, of Toledo. The manner in which this business has succeeded is best told by its present condition, this firm now owning two large elevators, besides a mill in Bowling Green, and a mill in each of the following places: Tontogany, Custar, Hoyt's Corner, North Baltimore, and Dunbridge. Mr. Royce has entire charge of the business, and has enlarged it from that one car-load of corn, shelled by hand, to 110 car-loads per week.

Soon after selling out his grocery business, in 1885 Mr. Royce organized the banking firm of Royce, Smith & Coon, and opened a private bank in Bowling Green, which was re-organized in 1890, under the laws of the State, as a stock company with \$100,000 capital. This is one of the soundest financial institutions in Ohio, and Mr. Royce is its first and only president. He also owned the second oil well drilled in this county, but finding he had already all the business he could attend to, he soon disposed of his interests in that direction. He owns a large amount of property in Bowling Green, and erected what is known as the Royce Building.

Our subject was married October 31, 1867, to Elizabeth Curson, who died in 1877. One child was the result of this union, Maud, who was born November 29, 1871, and is the wife of F. E. Whitaker, a merchant of Bowling Green. The present wife of Mr. Royce, to whom he was married January 31, 1888, was Miss Hattie Cargo, and they have one child named Ethel. Mr. Royce is a Republican in politics, but in local affairs is not bound by party lines, voting for the men he considers the best for the offices. Socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F. and the Royal Arcanum, and is prominent in all philanthropic work and enterprises which have for their object the welfare of the community.

HON. ASHER COOK (deceased) was born in Luzerne county, Penn., May 3, 1823. In early childhood he came with his parents to Richland county, Ohio, and a few years later moved to

Perrysburg, in Wood county. After a few years residence there, the family removed to Chicago (then a mere village), but not liking the place they soon returned to Perrysburg, where the subject of this sketch spent the remainder of his life. The journey from Chicago to Perrysburg, about 250 miles, was overland, and Asher, who was a mere lad, traveled the whole distance on foot, driving a few cattle, which, with a team, constituted the bulk of his father's possessions. The father was a stone mason and plasterer by occupation, and the son learned and followed the same trades for a short time. He worked as a common laborer in the construction of the Mad River railway (now the Sandusky division of the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis railway); also served for a time as a common sailor upon the lakes. His ambition and thirst for knowledge, however, soon led him into a higher and broader sphere of usefulness. Without means, other than the earnings of his daily labor, he acquired a thorough knowledge of the common branches of learning, as well as several of the higher, and he had an especial liking for the study of languages. Without the benefit of a college training he was able to read, with ease, Latin, French, German and Spanish. His large private library contained no less than 275 volumes in those languages, and he spoke German and French almost as fluently as he did the English language.

Having acquired the necessary general education, he studied law, and in 1849 was admitted to the bar. In the practice he was associated with, and pitted against, the ablest lawyers in north-western Ohio, and was second to none of them in ability and knowledge of the law. The late Chief Justice Waite once said of him: "In knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles of law, Asher Cook has no equal in the Maumee Valley." Immediately on his admission to the bar, our subject was elected prosecuting attorney of his county, and in 1852 was elected probate judge.

In 1853, Judge Cook was married to Miss Amanda Hall, youngest daughter of Judge Jairus Hall, of Vermont. She died during the cholera epidemic, of 1854. Soon after her death Judge Cook went to Europe, and spent a year in study at Paris and Heidelberg, after which he returned to Perrysburg and resumed the practice of law. In 1858 he was married to Miss Sophia Hitchcock, eldest daughter of W. J. Hitchcock, then a prominent merchant of Perrysburg.

In politics, Judge Cook began life as a Democrat, and when his party became divided on the

Slavery question, he cast his lot with that branch of it known as the "Free Soil Party." He took an active part in the organization of the Republican party, being a member of the Pittsburg Convention, at which that party, as a National organization, had its birth. Several months before the Pittsburg Convention, a public meeting was held at Portage, in Wood county, at which resolutions were adopted embodying the principles contained in the Pittsburg platform. In calling this meeting, and in framing the resolutions which it adopted, Judge Cook was the leading spirit. The organization formed at that meeting is claimed, and believed to have been, the first of the local organizations out of which sprang the party which has cut so large a figure in American history. At the opening of the Rebellion, Judge Cook raised, and commanded Company C, 21st O. V. I., during its service under the first call for volunteers, and commanded his company at the battle of Carrick's Ford and in other engagements. He afterward raised and commanded Company F, 144th O. V. I. From 1862 to 1864 he represented Wood and Ottawa counties in the Fifty-fifth General Assembly of Ohio. He was a delegate to the Convention which nominated Gen. Grant for the Presidency in 1868. In 1873 he was elected to the Convention to revise the State Constitution, and was made chairman of its committee on education. He showed marked ability in the deliberations and debates of the Convention, and was recognized as among the best constitutional lawyers in that body of able men.

Throughout his professional and political career, Judge Cook's great ability, his unquestionable integrity, his genial courtesy and fairness won for him the profound respect and esteem of his associates and competitors. Fond of travel, he in 1879 spent a year traveling with his wife over Great Britain and Continental Europe, and in 1883 he did the same, extending his travels to Egypt and Palestine. As a Free Mason he was active and prominent, and in his daily life exemplified all that is best in the doctrines and teachings of the Order. His domestic and social life was full of tenderness and sympathy for others, and filled with unostentatious acts of charity which were known at the time only to himself and the recipients of his bounty. He continued in the active practice of his profession until his death, which occurred January 1, 1892.

W. M. RICHARD, one of the prosperous farmers of Perry township, is a descendant of that old pioneer family of Jacob Richard, who came from Ashland county, Ohio, to Wood county in

1851. That gentleman was the grandfather of our subject, and his parents were John and Catherine Richard. In Eagleville, this county, he was born July 13, 1857, and after completing his education at Pleasant Grove school in Perry township, he gave his entire time to the cultivation of the old homestead. There his first ideas of farming were obtained under the able direction of his father, and after the latter's death he took entire charge of the place, which he now owns and operates.

After the removal of his widowed mother to Bloomdale, where she now resides, Mr. Richard kept "bach" for several years; but on April 22, 1894, he was joined in wedlock with Mrs. Alice Black, widow of Lafayette Black, and daughter of John and Charity (Reigle) Sherwood. She was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, July 29, 1856, and by her former marriage has one child—May, born January 9, 1880.

Mr. Richard has been quite successful in his life work, and his neat farm shows the thrift and enterprise of the owner, who is an unassuming gentleman of excellent character, upright and honorable in all things. He is a member in good standing of the Church of Christ, at Eagleville, as are also his wife and daughters, and he uniformly supports the principles of the Republican party. On the 1st of March, 1889, he met with quite an accident while sawing wood, losing three of the fingers off his right hand, and, although handicapped to some extent, he has become able to perform almost all kinds of farm labor.

HARMON SWERLEIN, an enterprising young agriculturist, residing near Weston, was born in Wyandot county, Ohio, September 26, 1857, a son of John and Theresa Swerlein, both natives of Germany, and pioneer settlers of Wyandot county. Our subject was educated in the district schools of the vicinity of his birthplace, and worked upon his father's farm until he attained his majority. In 1880 he bought a farm of 135 acres, partly in Weston township and partly in Grand Rapids, which he has improved, remodeling the house and barns, and cultivating the land after the most approved methods.

In 1879 he was married to Miss Ellen Speck, of Wyandot county, who was born April 27, 1852, in New Pittsburg, Wayne Co., Ohio, the only child of John and Ann Speck, who were born in Chambersburg, Penn., the former of whom died in 1869, the latter in 1859. Mrs. Ellen Swerlein was a student of Heidelberg College, and for many years a prominent teacher of

Wyandot and Seneca counties. Our subject and wife have no children. Mr. Swerlein's industry, integrity and good sense have secured to him, in an unusual degree, the respect of his community. In politics he is a Democrat.

WILLARD V. WAY. We quote from the address of D. K. Hollenbeck, Esq., delivered at the dedication of the Way Library and its presentation to the people of Perrysburg, November 23, 1892 (and from which this sketch is taken), our subject being the donor, and to whom reference is made:

"We are now met to call to remembrance the acts, and in a fitting manner to do honor to the name of another, whom I believe I am fully justified, in the words of the poet, in designating as 'One of the few, the immortal names, that were not born to die.' I feel that upon us, as residents of this village by reason of the benefits and advantages, which do, and will, accrue to us personally in this instance as the 'favored few,' is imposed the duty, and to us is granted the pleasure and opportunity of recognizing in a befitting manner, one of the greatest benefactors our village has ever known, and 'one whom we should delight to honor;' and it has been deemed quite proper and appropriate that at the time of transferring this building to the care and custody of the council of this village, for the use and benefit of whose citizens it has been provided, some record be made of its origin and present condition, and also that proper recognition be awarded to him whose generosity has conferred upon the present and future residents of our village this library building, the several thousand volumes of books already provided and to be placed therein, and the many thousand more of volumes which as time passes will find places on these shelves.

"Willard V. Way was born in Springfield, Otsego Co., N. Y., August 3, 1807. His father, Samuel Way, was a farmer in very moderate circumstances, and the early life of the son was spent on the farm, he periodically attending the country schools, such as they were at that early date, as his condition of health would permit (he in his young days suffered from ill health). Before reaching his majority, the family were fully convinced of the fact that he would be unable to earn a livelihood, and his attention was turned to acquiring an education, hoping that by his head, so to speak, he might be enabled to accomplish that which he was precluded from doing with his hands. After taking a preparatory course in Hardwick Academy, one of the popular educational institutions of its class of that day, at the

age of twenty-three, he entered Union College, from which he graduated in due course, after being subjected to many privations and hardships in providing the means for his college expenses, made necessary by reason of his father's limited means. His case is but another one of the many thousands in proof of the old but true saying that, 'where there's a will there's a way.' On leaving college Mr. Way entered the law office of Bangs & Haskell in the village of LeRoy, in the State of New York, but his legal studies were completed in the office of Payne & Wilson, in Painesville, Ohio, and he was admitted to practice in this State in 1832, from which date he soon became and was widely known as an honored member of that most honorable profession. After having been thus admitted, and after having traveled over several of what were then known as the 'Western States,' Ohio included, in search of a location, in 1834, he settled in Perrysburg, no doubt to a greater or less extent drawn hither by the beautiful location of the village on the banks of the beautiful river now so aptly and appropriately called, the 'Hudson of the West;' and here he remained until his death, and he now sleeps in the cemetery at the foot of the granite shaft erected to designate his resting-place to future generations.

"Soon after his location in Perrysburg, Mr. Way was married to Miss Sophia Hodge, then living in Buffalo, N. Y., who survived him until September 20, 1892, when she departed this life at Mansfield, in this State, at the age of eighty-five years. Several years since, after her removal to Mansfield, as the result of a fall, Mrs. Way became and remained almost helpless, and a great sufferer until her final departure, and she is now at rest beside her husband—

Sleeping the sleep that knows not breaking,  
Morn of toil, nor night of waking.

"If there are any who were living in this vicinity at the time of Mr. Way's location here, we need not remind them that those were 'pinching times,' and Mr. Way was obliged, with the other pioneers of this then comparatively new country, to endure all the privations and hardships incident to that early day, and in the years immediately following, as the occasions were presented, like some of his cotemporaries who thought a position of affluence would thereby sooner be attained, than by a strict attention to the business of his chosen profession, he was lured into the whirlpool of speculation, and for the time being, financially ruined. But he 'would not down.' His reverses seemed but to incite him to more vigorous action, and to

create in him a more settled purpose and firm determination to recover the ground he had thus lost, and to attain that position for which he had been striving; and, as the result of after years of toil, privations and hardships, he found himself in independent circumstances, and we, his friends and neighbors, now know that all his labors and self-denials were not alone to accumulate means for his own self-gratification, but, as well, to advance our interests individually, as the interests of our village. Mr. Way's attachment for the home of his adoption seems never to have weakened or wavered, and the time that elapsed between the date of the execution of his will and the date of his death shows conclusively that the final disposition of his estate was not the result of any hasty conclusion, but rather made after calm and mature deliberation. If, in the words of another, I was asked—

Breathes there a man with soul so dead,  
Who never to himself hath said,  
This is my own, my native land?—

I would answer, possibly there does, but I am certain that, in the light of recent events, you would unite with me in the earnest protest that Mr. Way was imbued with an entirely different spirit.

“Mr. Way was a strictly honest man, and withal prudent and economical, and, while living, was sometimes charged by his more inconsiderate friends and fellow citizens with being inclined to carry his ideas of economy, at least in public matters, to that extreme, that the work in hand was sometimes weakened, rather than profited by by his suggestions. However, when one calls to mind the circumstances surrounding him in the early years of his residence in our village, and the struggles he then passed through, I think his peculiarity in this regard is very easily and satisfactorily accounted for, and subsequent events lead me to say that Mr. Way was evidently misjudged.

“Willard V. Way departed this life on August 25, 1875, now more than seventeen years since, leaving a Last Will and Testament, with the conditions of which, no doubt, you are all more or less familiar. After making certain bequests amounting in the aggregate to over \$15,000.00, by the 8th item in his will Mr. Way devises and bequeaths to this village all the remainder of his estate (except what is given for a public park), to be used in establishing a public library in this village for the use of its inhabitants under such regulations as may be prescribed by the council of the village, subject to the following conditions: \$15,000.00 of his estate shall be in-

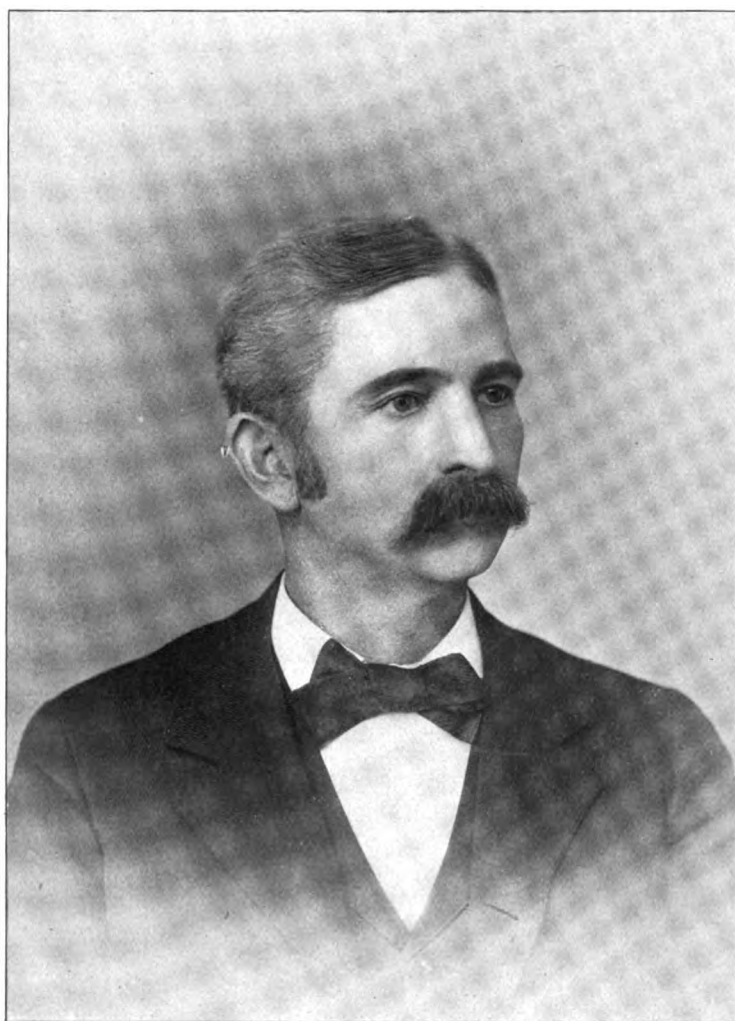
vested in safe public interest-bearing securities, to remain a perpetual fund belonging to said village, the interest of which, only, is to be used in the purchase of books and works properly belonging to a public library. The remainder of the bequest for the use of a public library may be used as the council of said village may deem most for the interest of the library in the purchase of a lot, and erection of a suitable building for the library and literary halls, and purchase of books, and for no other purpose. It was to give effect to the conditions in this latter clause that the council, on March 25, 1890, requested the executors to purchase a site and erect a library building thereon, and that duty having been performed, it now remains for them, and becomes their duty, to give some account of their stewardship.

“Mr. Way also left \$5,000, the interest of which to be used to defray the expenses of a scholar to any college he may choose, the scholar, to receive the benefits, to be the one from the graduating class of the Perrysburg High School standing the highest every fourth year. In politics, Mr. Way was a Democrat, and in his younger life he took quite an active part in political affairs. At one time he served the people of the county as prosecuting attorney.

“For many years prior to his death he was a confirmed invalid, and suffered greatly, although during those latter years he traveled a great deal, searching for some relief or specific whereby the hand of death might possibly be stayed ‘yet a little longer.’”

L. C. COLE, of Bowling Green, who has more than a local reputation as a lawyer, orator, politician, and business man, is a descendant of an old English family, the American branch being traced to three brothers—Joshua, Elijah and Ezekiel—who came over to Maryland in the time of Lord Baltimore. They were Baptists in faith, and did not remain in that colony during the struggles which resulted in religious toleration, but went to other sections, one to New England, one to Virginia, where his descendants still live, and the other, the ancestor of L. C. Cole, to Washington county, Penn., whence, as the country developed, later generations came west, settling in Ohio.

Thomas Cole, the father of our subject, was born in 1808, in Jefferson county, Ohio, where he spent his life in agricultural pursuits, and died in 1859. He married Miss Mary Jackman, a native of the same county, born in 1814, who survived him many years, dying in 1882. Four children were born to them: Caroline, who mar-



*L. C. Cole*



ried I. J. Jackman, of Wellsville; L. C., whose name introduces this sketch; Isaac, who died at the age of fourteen; and Elizabeth, the wife of W. P. Cooper, of Wellsville.

The subject of this sketch first saw the light September 14, 1849, and grew to manhood at the old home in Jefferson county. He attended college at Mount Union and Richmond, and afterward read law with Judge Robert Martin, of Steubenville, Ohio. In 1872, at Newark, Ohio, he was admitted to the bar, and began the practice of his profession at Massillon, Ohio, where he remained from June, 1873, to April, 1887, when he came to Bowling Green. His ability soon won him the confidence of the people of Massillon, and he was elected to various important official positions. From 1875 to 1880, he was city solicitor until his election in 1884 to the State Legislature, in Stark county, where he served two terms. Being an influential and outspoken Democrat, his side of the House nominated him for Speaker, and came within one vote of electing him.

Having become interested in the Bowling Green Glass Co., Mr. Cole decided to locate there, the better to look after that and other business enterprises. The glass factory burned down in 1891, and as the gas was exhausted in that vicinity the company did not rebuild. Mr. Cole is at present president of the Swayzee Glass Co., at Swayzee, Ind., and looks after the financial interests of that concern. He is a director of the First National Bank, of Bowling Green, and a member of several leading oil companies, operating in Wood county and in Tennessee. Aside from his prominence in business and professional circles, Mr. Cole is an enthusiastic Democrat, takes an active interest in political affairs, in which his influence as a leader in that party is widely recognized. He was a member and secretary of the State Central Committee six years; member of the Executive Committee four years, and secretary of the same during the memorable campaign of McKinley and Campbell, in 1891. Being urged by his political friends to permit himself to be nominated for probate judge of Wood county, in 1894, he consented—unwillingly on his part, on account of the extent of his private business—but at the election, though running well ahead of his ticket, he was defeated. Socially, Mr. Cole is a member of the F. & A. M., Order of Elks, Knights of the Maccabees, Royal Arcanum and K. of P. In religious faith he and his family are members and active workers in the M. E. Church.

In his amiable and cultured wife, formerly

Miss Martha J. Douglass, to whom he was married in 1872, Mr. Cole has a true helpmeet. She was born in 1849, in Richmond, Ohio, where they were fellow students, and where they formed an attachment in which intellect as well as heart found congenial companionship. They have had two children, Tom D. (aged sixteen) and Nellie S., the latter of whom died in June, 1895, at the age of fourteen. Mrs. Cole is the daughter of Thompson and Rebecca (Dougherty) Douglass, the former of whom was born at Pittsburg, Penn., and was a son of Robert Douglass, a native of Scotland, and, on his mother's side, a direct descendant of the Stuarts. Thompson Douglass was thrice married, first time to Martha Johnson, by whom he had one child, Emery Pyle, who served in the war of the Rebellion, and died in the army. The second wife of Mr. Douglass was Rebecca Dougherty, who bore him six children: Leonidas, who enlisted in the Union army at the age of eighteen, and died of sickness in 1862; Homer, deceased in 1881; Martha J. (Mrs. Cole); Mary, who died in 1882; Theodore, living at the old home in Richmond, Ohio; and Ida, wife of G. McIntyre, a farmer of Carroll county, Ohio. The third wife of Thompson Douglass was Emeline Wallace, now his widow, and still living at the old home.

Mr. Cole stands in the front rank of the leading business men of Wood county, and is one of the most prominent and prosperous. His fame as an erudite and accomplished scholar, a ripe lawyer, a brilliant orator and a close student of political economy, is not confined to the city of his adoption, but extends throughout the entire county, and even far beyond its limits.

JACOB RICHARD, deceased. Between 1740 and 1750 two distinguished families came from Europe and settled in southern and southeastern Pennsylvania—the paternal ancestors from Germany, the maternal from Switzerland. Fleeing from oppression and persecution in the Fatherland, they sought homes and happiness in the New World, where some of them joined their destinies in business and marital relations.

Jacob Richard was born July 31, 1803, near Pleasant Unity, Unity township, Westmoreland Co., Penn., the second child but first son of John and Mary (Poorman) Richard. His grandparents were Jacob and Polly (Radebaugh) Richard, both of whom were residents of Franklin county. His grandfather was married five times, and had children by four of his wives. The old homestead was in Letterkenny township, Franklin county, and is quite fully described in the public



records. He died upon it at the age of eighty-three. His children, in the order of birth, were: (1) John, the father of the subject of this memoir, born in Franklin county, and died there in May, 1835. (2) Mary (called "Polly") married Peter Poorman, of Hamilton township, same county. (3) George, who lived in Somerset, Perry Co., Ohio, and died July 31, 1864, in his eighty-fourth year; he was a wealthy, patriotic merchant, and a zealous Republican and Methodist. (4) Elizabeth, married to Jacob Humbarger. (5) Susannah, married to Jonathan Foltz, an uncle of M. A. Foltz, present proprietor and editor of the *Public Opinion*, of Chambersburg. (6) Jacob. (7) Sarah, married to Henry Snider. (8) Daniel.

John Richard, the eldest son, was married in 1800 to Mary Poorman. He died in May, 1835, and his widow in January, 1847. They had seven children, viz.: (1) Elizabeth, married to Jacob Mykrantz. (2) Jacob, our subject. (3) Catherine, married to Rudolph Sease. (4) Polly, married to Joseph France. (5) John, now living in Gratiot county, Mich. (6) George, who died several years ago in Pittsburg. (7) Margaret, married to George Bear.

Jacob Richard, the second in the above mentioned family, removed with his parents to Westmoreland county, Penn., sometime prior to 1811, and spent his youth upon the farm, acquiring the rudiments of an English education, consisting of reading, writing and arithmetic. The study of the New Testament and the reading of U. S. History were obligatory; English grammar and geography were not taught. On November 4, 1823, he was joined in matrimony to Rebecca, youngest daughter of Charles and Elizabeth (Stough) Richard. She was born in what is called "Culbertson's Row," Franklin Co., Penn., December 16, 1804. Her father, Charles Richard, was one of a family of two brothers, John and Jacob, a half-brother, Conrad, and three full sisters: Maria, married to a Sullenberger; Catherine, married to a Lose; and Rebecca, married to Henry Crow.

Charles Richard was born in Berks county, Penn., September 27, 1755, and died in Westmoreland county, same State, August 17, 1852, in his ninety-seventh year. He was married April 22, 1774, to Elizabeth Stough, who died January 13, 1826, in her sixty-ninth year. After his marriage he entered the Revolutionary army, and was with Washington at Long Island, White Plains, Trenton and Valley Forge. He crossed the Delaware with Washington, and aided in the capture of the Hessians, on Christmas Day, 1776;

passed through the siege and horrors of Valley Forge during the memorable winter of 1777-78. With a furlough in his pocket, and a pair of new shoes in his knapsack, he lay down on the night of December 23, 1777, intending to start home the next morning, but during the night his shoes were stolen. Undaunted, he started, as planned, and traveled fifty miles in his stockings, leaving bloody tracks to mark his route. From the marriage referred to sprang eight children, viz.: George; Charles; Molly, married to Henry Smith; William; Elizabeth, married to George Fortney; John; Sarah, married to Jonathan Fry; and Rebecca, who married Jacob Richard, and died May 6, 1881.

Returning again, Jacob and Rebecca had three sons born to them in Westmoreland county: John, July 14, 1825, deceased October 8, 1878; Reuben, May 23, 1829, lost on the ill-fated "Sultana," April 27, 1865; and Charles, October 3, 1831, now residing at Bloomdale, Ohio. In 1835 the family removed to Ashland county, Ohio, where they resided until March 26, 1851. Five other sons were born at Ashland, viz.: William S., a resident of Bloomdale; George, November 28, 1837, killed at the raising of a barn near Eagleville, May 18, 1861; Franklin, March 27, 1841, a resident of Bloom township; J. Fraise, a sketch of whom follows; and Simon, March 29, 1846, at present residing in Bloomdale.

In 1851, the Richard family was removed from Ashland county to Wood county, arriving, March 29, at their destination on what is now the farm owned by W. S. Richard, a mile north-east of Bloomdale. All was wilderness and discouragement. The little round-log, one-story cabin stood in the midst of a dense forest. Without, on every hand, were water, and frogs, and owls, and wild game—in short, all the elements of pioneer life in a new country. With brave heart and resolute will, assisted by a loyal wife and industrious boys, the father went to work to establish a home and hew out a fortune. Gradually, as by magic, the heavily timbered forest was converted into fertile fields and blooming orchards, and the very elements of discouragement became sources of rich development and substantial comfort.

Time passed on. The family of boys became one of men. Mr. Richard, the father, was honored by his neighbors with their confidence, and several times he served them in the responsible position of township assessor. The trying period of war came. Five sons went into the service of their country—Reuben in Company B, 102nd O. V. I.; John, Charles and J. Fraise

in Company B, 111th O. V. I.; and W. S. in Company E, 144th O. V. I. The first four entered the service in the autumn of 1862, and all returned except Reuben, who, as an exchanged prisoner from the Cahaba death-pen, was a victim of the "Sultana" disaster.

Jacob Richard was a man of good judgment, somewhat impulsive, but generous, kind, honest, industrious and law-abiding. Politically, he was reared a Democrat, and supported Douglas for the Presidency in 1860. When the war broke out, and his sons and neighbors entered the service of their country, he abandoned his old party and became first an ardent Unionist, and afterward, by necessity, a determined Republican. Religiously, he was reared a Presbyterian, but some five years prior to his death he was immersed and joined the Church of Christ, at Eagleville, in whose faith he peacefully expired on the night of April 1, 1891.

Rebecca, his wife, was reared a member of the Reformed Church, but during her residence at Ashland, Ohio, she became a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which her husband was a deacon at that time. She was kind, affectionate, industrious, devoted to her family, and a considerate and peaceable neighbor. She was known in the community as "Aunt Becky," and was universally beloved. She had no enemies. Her later life was saddened by several trying events: first by the sudden death of her son George, on May 18, 1861, by a falling plate in the raising of a large barn at the home of Robert Jacobs, two and one-half miles north of her home; secondly, by the enlistment of her five sons in the army; thirdly, by the tragic death of Reuben; fourthly, by the death of John, October 8, 1878, after enduring, unhurt, the experiences of an active soldier's life for three years; and, lastly, by the death of her life partner, as related.

It may not be amiss to note a peculiarity or two respecting these families. (1)—On the paternal side Jacob and John were favorite names. In the present instance Jacob had two sons whom he named John and Jacob. He was the son of John, who, in turn, was the son of Jacob, and so on. (2)—So far as the record goes, the two ancestral families were always law-abiding citizens, not one of them having ever been convicted of a heinous crime. (3)—On the maternal side three generations had representatives in three wars, all of whom were named Charles—all musicians: Charles Richard was a fifer in the Revolution, his son Charles in the war of 1812, and his grandson Charles in

the war of the Rebellion. (4)—All of them have been intensely American and patriotic in their sentiments. [Contributed by Prof. J. Fraise Richard, of Washington, D. C.]

PROF. J. FRAISE RICHARD, Educational Evangelist, historian and literary writer, was born near Ashland, Ohio, January 18, 1844, and is the seventh son of Jacob and Rebecca Richard.

At the age of seven our subject removed with his parents to Bloom township, Wood county, and his youth was spent in clearing up and working the farm which 'Squire W. S. Richard now possesses, near Bloomdale. His education prior to the war was secured in the district school known as "Hopewell," and included the ordinary English branches. His intense thirst for knowledge was not gratified, however, by simple school studies. He read all the books and papers which came within his reach, and did his most effective study in front of the fireplace whose light was furnished by burning chips and hickory bark. By these aids he was enabled to teach his first school at Eagleville, in the winter of 1860-61, he being then but sixteen years of age. The autumn of 1861 was spent by him at Seneca County Academy, under Prof. Aaron Schuyler, the prince of mathematicians, logicians and psychologists.

On the 5th of August, 1862, his books packed to return to the Academy, Prof. Richard responded to President Lincoln's call for troops, and enlisted as a member of Company B, 111th O. V. I., and went with his regiment to the field, serving in Kentucky and Tennessee. Unsolicited on his part, he was made postmaster of the regiment, and served successfully as chief clerk at brigade, division corps, army and department headquarters, a portion of the time for Gens. Cox, Foster, Stoneman, Schofield and Palmer. He was twice offered a captain's commission, the latter time as assistant adjutant-general in the regular army. All such military honors he declined, however, and in September, 1865, he returned to civil life, to enter upon his educational work which had been interrupted for three years. He attended the Northwestern Christian (now Butler) University, at Indianapolis, and after one year's study of language, mathematics and logic, transferred his studies to Lebanon, Ohio, where he graduated from the business, scientific and classic courses at the National Normal University, in August, 1869. He was an instructor in the institution until August, 1870, when he organized the Northwestern Normal School at Republic, in the building previously oc-

cupied by Profs. Thos. W. Harvey and Aaron Schuyler. This institution soon outgrew its facilities; and, the citizens neglecting to supply ampler apartments, it was, upon the request and assurance of Charles Foster and other citizens, removed to Fostoria in the autumn of 1874. The attendance the first year in the new site was 508 students, exceeding the facilities possessed. Owing to lack of suitable buildings, the school was consolidated, in the autumn of 1875, with the Normal School at Ada, which fact gave that school its strength and efficiency. The Republic school was the progenitor of the large schools at Valparaiso and Angola, Ind., and of others in the West. It was an educational haven, whose influence has extended from ocean to ocean.

Prof. Richard superintended the public schools at Alliance, Ohio, in 1877-78; was principal of a flourishing Normal School at Mansfield from 1878 to 1882; lectured in institutes in a number of States from 1882 to 1885; spent his time in historical writing from 1885 to 1889; and since 1890 has been employed in the City of Washington (his present home) in official, educational and literary work. For thirty-five years he has been a writer for the secular, religious and educational press, his writings being published in mediums of general circulation.

On October 6, 1867, our subject was married, at Freeport, to Miss Emma D. Strong. From this union have issued two sons: Livy S., and Vernon I. The former is editor-in-chief of the *Scranton* (Penn.) *Tribune*; the latter is a mere boy, living with his mother in Ohio.

Prof. Richard's first vote was cast in 1864, at Knoxville, Tenn., for Lincoln and Johnson. Since then his affiliation has been with the Republican party. He is a stanch Republican, but does not belong to the party in a servile sense. Religiously, he has been identified with the Church of Christ since June 2, 1862. He has never smoked a cigar nor chewed a quid of tobacco in his life, nor has he tasted a drop of any intoxicants, even beer, since May, 1859. Indeed it can truly be said his life work has been a source of inspiration and encouragement to the young.

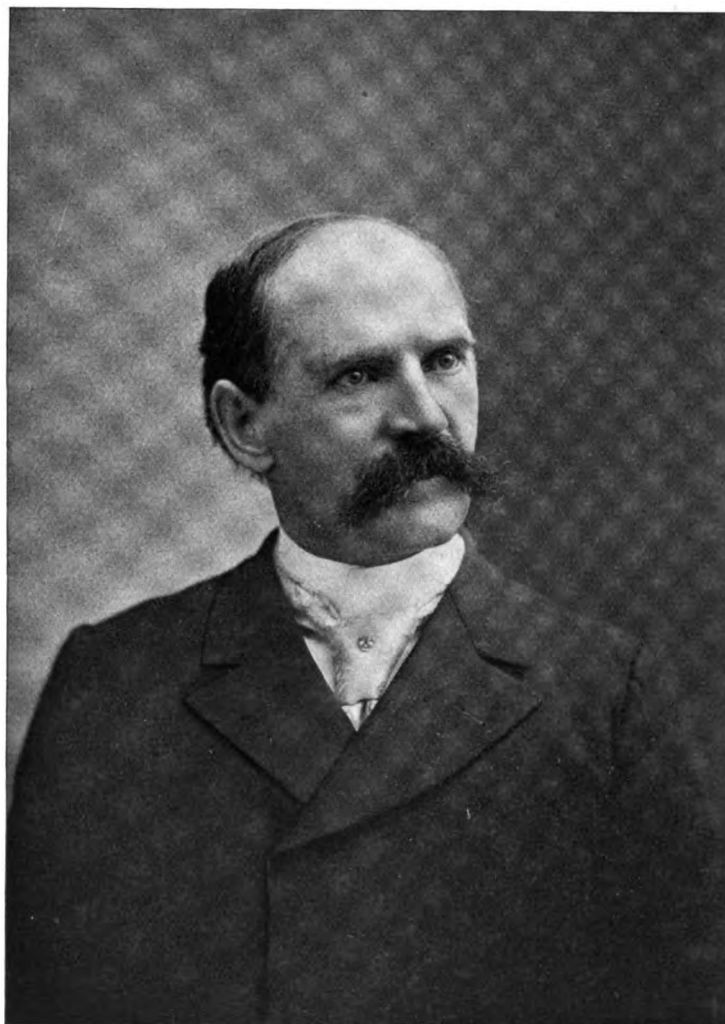
J. C. LINCOLN, M. D., who is one of the best known and most highly respected physicians and surgeons of Bowling Green, where he also carries on an extensive drug business, was born in Albany, N. Y., May 22, 1844.

Leonard Lincoln, the father of our subject, was also a native of Albany, where he was born in 1812, and where he was married, in 1835, to

Miss Ada Boughton. The Lincoln family were among the early settlers of New York State, as were also the ancestors of Mrs. Lincoln, among the latter being Maj. Reuben Boughton, a hero of the Revolution. Mrs. Lincoln was born in the same city and the same year as her husband, and was the only daughter among eighteen children, her father having been married three times. In 1844 Dr. Lincoln's parents came west, settling first in Watertown, Wis., where the father followed farming until 1852, when his wife died and he removed to Winona, Minn. There he resided about ten years, when he went to Marshalltown, Iowa, where he still lives. He belonged to the Democratic party until the war of the Rebellion, when he became a Republican; in religious faith he is a member of the Baptist Church.

Our subject is the youngest of two children. His elder brother Charles was born in 1841, and the story of his life reads like a romance, although similar to that of many who took part in the trying scenes of the war between the North and South. At that time the family was living in Minnesota, and he joined the first regiment of volunteers, going at once to the front and taking part in the first fatal battle of Bull Run. There he was taken prisoner, with a number of others, and carried first to Richmond, afterward confined in the terrible stockade at Andersonville, and later at Castle Pinckney, where he was finally exchanged and sent home. Three times during this period he made his escape, hiding in the forest, and for days living upon raw and parched corn. Each time he was recaptured, the last time when within only two or three miles of the Federal lines. This was a few days previous to his exchange, and when he was released he was sent to the hospital at Washington completely broken down in health, and a shadow of his former self, being reduced, by a course of slow starvation, from a strong young man weighing 190 pounds, to an emaciated invalid whose weight was but eighty pounds. When sufficiently recovered, he returned to Minnesota, and during the Indian troubles in that State, in 1863, he assisted in organizing the Second Minnesota Cavalry, of which he was made first lieutenant, afterward promoted to captain, and which was stationed at Fort Ridgely, where he died from the effects of hardships endured during his life in Confederate prisons.

Dr. Lincoln made his home with his parents, and had commenced the study of medicine when the Civil war broke out. After the battle of Bull Run, in which his only brother, above mentioned,



*J. C. Lincoln*



was engaged, and whose name was reported in the list of the killed, our subject determined to offer his services to the cause for which his brother had sacrificed his life. He accordingly recruited 347 men for the 1st Minnesota Regiment, the same in which his brother had served, and joined the command at Camp Stone as assistant surgeon. A year had passed since Charles had been taken prisoner, and the family was still under the impression that he was dead, as his letters to the members had been intercepted by the Rebel authorities. Dr. Lincoln was at this time camped with his regiment near Savage Station, when an officer informed him that a boat-load of Federal prisoners was being exchanged, and he received intimation that his brother was among them. The boat, however, passed out of sight just as he reached the landing, and he was unable to confirm the report. Some time later Dr. Lincoln was seriously wounded at the battle of Fair Oaks, and was sent to hospital in New York City, where he remained three months, it afterward transpiring that his brother was in the same city all the time, although neither knew of the other's presence.

On recovering from his wound, Dr. Lincoln returned to his home in Minnesota, after which he became a student in Lawrence University, at Appleton, Wis., remaining there three years. He then read medicine for a year with Dr. Ford, of Winona, after which he entered Rush Medical College, at Chicago, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1871. In Franklin county, Iowa, he began the practice of his profession, but, the climate not agreeing with him, he came to Ohio and located near Fostoria, where he remained until 1873. Since that date he has been a resident of Bowling Green, where he has built up a large and lucrative practice, identifying himself also with the leading interests of the city, taking a leading place in all matters pertaining to its advancement. He has been a member of the city council and of the board of education; was medical pension examiner under President Harrison, and was the unanimous choice of Wood county for congressman some two years ago. He has large property interests in Bowling Green, among which is his handsome residence, one of the best in the city, built at a cost of \$14,000, and the fine brick structure occupied by his large and well-kept drugstore and office. He is also half-owner of the Lincoln & Tuller block, and it is chiefly due to his enterprise that these handsome structures have been erected. He is a member of the State Medical Society, and also of the American Medical

Association, and belongs to the I. O. O. F., the G. A. R., and F. & A. M.

Dr. Lincoln has been twice married, his first wife being Miss Emma Norris, of Fostoria, Ohio, who was born November 1, 1854, and died December 12, 1883. Two children were born of this union: John H., a graduate of the high school of Bowling Green, and now a partner in his father's drug store; and Eudora, who graduated from the Bowling Green High School, in 1895, and is now a student in Oberlin College. The second wife of Dr. Lincoln, who was Miss Nettie Willard, is a cousin of Miss Frances E. Willard, of W. C. T. U. fame. Dr. Lincoln and his wife are popular in society, and their charming home is the abode of refined and cultured hospitality.

E. B. BEVERSTOCK, a prominent agriculturist of Washington township, living near Tontogany, was born in Rutland county, Vermont, October 5, 1835.

His grandfather Beverstock came from England in the latter part of the last century, but of his history and that of his family but little is known. Daniel Beverstock, our subject's father, was born in Swanzey, N. H., in 1793, and during the war of 1812, he took charge of the family of his brother Silas, who entered the army. Among the family relics treasured by our subject are two artistically designed specimens of Indian workmanship, a peace club and a war club, captured from the savages by his uncle, Silas. Daniel Beverstock, who was a farmer by occupation, married Miss Sabrina Barney, a native of Vermont, and came to Ohio in 1855. After one year passed in Wood county, he located in Richland county, where he died in 1876; his wife in 1865. He had been a Democrat throughout his life, but his last vote was cast for Hayes. There were nine children in his family, namely: Alma S. is the widow of Asa Spaulding, of Richland county; Constant resides near St. Paul; Lyman W. died in Vermont; J. B. (deceased) was formerly a grain dealer in Richland county, and later in Huron, Ohio; Silas is a farmer at Lexington, Ohio; Fannie is the wife of Homer Wells, of Cass county, Mich.; Loraine, who never married, lives in Cassopolis, Mich.; our subject comes next; and Ann lives in Lexington.

E. B. Beverstock, to use his own words, "graduated out of a spelling book at the common schools of Vermont," and his parents being poor, he commenced working at the early age of eight years. He was nineteen years old when he came with his parents to Wood county, and for

some time worked by the month; but finally settled on a farm of his own on the confines of the present village of Tontogany, where he now owns 150 acres of land. On December 8, 1859, he married Miss Victoria Virginia Kuder, a native of this county, born June 12, 1839, a daughter of Solomon Kuder, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere. She died January 14, 1882, leaving seven children: Otis, a well-known resident of Bowling Green; Edward and Ella (twins), the former a rising young attorney of Bowling Green, member of the firm of James & Beverstock, while Ella is the wife of Reuben Johnson, of Tontogany; Arthur J., born March 24, 1866, and married March 1, 1890, to Miss May Klinepeter; Belle, born November 13, 1867; Clarence, born September 4, 1877; and Edna, born January 25, 1880, are all at home.

Mr. Beverstock entered the army in 1862, enlisting in Company G, 1st Regiment, O. L. A., assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, first in the Fourth, and later in the Fourteenth army corps. He took part in over thirty battles and skirmishes, among them the engagements at Stone River, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Franklin and Nashville. At Stone River he received two bullet wounds within five minutes—one in the ankle and one in the instep—on which occasion eight men and twenty-two horses were killed, twenty-two men wounded, and four guns and two caissons were taken by the enemy. Returning home, in June, 1865, he resumed the peaceful occupation of farming, which he still continues. His present residence, a fine building, was erected in 1878. A Republican in politics, he is a leader in his party. He served as county commissioner six years, and was one of the four appointed by the Judge of the Common Pleas court, in March, 1894, to act on the building and furnishing of the new court house, which cost in the neighborhood of \$300,000; for several years he also served as township trustee. Socially, he is a member of the I. O. O. F., K. of P., and G. A. R., has been president of the agricultural society and is now its treasurer. Mr. Beverstock is a man of superior intelligence, a great student of the Bible and of the better class of literature, and he takes an interest in all progressive measures, both at home and abroad.

EDSON GOIT (deceased), for many years a prominent and successful member of the Wood County Bar, and an extensive merchant and land owner, was born in Oswego county, N. Y., October 17, 1808.

While he was yet an infant his father died,

and during his boyhood he found but little time or opportunity to improve his mind by the aid of books, but such chances as presented themselves he availed himself of, and by the time he was twenty years old he was capable of teaching, and did teach a district school. Before he was of age he started for the Western country, as Ohio was then called, at which time, when there were neither railroads or canals, and but few wagon roads, a journey from New York thither was of no small magnitude. However, with all his worldly effects tied up in a bundle, young Goit surmounted all difficulties, "took the road," and soon found himself at Tiffin, in Seneca county. Here he worked at odd jobs, taught school both there and in Fremont, comparatively insignificant villages in those early days, in the meantime reading law with Abel T. Rawson. In due course he was admitted to the bar to practice law, and, being desirous of seeking the best possible place for a young attorney to establish himself at, he chose Findlay to commence business in, a village some thirty-five miles distant. Mr. Goit had but little money, but plenty of energy and muscle, so with his rather scanty wardrobe and a few law books tied up in a package, he set out on foot for his new destination. On his arrival at Findlay, then the small country town of Hancock county, which had recently been set off from Wood county, he took up his abode with the family of the late L. Q. Rawson, and became the pioneer of the legal profession in that part of the State. But there was no demand for his services; Blackstone and Coke were at a discount, and by the end of six months, nearly all his means being gone, he decided to leave the place. However, things suddenly took a turn for the better, prospects gradually brightened; business came, clients increased in number, and all thoughts of leaving Findlay vanished from his mind. Mr. Goit now went to board with William Taylor, who kept the tavern. While he was here Mrs. Taylor's sister, Jane Patterson, and brother, arrived from Pennsylvania on horseback, and not long afterward (February 21, 1833), Mr. Goit and Miss Patterson were married. From that time on his fortune seemed to be made. Frank, straightforward and generous, he made friends with all with whom he came in contact; settlers began to come in very fast, and business rapidly increased. By the year 1840 he had accumulated quite a competence, at that time owning nearly 2,000 acres of the best land in and about Findlay, besides having over ten thousand dollars in ready cash.

Owing to close application to business and

overwork, his health began to fail, so he decided to vary his occupation somewhat, which proved to be an unfortunate step. He engaged extensively in mercantile business, and, besides a large store in Findlay, he opened branch establishments in Bluffton, Gilboa and Ottawa, all of which he had to entrust largely to the management of clerks, for he was still carrying on considerable law practice, as well as much other business, and taking an active part in politics, and in every public enterprise in the town and county. He endorsed notes, and went bail for young men who were trying to get a start in business, than which nothing seemed to afford him more pleasure, for he was a man of broad generosity, and had a large confidence in his fellow men. Such, and other generous traits in his character, led him, unfortunately, into much pecuniary difficulty, and in 1857, when the financial panic swept over the country, he found himself but ill-prepared for it, and by the time the dark clouds had passed he beheld his fortune a mere wreck. In the midst of all this others as well as himself had been ruined, and where he happened to be bondsman, creditors fell back on him, so that he found himself harrassed from all sides. But he did not succumb to the storm, and at this point is where his manhood and sterling honesty shone brightest. He made no assignment, nor did he go into bankruptcy, but went to work with renewed power and energy. Every one had faith in his integrity, and as he went on converting his property into means whereby to pay debt after debt, dollar for dollar, he found himself at the end with but little of his former fortune left. It is a satisfaction to know that in spite of all his misfortunes, Mr. Goit had in his later days a comfortable competence left for himself and remaining family, and as he himself said a short time before his death, "After so many ups and downs in my life, I am glad that if I do not get well I shall at least die square with the world."

To the marriage of Mr. Goit with Miss Patterson were born Edson Goit, Jr., January 8, 1838; William, June 26, 1840; Laquirna, April 14, 1843, and Theodosia, April 8, 1846. Mrs. Goit's death occurred April 24, 1863, at Findlay, Ohio, and on December 19, 1865, Mr. Goit was married to Sara Ann McConnell, and to the marriage were born: Ida Mary, May 19, 1867 — died June 29, 1869; and Theodoro E., September 11, 1869 — died January 9, 1886.

Edson Goit, Jr., in 1885, was married to Mary Beck, and they are residents of Kincaid, Kans. William Goit, on January 27, 1861,

married Mary K. Freeman, and to them was born one son, L. C. William died September 1, 1896. Theodosia Goit, on March 29, 1866, was married to George W. Trichler, M. D. Dr. Trichler was a native of Bellefontaine, Logan Co., Ohio. He was a gallant officer of the 57th O. V. I. during the late Civil war, serving as captain of Company G, and after the war removed to Riga, Mich., where he practiced his profession for twenty-three years, and where he was actively and prominently identified with the affairs of the place. He served several terms as postmaster, and for years conducted a drug store. In 1889 he removed to Bowling Green, Ohio. His death occurred September 27, 1890. To the marriage of Dr. Trichler and Miss Theodosia Goit were born: W. S. Trichler, December 29, 1867, now a practicing physician, who, on October 9, 1893, was married to Theresa Thiel (born May 4, 1867), and to them was born, October 7, 1895, a daughter — Lucile; Alice, born September 30, 1871, was on June 23, 1890, married to E. C. Lossing, of Bowling Green, associate editor of the *Tribune*, and they have two children — Milton, born April 2, 1891, and Gladys, born September 20, 1894; and Theodosia May, born May 1, 1879.

It is said of Mr. Goit by all his clients, that he would not, for the sake of money, encourage litigation. In his professional capacity he was a peace-maker among men, always counseling the settlement of difficulties, without going into court, if it was consistent with the honor of both parties. He was a sincere friend, and in his most prosperous days never forgot those who were his friends at the beginning, when he was poor. He died in 1880, at the age of seventy-two years, revered and honored as an upright, earnest, honest man, with but few blemishes, few enemies, and almost numberless devoted friends. In religious faith he was a member of the Presbyterian Church; in social connection, he was affiliated with the I. O. O. F., subordinate lodge; in politics he was an ardent Republican.

Mr. Lossing, whose name is mentioned in connection with this family, is a native of the State of Michigan. He was engaged as a teacher for several years before coming to Bowling Green, some half dozen years ago. He was one of the practical men connected with the Glass Works, and since the establishment of the *Evening Tribune*, August 22, 1892, he has been identified with that paper, first as reporter, and since August, 1894, as associate editor. Mr. Lossing is a bright young man, and we predict for him a



future. He is a cousin of Benson J. Lossing, the historian.

A. J. MANVILLE, M. D., was for many years a well-known druggist of Bowling Green, and, in former years, a leading medical practitioner of that place. He first saw the light May 9, 1834, in Plain township, in what is now the city of Bowling Green, and was the second white child born in that township. His parents were Eli and Elizabeth (Maginnis) Manville, and his paternal grandparents were pioneers of Delaware county, Ohio, where his father probably was born.

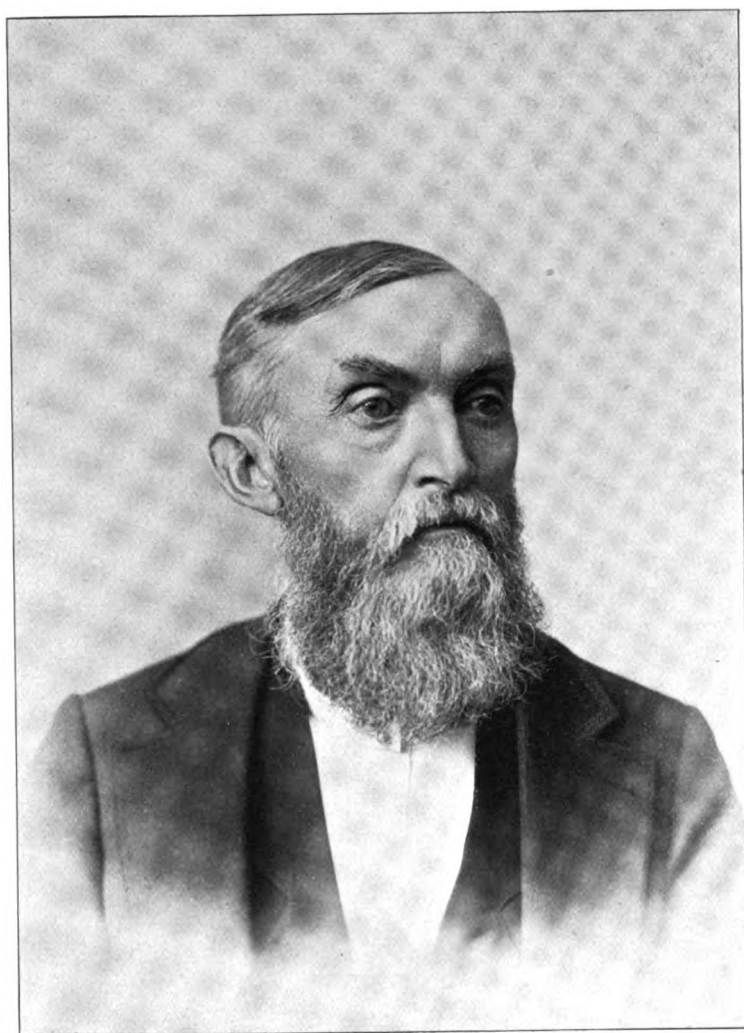
Eli Manville was also a physician, and took his first course in medicine at the medical college at Lexington, Ky., in the days when Henry Clay, then in his prime, was a patron of that institution. He subsequently was graduated and took the degree of M. D. from the Ohio Medical College, Cincinnati. His first permanent location was at Terre Haute, Ind., where he formed a partnership with an old-established physician, and practiced his profession for a short time. Dr. Manville was soon afterward elected a member of the Indiana Legislature, and became to some extent engaged in general business. He owned two flat-boats, which he loaded with all kinds of produce, shipping to New Orleans; this enterprise, however, proved a disastrous one, as both the boats and their cargoes were sunk in the Mississippi. This crippled him financially, and, returning to Delaware county, Ohio, he there resumed his medical practice, and shortly afterward was married to Elizabeth Maginnis. In 1834 Dr. Manville removed to Wood county, and settled on the prairie which was afterward the site of the township to which he gave the name of Plain. Here he practiced for a number of years; but as the place was sparsely settled, and the opportunities for making money were few, he joined the western tide of emigration, going to Illinois and locating in a small town, finally removing to Chicago, where he died in 1865.

The mother of our subject, who was of Irish descent, was born September 28, 1813, in Virginia, her parents having temporarily located in that State on the way from their home in Pennsylvania to their final destination in Knox county, Ohio. There were three children in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Eli Manville, namely: A. J., the subject of this sketch; Ann Maria, deceased wife of John Mears; and Amanda E., who died when about seventeen years old.

The early days of our subject were also the pioneer days of Bowling Green, which was then

but a small settlement, and his advantages for an education were only such as could be derived from the primitive schools of that time. At the age of fifteen, owning forty acres of wild land, worth about one hundred dollars, given him by his mother, he commenced life in earnest. He began by occupying his land, building a log cabin, and working as much as he was able at clearing off the heavy growth of timber with which it was covered, and otherwise improving it. By industry and economy he was enabled to purchase twenty acres of land adjoining the original forty acres. He continued the occupation of farming until November, 1863, when, by the advice of his mother, he commenced the study of medicine with Dr. G. J. Rogers, a pioneer physician of Bowling Green, who gladly accepted him as a pupil, and who proposed that they buy a small drug store which was then offered for sale. This they did, and the young student spent his time in reading up for his profession and in attending to the store, in the latter way acquiring a knowledge of drugs and the compounding of medicines so necessary to physicians. In October, 1864, he entered the Medical College at Ann Arbor, Mich., studying there for one year, then returning to the drug store for another year, after which he entered the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York City, graduating from that institution in 1866 with the degree of M. D. During his course at the latter college he studied under some of the most famous professors in America, among them being Drs. Austin Flint, senior and junior, Surgeon-General Hammond, Lewis A. Sayers and Dr. Frank H. Hamilton, all of whom are of international repute.

After his graduation Dr. Manville returned to Bowling Green, and entered into partnership with Dr. Rogers, carrying on a drug store at the same time. He had an extensive practice from 1866 until 1875, when, on account of failing health, he was forced to gradually withdraw from active work in his profession, and from that time on devoted his time chiefly to the drug business, which was finally carried on under the firm name of Bolles & Manville. He was engaged in the drug business from 1863 until January 1, 1896, when he sold out his interest, and during part of that time was interested in two stores. Dr. Manville is one of the most widely known citizens of Wood county, and has always taken an active part in public affairs. He was instrumental in having Bowling Green made the county seat, and was treasurer of the Bowling Green & Toledo Railroad Company, which built the short line between Tontogany and Bowling Green. In pol-



*Andrew J. Manville, M.D.*



itics he is a Democrat; socially he is a prominent member of the Masonic Order. He belongs to the Wood County Medical Association and the Northwestern Ohio Medical Association.

On January 17, 1872, Dr. Manville was married to Miss Alice J. Sholes. They have one child, Iona, born September 11, 1875, in Bowling Green, who is attending the female college at Glendale, Ohio, where she is taking a special course in art and music, and expects to finish her education; she is a most estimable young lady. The Doctor has always invested all his spare means in real estate, and in addition to his fine home in the city, which comprises one block, is the owner of several town lots and also some farm lands in the county. He spent the winter of 1895-96 in Florida.

EDWIN H. SIMMONS, an enterprising farmer of Perrysburg, is a native of Huron county, where he was born November 2, 1855. He came to Wood county when eight years old, and went to school at Thompson's school house, in District No. 3. He remained at home on the farm until 1883, and then went to Dakota and Wisconsin for a while to view the western country, subsequently returning to Wood county.

On January 25, 1888, Mr. Simmons was married to Miss Mary Hundley, whose birth took place in Perrysburg, September 22, 1865. Two children have been born to them, Alma, and Ray. After his marriage our subject settled down in Perrysburg, having bought forty acres of land, on which, in 1887, he built a substantial house. In politics he was a Democrat, and was elected trustee of Perrysburg township last spring, by the largest majority (180) ever given to the candidate for that office in that township. He is a member of Fort Meigs Lodge, I. O. O. F., at Perrysburg, and has been given the position of agent for the Lime City Farmers Mutual Fire Association. He is up to date in all matters pertaining to his business, and the Association has secured a valuable man in Mr. Simmons. He is energetic and progressive, and has numerous friends both in a business way and personally.

Robert Simmons, the father of our subject, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, May 10, 1832. In 1852 he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Jane Van Sickle, who was born in Delaware county, Ohio, February 27, 1836. They came to Wood county in 1863, and Mr. Simmons bought a farm in Perrysburg township, then full of timber, and he had to clear a space large enough to build a house upon. Later he increased his property, and became an extensive

land owner. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons are both living, and reside in the town of Perrysburg. This couple had four children, namely: Edwin, our subject; Ira C., born June 18, 1860; Adelbert, born March 18, 1864; Florence May, born December 29, 1866. All are married except Florence.

Mrs. Simmons is a descendant of the Holland Dutch, who settled in New York State. The progenitor's name was Ferdinand Van Sickle, who was born in Holland about the year 1638, and came to America when a young man.

JOHN AULT, one of the leading citizens of Wood county, and a resident of Lime City, was born in Bavaria, Germany, March 1, 1843, and is the son of George and Anna (Pinsil) Ault. Both parents were also natives of Bavaria, where they married in 1841, coming to America in 1852. Four children were born to them: John, Anna, Joseph, and Martin.

Our subject spent his boyhood in Lime City, and attended the district schools, supplementing this education by three years at a college. He was married May 18, 1875, to Miss Barbara Munger, who was born in Perrysburg in 1847, and they had nine children, as follows: Mary, Elizabeth, George, Frank, Joseph, Bertha, Edmund, Helen, and William. Mr. Ault has always resided near Lime City, settling first on the old homestead of forty acres, which he afterward sold. He now has a substantial house on 200 acres of land adjoining his old home. His energies have been well directed, and he is recognized as one of the leaders in Wood county. For five years he has been a trustee of the township, and secretary of the Lime City Farmers Mutual Benefit Fire Association, of which he was one of the chief promoters. He is a member of the commission appointed for building the county court house. In religious faith he is a member of the Roman Catholic Church. Mr. Ault is intelligent and progressive, and an earnest worker in the interest of the community in which he lives.

CHARLES E. AUVERTER has led an industrious and useful life, and has worked his way upward step by step, until he now occupies a leading position among the substantial and prominent farmers of Wood county. He has spent his entire life in this county, his birth having occurred in Henry township, January 1, 1856. His parents, Michael and Rachel (Milbourn) Auverter, are now living retired in North Baltimore.

To the public-school system our subject is indebted for his educational privileges. At the age of nineteen he began to learn the carpenter's trade, but made his home under the parental roof until his marriage. On the 13th of February, 1883, in Henry township, was solemnized the marriage of Charles Auverter and Miss Della Beatty, who was born February 22, 1862, and is a daughter of Hiram and Delila (Willford) Beatty. The young couple began their domestic life upon their present farm, Mr. Auverter having purchased forty acres of land in the fall of 1882, and in the spring of 1883 he erected a pleasant dwelling. Farming, however, is not his chief occupation, as he gives the greater part of his attention to carpentering. He has also worked to a limited extent in the oil fields, and has been a very industrious and energetic man. Upon his own land he has developed ten oil wells, four of which are now running.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Auverter is a Democrat, and for some years has served as supervisor. He has also filled the office of school director, and the cause of education has found in him a staunch friend. In fact he is the champion of all movements that he believes calculated to advance the general welfare, and is therefore a valued citizen of the community.

JUDGE HENRY H. DODGE, a leading attorney of Bowling Green, and for many years Judge of the Court of Common Pleas, was born in the town of Pompey, Onondaga Co., N. Y., February 4, 1830.

His grandfather, Ezra Dodge, a native of Windsor, Conn., and a soldier in the Revolutionary war, removed to New York State in 1800, taking up a "Soldier's Claim" in the township of Pompey, where he died in 1816, at the age of sixty-two.

David F. Dodge, our subject's father, was born at Windsor, Conn., September 8, 1787, and when thirteen years old accompanied his parents to their new home, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying at eighty-two years of age. He was a Whig until that party disbanded, when he became a Democrat. During the war he joined the Union party. He married Ada H. Roberts, a lady of Huguenot descent, and a native of Windsor, Conn., where her father had located after being driven from France by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. She was born in 1797, and died in 1878. Our subject's parents were both Presbyterians in early life, but in 1838 they were converted to the Catholic faith, to which their surviving children adhered. They

had three daughters and one son, our subject. Diane, deceased, was the wife of Francis Manahan, a hardware merchant of Utica, N. Y.; Mary, deceased, was the wife of Daniel G. Wheaton, a farmer of Pompey, N. Y.; and Cynthia became a sister of charity. She died in 1893 at Mount St. Vincent's Academy on the Hudson, in New York City, after more than forty years of devoted service. She was known as Sister Maria, and was one of the chief officers of the institution, performing the combined duties of secretary and treasurer for many years. For a few years before her death she held the arduous office of Prefect of studies in the school.

The Judge was educated in the old Pompey Academy, at Pompey Hill, until at the age of sixteen he was sent to St. John's College, New York City, where he was graduated in 1849. He spent the next two years working on his father's farm, and then began the study of law with Victory Birdseye, of Pompey. In the fall of 1852 he came to Perrysburg, Wood county, and finished his preparation for the bar in the office of Spink & Murray. After his admission in 1855, he went into partnership with James Murray, Mr. Spink having died, and continued in practice with him until Mr. Murray was elected Attorney-General of Ohio, in 1859. Our subject then formed a partnership with the late James R. Tyler, which lasted until 1869. Afterward he had as a partner, for a short time, Edson Goit, of Bowling Green, now deceased, and later was associated in the practice of law with Jasher Pillars. In 1877 he was elected Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was on the Bench for ten years, making an enviable record for judicial ability, and on his retirement in 1888 he resumed his law practice, taking as a partner John W. Canary.

In 1857 Judge Dodge married Sarah Wilkison, who was born December 20, 1837. Of their two children, the eldest, Mary, born in 1860, married Ernest G. Miller, and went to Creede, Col., where she died December 12, 1893, leaving two children, Hobart and Mary D., who now live with our subject. Frederick D., our subject's son, is the General Agent for Bloch Bros'. Tobacco Co., of Wheeling, W. Va. Judge Dodge is an influential member of the Democratic party, and has been a leader in many progressive movements in the community.

CAPTAIN DAVID WILKISON (deceased), of Perrysburg, was born at or near Buffalo, in February, 1800, and at an early age went on the Lake as a sailor. In 1815 he sailed up the Maumee river on the schooner "Blacksnake," commanded by

his uncle, Jacob Wilkison. This was a small craft to venture upon the lake, being but twenty-five ton burden. At that time nothing but a wild forest was to be seen where Perrysburg now stands. The "Blacksnake" brought up as passengers the family of Mulhollen, who later kept the noted tavern, "Vienna;" also a Mr. Hunter and family, Scott Robb, and a Mr. Hopkins, who settled on land above the present village of Perrysburg. At that time Fort Meigs contained about forty soldiers, who were taken to Detroit by the schooner on her return trip.

In 1817, the "Blacksnake" was in command of Capt. David Wilkison, and made several trips to the Maumee, bringing new settlers, goods, etc., and carrying back fish. In 1818, Capt. Daniel Hubbell bought a controlling interest in the schooner "Pilot," and Capt. Wilkison was placed in command, running between Buffalo and the Maumee Rapids. By that time the Valley of the Maumee began to produce a surplus of corn, and the "Pilot" was well loaded on her return trips with corn and fish. Capt. Wilkison continued upon the lakes, running in connection with the Maumee trade until 1828, at which time he removed his family to Perrysburg. Up to this time he had been in command, successively, of the schooners "Blacksnake," "Pilot," "Mary Jane," "President," "Superior," "Guerriere" and "Eagle," the latter being a schooner of sixty tons, built at Port Lawrence, now Toledo, in 1828, at a cost of \$3,000. The "Eagle" continued under the command of Capt. Wilkison until 1835, doing a profitable business, as was the case with all lake vessels at that period. Capt. Wilkison left the "Eagle" to take command of the new steamer, "Commodore Perry," continuing in charge of her until 1845, when he took command of the steamer "Superior," running between Perrysburg and Buffalo. He continued to run this steamer until the close of navigation in 1852, when he retired after having spent thirty-seven years upon the lakes, in all of which time he never lost a vessel or steamer, nor did he ever meet with any serious accident. His remarkable success as a navigator was owing to his superior judgment, his coolness under most trying circumstances, and his perfect knowledge of the lake.

After retiring from the lakes Capt. Wilkison devoted himself to the cultivation of his farm adjoining Perrysburg, until he lost his sight. Subsequently his sight was partially restored, and, some years prior to 1873, he was placed in charge of the lighthouse just below Manhattan, the duties of which he discharged until about the year 1872, when he returned to Per-

rysburg very much broken in health. In the prime of his life he possessed qualities of mind and heart which commanded the respect and secured the friendship of all who knew him, and no man sailed on the lakes who was better known. The Captain was an ardent Whig up to the time of the disruption of that party, and he then became a Republican. At the time of the great celebration at Fort Meigs in 1840, the Captain brought Gen. Harrison to the fort in his steamer Commodore Perry, and entertained a large number of visitors who came to take part there. Although somewhat bluff and a little austere in manner, Capt. Wilkison had the kindest of hearts, and no one ever appealed to him in vain for sympathy or aid in misfortune. His death occurred September 8, 1873.

The widow of Capt. Wilkison, Caroline M. (formerly Forbes), survived him, dying in 1877. He left five children, all but one of whom are still living. William D. Wilkison, the eldest son, was an invalid for many years prior to his death. John E. Wilkison was a partner of Charles Foster and the general manager of the bank of Foster & Co., of Fostoria, until the disastrous failure of Mr. Foster carried the bank down with him. The failure was not in any manner owing to any mismanagement of the bank affairs, as the books showed that the bank was prosperous, and had been making money up to the date of the failure of Mr. Foster. Mr. Wilkison is now engaged in the Insurance business at Cleveland. Capt. Wilkison's eldest daughter is the wife of Isaac P. Thompson, and now resides in Perrysburg. Mr. Thompson was a part owner, and his partner, C. C. Roby, was the master of the steamer "Griffith," which was lost on Lake Erie in 1850, accompanied by a loss of life that spread mourning over the land. Sarah, the second daughter, is the wife of Judge Henry H. Dodge, and now resides at Bowling Green, Ohio. Caroline, the youngest daughter, is the wife of Earl W. Merry, the well-known banker of Bowling Green.

C. L. HUDDLE, proprietor and editor of the North Baltimore *Times*, is a native of Tiffin, Ohio, born October 23, 1866. He is the son of Louis and Ellen (Hershberger) Huddle, both of whom were born in Bloom township, Seneca Co., Ohio. Mr. Huddle lived with his parents during the early part of his life, and attended the Sidney (Ohio) High School. He then went to work in the office of the Shelby County *Democrat*, at Sidney, and learned the printer's trade, after which he was employed as foreman on the

Mt. Gilead *Sentinel* for a year, and then worked two years as foreman of the job printing department of the *Lima Republican*. At the end of that time the *Republican* and *Gazette* consolidated, forming the *Lima Republican-Gazette*, with which our subject still retained the position of foreman of the job printing department. In January, 1891, he accepted a position as foreman on the *Fostoria Times*, which he held until July 1, 1893, at that time moving to North Baltimore, where he secured control of the *North Baltimore Times*, which he has run successfully ever since. It is Democratic in principle, and is one of the most popular and extensively read papers in southern Wood county. Mr. Huddle is an energetic worker, knows what will interest the people of his community, and, as a consequence, has materially increased the circulation of the *Times* within the last two years.

The parents of our subject lived in Bloom township until 1871, when they went to Shelby county, going from there in 1886 to Lima, and thence to Fostoria, locating finally in Tiffin, where they reside at present. Mr. Huddle is a machinist by trade. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and in politics upholds the principles of the Prohibitionists. Mrs. Huddle is a member of the Baptist Church. Four children were born to them: Hershel J. lives in Cincinnati, and is a stenographer for the Union Central Life Insurance Company; Benjamin C. is located at Gann Valley, S. Dak., where he is States attorney, C. L. is our subject; Adelma C. resides at North Baltimore, and is connected with the *Times*.

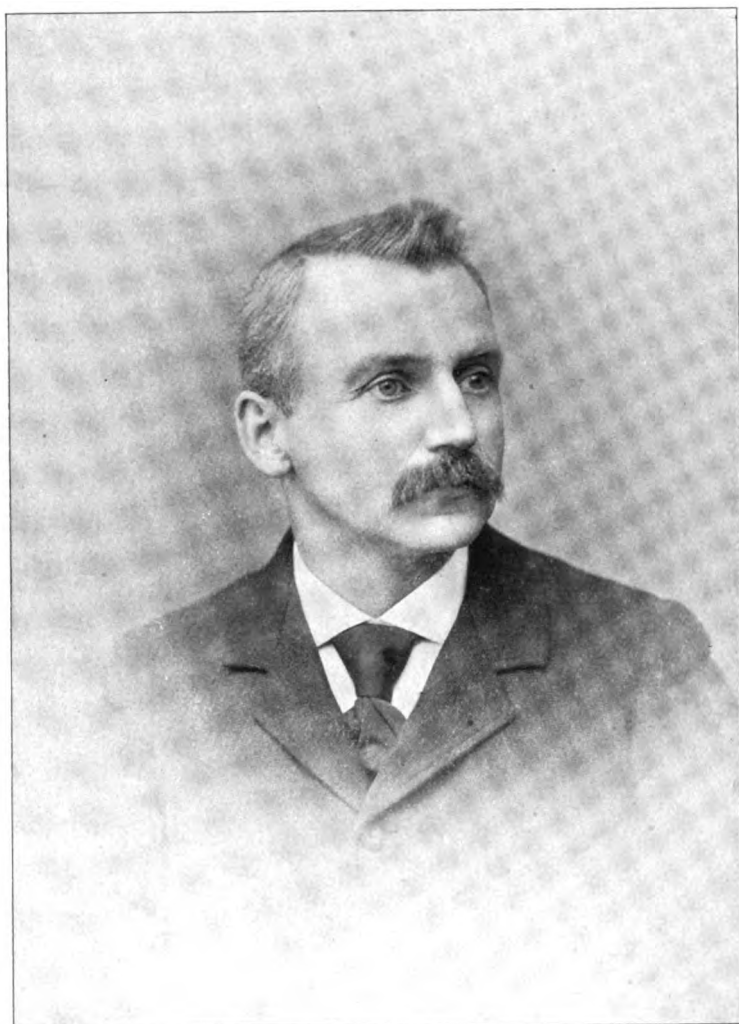
WILLIAM S. HASKELL, the popular and efficient retiring mayor of Bowling Green, and member of the well-known law firm of Mears & Haskell, has been a resident of the city some twenty years, and well deserves prominent mention in the pages of this volume.

Mr. Haskell is a native of Michigan, born in Detroit, April 11, 1850, and is a son of Rev. Samuel and Elizabeth (Granger) Haskell, who had five children, as follows: William S., whose name introduces this sketch; Samuel, deceased at the age of three years; Frank D., secretary of a paper manufacturing company, with residence at Kalamazoo, Mich.; Belle, who died at the age of eleven months; and Henry (married), chief clerk in the office of the Grand Rapids & Indiana railroad, with residence at Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Rev. Samuel Haskell, D. D., was born March 20, 1818, in Maine, where he was reared to early manhood, receiving a good common-

school education. At the age of eighteen, the then "Far West" presenting many attractions to youths of ordinary ambition, our subject set out, alone and on horseback, from his Eastern home for Illinois, arriving in due course at Cairo. Entering land from the government near Rock river, near where now stands the city of Rockford, he made his home there for some three or four years, then, selling out, returned to the East, Suffield, Conn., being his objective point. Here he prepared himself for college, in time entering Brown University at Providence, R. I., where he graduated in the class of '45. After this he commenced a course of study at the Theological University of Hamilton, N. Y., a Baptist institution, graduating in the class of '47, thoroughly equipped, intellectually speaking, for the pulpit or platform. Mr. Haskell was then called to the First Baptist Church, of Detroit, Mich., his first charge, where he remained from 1847 to 1852; from there he was called to the First Baptist Church, of Kalamazoo, which he served as pastor from 1852 to 1871, from the latter date up to 1888, filling a similar position with the First Baptist Church at Ann Arbor, Mich. Being now seventy years of age, Rev. S. Haskell resigned his pastoral labors, and was elected Professor of Biblical research at Kalamazoo College, which professorship he still retains, although he is now in his seventy-ninth year. A man of high literary training and attainments, he has left indelible footprints of his ability that will be visible long after the original has withdrawn from the arena of life. In 1895 he wrote a work on *Heroes and Hierarchs*, and during his active lifetime has issued many pamphlets, etc., including a "Pioneer History of the Baptist Church of Michigan," and "Pioneer Addresses on Michigan History," besides contributing a mass of literary matter to various Baptist periodicals and newspapers throughout the country. In his political preferences he was originally a Whig, and since the organization of the party has been an equally zealous Republican. Socially he is a member of college societies, and he is universally respected and esteemed. His wife Elizabeth (Granger), the mother of William S. Haskell, died in 1887 at Ann Arbor, Mich.; she was related to the Grangers of historic renown, one of whom was in President Harrison's cabinet in 1841, and the other served in 1801 under Jefferson and Madison; each was postmaster-general.

William S. Haskell, of whom this sketch more particularly relates, was two years old when his parents moved from Detroit to Kalamazoo, Mich., at the common schools of which latter



*W. S. Haskell*





city he received his elementary education, then taking a two-years' course at the high school. In 1865 he commenced studies at Kalamazoo College, taking the Freshman and Sophomore years, then taught two years, after which he entered the junior year at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, graduating there in the classical course in 1872. Mr. Haskell then commenced teaching school at Three Rivers, Mich., where he was superintendent one year, after which he taught at Middletown, Ind., from 1873 to 1877, in August of which latter year he came to Bowling Green. Here he served as superintendent of schools from 1877 to 1883, during which time he organized the present system, and graduated the first two classes—of '82 and '83. Desiring to retire from educational work, Mr. Haskell declined re-election to the office of superintendent of schools, and commenced the study of law in the office of Cook & Troup, passing his examination and being admitted to the bar in 1885. At once commencing the practice of his profession at Bowling Green, he continued in the same until 1887, in which year he was appointed secretary-treasurer of the Hankey Lumber Co., transacting all the legal business of that firm, in which he is now a stockholder. In July, 1894, he resigned his position with that company, in order to enter his present partnership with Mr. Mears, in the practice of law, Mears & Haskell being recognized as one of the strongest legal firms in northwestern Ohio, and enjoying a wide and influential clientele.

In 1875 Mr. Haskell was married in Vigo county, Ind., to Miss Eliza Weeks, who was born in Hartford, that State, daughter of Harvey and Mary (Piety) Weeks, the father a native of Kentucky, the mother of Virginia; he died in 1865, and she is now a resident of Terre Haute, Ind. To Mr. and Mrs. Haskell have been born four children, named respectively: Stella, Frank, Mary and George. Mrs. Haskell is a member of the Baptist Church, a member and president of the school board of Bowling Green, elected thereto in 1895.

A Republican in politics, our subject has been a life-long supporter of the principles embodied in the platform of that party. He has served in various offices of trust and honor; member of the school board two terms from 1884; member of the Wood county board of examiners two terms; member of the city council two terms, and while serving his second term was appointed mayor of Bowling Green to fill the unexpired term of A. B. Murphy. In 1894, such is his popularity and superior administrative qualifications, he was re-

elected to that incumbency which he filled with characteristic ability and zeal through the term. Socially, Mr. Haskell is a member of the F. & A. M., Wood County Lodge No. 112, and of the K. of P., Kenneth Lodge No. 158. By perseverance, energy and assiduous application, he has successfully surmounted many difficulties in the course of his career from boyhood, and has worked his way up steadily to an honorable position in professional life.

DANIEL WEBSTER LEVERS is one of the native sons of Wood county, born in Plain township, May 11, 1861. His parents were William H. and Liddy (Vernon) Levers. He obtained his education in the district schools of the neighborhood, and at the age of nineteen laid aside his text books to learn, in life's school, the difficult lessons of experience. Throughout his boyhood he spent his vacation months in work on the home farm, and was thus employed until his marriage.

On October 22, 1890, in Bowling Green, Mr. Levers led to the marriage altar Miss Della Bordner, who was born July 13, 1870. He purchased from his father forty acres of land, erected thereon a good substantial dwelling, and has made many other excellent improvements. In the spring of 1895 he purchased an additional forty acres, and now has a valuable farm which in return for his care and cultivation yields to him a good tribute. He is an intelligent, enterprising agriculturist who follows progressive methods, and is regarded as one of the substantial citizens of the community. In politics he is a Republican, and has served for three terms as supervisor, but has never been active in political affairs, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business pursuits.

CAPTAIN THOMAS MAWER, a prominent and well-known agriculturist of Washington township, was born in Montreal, Canada, March 14, 1835. His father, William Mawer, was born in Leeds, England, in 1789, and was a butcher by trade. He married Jane Thompson, and they had twelve children: William (1), who died in infancy; William (2), who lived in Illinois, and died in 1893, aged eighty-one years; Matthew (1), died in infancy; Matthew (2), who died in 1838, aged eighteen; John, died in 1839 at the age of sixteen; George (1), died in 1827, aged eight years; Septimus, a farmer in Washington township; Jane (1), who died in infancy; Jane (2), wife of Jacob Huff, of Milton Center; Margaret, who married Philip Smith, and after his death

wedded D. Lashley, but is now deceased; George (2), who died in the army, aged thirty-one; and Thomas. On October 7, 1830, the parents and six children took passage on a sailing vessel for Canada, and on reaching that country remained until 1837, then lived in New York State a year, and in 1838 came to Ohio, where the father engaged in the building of a canal, and, purchasing the Indian island from a board of missions, he there made his home until his death in 1843. His wife died in 1858.

Our subject acquired his early education in the old log school house near his home, in Washington township, Wood county. When a child of eight years his father died, and two years later he began work at four dollars per month; the following year he received five dollars a month, then took up the cooper's trade, which he followed while fitting himself for the profession of school teaching, to which he devoted his energies some two years. At the breaking out of the Civil war he was the first man in Washington township to enlist, becoming a member of Company B, 21st Regiment O. V. I., under Capt. Carr and Col. Norton. He enlisted in the three-months' service, and from Cleveland, Ohio, went to Charlestown, W. Va., and in August, 1861, returned home. On July 15, 1862, he re-enlisted, received a commission, raised a company, which became Company A of the 100th Regiment, O. V. I. For meritorious service he was promoted from the rank of second lieutenant to that of first lieutenant, then to captain. He was mostly engaged in skirmish duty and border warfare in Kentucky, and participated in the battles of Hickman, Ky., and Limestone, Tenn., at which latter engagement he was taken prisoner, and was held in captivity some fifteen months. He was in Libby prison at a time when the Union soldiers were given only one-fourth of the regular rations. From Richmond he was sent to Macon, Ga., where he was kept in a stockade during the months of May, June, July, until about August 1, 1864, and was allowed there two ounces of beef and two teaspoonfuls of beans for a meal. About August 1 he was removed and taken to Charleston, S. C., with 1,700 officers, and placed in different parts of the city for the purpose of protecting it from the bombardment of the Federal forces. "Here they were kept about three weeks, when the Union commander placed a like number of Confederate prisoners on the parapets of his fort, who would be kept there under fire as long as the Union prisoners were." Lieut. Mawer was first placed in the Charleston jail, but in a short time was removed to the jail yard,

which was enclosed with a high stone wall. While confined in the latter place a terrific storm occurred and the water stood a foot deep in the jail yard. He, with the other prisoners, was compelled to lie in the water (for it did not pass away for twenty-four hours) and sleep, if they could. "Owing to the exposure he experienced, Mr. Mawer was taken sick, and had to be sent to Rickerville hospital, when many of the patients had yellow fever, which he fortunately escaped. In November of that year he, with some others, was sent to Savannah, Ga., and there paroled." Lieut. Mawer was sent to Annapolis, Md., and placed in the hospital, and was so emaciated that he weighed but eighty pounds. His mind was so affected he hardly realized he was within the Federal lines; was afflicted with scurvy and other diseases common to prison life (was fifteen months a prisoner of war). He remained in the hospital about two months, then was sent home. In February, 1865, he was offered a lieutenant-colonelcy of a new regiment being organized at the time, but on account of not being exchanged he could not accept it. He returned to his command in North Carolina as soon as he was exchanged. During the time he was a prisoner he was promoted to the rank of captain, and on his return to the regiment he took charge of his company, and was present when Gen. Johnston surrendered, the 100th Regiment, O. V. I., taking charge of Johnston's arms and ordnance, and remaining until mustered out, June 22, 1865, thence was sent to Cleveland, Ohio, was paid, and discharged July 3, 1865.

On his return home in July, 1865, Capt. Mawer purchased 180 acres of land, forty of which he afterward sold. It was covered with timber and water, the former of which he cut into lumber and sold. He drained and tiled his land, and as fast as possible transformed it into productive fields. He now has a fine house upon the place, three acres in orchard, a good barn and tool house, a granary and a cooper shop.

On October 15, 1865, he was married to Helen Jane Batt, who was born in New York, October 29, 1843, a daughter of John and Ann (Watkins) Batt, natives of the Empire State, who came to Ohio in 1855. The father was a cooper by trade, which he followed for many years. He died in Waterville, Ohio, in 1891, his wife in 1890. They had five children: Levi, deceased; Mrs. Mawer; William, a cooper of Waterville; and John and Bert, deceased. Mrs. Mawer for seven years prior to her marriage engaged in teaching at Waterville, and is a lady of culture and refine-

ment. They have five children: John V., born May 24, 1867, married Harriet Roe, and operates the home farm; Anna, born October 27, 1868, is the wife of Erwin Ellsworth, a harness-maker of Oak Harbor, Ottawa Co., Ohio, and they have one son—Erwin; George C., born October 19, 1871, married Anna Lao, and is now a veterinary surgeon at Oak Harbor, a graduate of Ohio University—they have one child, Helen; Elbert C., born December 9, 1878, is at home; Frank, born October 6, 1881, died August 17, 1882. Capt. Mawer is a member of the Masonic fraternity and the Grand Army of the Republic. For three years he served as a justice of the peace, and then resigned; for fifteen years he was a school director; for fifteen years member of the township board, and has also been supervisor. In politics he was formerly a Republican, but is now a Democrat. In 1883 he ran on the Democratic ticket for representative, and, though defeated, ran ahead of his ticket; he also made the race for member of the State Board of Equalization, but was not elected.

OWEN W. MALONEY, the well-known tank manufacturer of Bowling Green was born in Crawford county, Penn., June 4, 1865. He is of Irish descent on the father's side, while his mother's ancestors were Scotch, and he combines in an unusual degree the best qualities of both races, his sound judgment and unyielding perseverance being accompanied by geniality and pleasing humor.

Henry Maloney, his father, was also a native of Crawford county, Penn., but now resides in West Virginia where he has been engaged in the milling business for many years. He is a Democrat in politics, and a prominent member of the Baptist Church. He married Mis Hannah J. Troutman, a native of Perrysville, Clarion Co., Penn., by whom he had four children: Mary, who died in childhood; Owen W., our subject; Carrie M. and William (twins), the former now the wife of Charles Silkes, of Sisterville, W. Va., an oil operator; the latter is in the mining business in Missouri.

Owen W. Maloney spent the greater part of his boyhood in Cabell county, W. Va., and attended the schools of Milton. His first business venture was in gardening, but after two years of this he went to Emlenton, Penn., and secured employment in the oil fields, as pumper. In 1888 he came to Wood county, and began the business of tank building at Cygnet, where he remained until 1891, when he transferred his business to Bowling Green. His time is now occu-

pied with his constantly increasing work in this line, manufacturing his tanks from the rough, and employing two men steadily, and eight during the busier seasons. He is also interested in an oil company now operating at Haskins. He was married July 29, 1889, to Miss Malinda Jolly, a native of Emlenton, Penn., born June 29, 1867, and they have three children: Roy, George and Wayne, all of whom are at home. Politically Mr. Maloney is a Prohibitionist, and he belongs to the I. O. O. F. and the K. O. T. M. Lodges.

JUDGE EDWIN TULLER (deceased) was one of the oldest pioneers of Wood county, and, as a leading factor in many events that have marked her progress, he has left the impress of his strong personality upon the history of this region. The family is of Scotch and English origin, the first of the American line being the Rev. John Tuller, who settled in New England at an early day. Roswell Tuller, our subject's father, was born near Simsbury, Conn. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and took part in the battle of Fort Meigs and that of the Thames, at the latter being shot, bayoneted and left for dead on the field; but he recovered from his wounds, and finally came with his family to Delaware county, Ohio, where he was killed by lightning in 1824. His first wife was a native of Connecticut, and died in Ohio, leaving a large family of children. His second wife, Mrs. Sarah (Holcomb) Harrington, who was also born in Connecticut, was a widow with four children. Two sons were born of this union, George, who died in infancy, and our subject. The mother died in Monroe, Mich., in 1858, and of the three families of children, Judge Edwin Tuller was the last.

Our subject was born in Delaware county, Ohio, July 28, 1821, and after the death of his father accompanied his mother to Worthington, Ohio, remaining until the age of fourteen, when, in October, 1835, he came to Maumee City, and clerked in the store of a canal contractor. Later a half-brother and brother-in-law opened a store there, under the firm name of Harrington & Hunter, and he worked for them until 1840, when they sold out. After two years passed in the store of Horace Waite, he, in December, 1842, went to Otsego (where he had already bought land) with a stock of goods of his own, remaining two years, and then bought a farm and settled down to agricultural pursuits and milling for a time. He had already begun to read law, in the office of James Coffinberry, of Maumee; was active in local politics, and one of the participants in the famous mass-meeting at Fort Meigs in

1840, "hard cider and log cabin" campaign. He remembers meeting Henry Clay at Columbus, clad in his "Kentucky jeans."

On March 22, 1846, the Judge married Miss Catherine Kuder, who was born near Circleville, August 8, 1824, and six children came of this union: (1) Alice A., March 26, 1848, married Marshall F. Pennywell, and has two children—Maggie (who married John Losh, and has two sons—Arthur and Edwin), and Eva, the wife of Dr. Lee Willard. (2) Catherine C., August 12, 1850, married Adelbert L. Petteys, of this county, and has one son—Charles. (3) Martha Jane, born November 24, 1855, died October 3, 1860. (4) Flora M., February 6, 1857, married Lester Hoover, of Union county, and has two living children—Flossie and Eva. (5) Harriet Ellen, November 10, 1859, married John J. Donald, of Wells, Minn. (6) Melvinia, born November 17, 1861, died April 14, 1864. The mother of this family died in 1871; and on June 8, 1887, the Judge married Miss Nellie Paul, who was born in Rochester, N. Y., October 13, 1856, and was educated in Columbus, Ohio, where her parents were prominent people. She is an active worker in the Presbyterian Church.

In 1863 our subject was appointed probate judge, and was re-elected two terms; in 1865 he was admitted to the bar. During his third term as probate judge he resigned on account of impaired health. He then began the practice of law in connection with James R. Tyler, and resided in Perrysburg some eighteen months when he moved to Tontogany, where he continued his practice for many years. In political circles he was an influential worker, first as a Whig, and later as a Republican, and his well-known abilities caused him to be called many times to the service of the people. He was postmaster at Otsego for several years, and justice of the peace of his township some thirteen terms; was Internal Revenue assessor, appointed in 1861, and served till his appointment as probate judge in 1863. Since 1872 he has been a member of the F. & A. M. His death occurred August 29, 1896, at the age of seventy-five years, and a large circle of friends and acquaintances were left to mourn the loss of this grand old man.

JACOB EBERLY (deceased), a worthy member of the noble army of pioneers of Wood county, was a native of Pennsylvania, born in Huntingdon county, July 14, 1804, and departed this life in his Wood county home, on the Portage river, October 31, 1894.

When he was a boy of some eight or nine

summers, his widowed mother removed with her family from Huntingdon county, Penn., to Dublin, Franklin Co., Ohio, where she passed the rest of her days, dying March 14, 1868, at the advanced age of ninety-four years. Of her children, those who reached their majority were John, Jacob and Nancy—John by four years the senior, and Nancy two years the junior, of Jacob, all now deceased. Nancy married George Evans, and, as did also her brother John, remained at Dublin during her life. Hon. Eli P. Evans, now occupying the common pleas bench in Columbus, Ohio, is the fourth son of Nancy.

Jacob Eberly remained at Dublin, Ohio, until of age, and then set out to commence life for himself, first stopping at Fremont, Ohio, for a few months, then proceeding farther, reached Waterville (at that time in Wood county) on March 3, 1826. Here he made the acquaintance of Elizabeth Cox, whom he married October 28, 1827. In this "Village on the Maumee" Mr. Eberly remained, carrying on his trade of blacksmithing, until 1833, when he removed upon 127 acres of land pleasantly located upon the Portage river, one mile northeast of the town of Portage, in Wood county, where he thereafter resided. Here he also engaged at his trade, and for fifteen years or more applied himself with much energy, realizing a liberal income, for that day. A large factor in the success which attended his efforts, however, was the untiring energy, perseverance, ingenuity and economy of his faithful life companion. Through their joint labor, at the expiration of some fifteen years, aside from keeping up the excessive doctor bills growing out of the new and undrained condition of the country, and maintaining a large family, they had paid for and largely improved and drained, the homestead. As the avails of the farm increased, the cares and responsibilities grew lighter, so that during the balance of his life, aside from superintending the farm, Mr. Eberly devoted much time to reading, keeping well informed upon current events, and the political issues of the times. Personally quiet, even-tempered, generous and thoughtful, he enjoyed the esteem and confidence of his neighbors. In earlier life he was (though against his wish) elected township treasurer; served the term, and was re-elected for twenty-five years thereafter; was requested to become a candidate for more responsible places, but preferred the quiet domestic life he lived.

Over sixty-one of the sixty-seven years of the married life of this honored couple, and extending to the year 1894, were passed in peace and happiness upon the old homestead, in which year, on



MRS. ELIZABETH EBERLY.

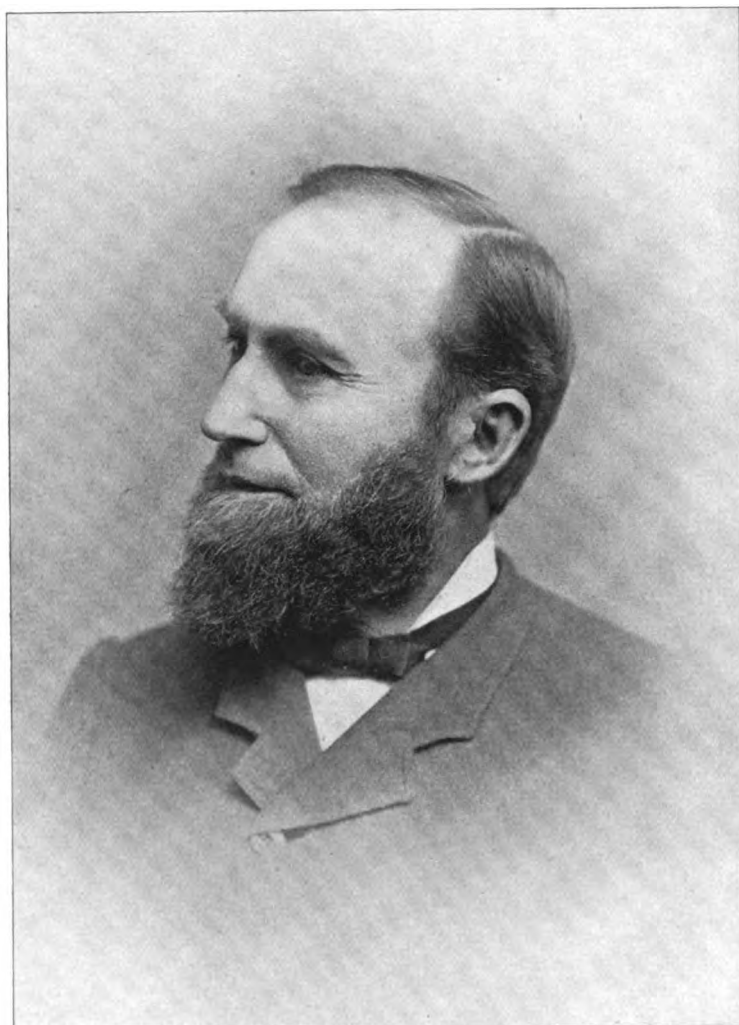


JACOB EBERLY.









*Yours Truly*  
*W. S. Eberly*

the 31st day of October, Mr. Eberly passed away in his ninety-first year, and seventeen days thereafter, in her eighty-ninth year, his companion followed. Six children survive them: Joseph C., Matilda Johnson, William S., Elliott, Harriet E. Doud, and Benjamin C.

A graphic description of the homestead and its occupants at an early day is given by O. P. Jaques, a nephew of Mrs. Eberly, in a letter written to a member of the family a few days after the death of Mr. Eberly. Mr. Jaques, who is a prominent citizen of Warsaw, Ind., had made a visit at their home a short time prior to the death of Mr. Eberly, and this sketch will close with the following extract from his letter, which is dated Warsaw, Ind., November 7, 1894:

"When I last saw the dear old man, how plain was it to be seen that he was fast nearing the end of his long life; and I fancy that when he saw that Aunt could not recover, he did not care to live. A plain, good, honest man; a true and devoted father and husband has gone. \* \* \* What a remarkable married life! and how I am moved when thinking of them! Called back in memory, to the beginning as it were, of my life, one of the first places on earth impressed on my young mind, was the home of Aunt and Uncle Eberly, and although near sixty years have passed since that time, how visibly every feature of that pioneer home, with all of its environments at that time, presents itself to me now! A large two-story hewed-log house, with brick chimney; a double round-log barn; four or five small fields cleared out of the dense wilderness; a garden fenced with pickets near the house; another smaller log cabin near the steep bank of the creek; the well in the yard with the old-fashioned windlass. In the cabin near the creek was Uncle's smith shop, where he could nearly always be found so full of life and energy, happy and cheerful, and so industriously carrying on his business. In and about the house could always be seen the prominent figure of Aunt, surrounded by her large family of little children (the oldest but little older than myself), so full of vigor and perseverance, with her strong will-power, faithfully and industriously doing and discharging the duties of a true young wife and mother, in a new country. I love to reflect upon her noble traits of good, true womanhood."

WILLIAM S. EBERLY, senior member of the well-known firm, in Bowling Green, of Eberly & Son, merchants, was born near Portage, Wood Co., Ohio, December 19, 1836, and is a son of the late Jacob and Elizabeth (Cox) Eberly.

Our subject passed his boyhood days working on his father's farm during the summers, and attending the district school in winter time. At the age of twenty he began to teach, winters, thus securing means whereby he was enabled to avail himself of better schools, at the close of each winter term. He taught some four or five winters, attending Fostoria Academy for a time, and also Otterbein College; but his school course was interrupted by his acceptance of the office of deputy clerk of the common pleas court, which had been tendered him by the clerk. During the three years or more he was employed in this office, he at odd times studied law, under the preceptorship of Hon. Asher Cook, of Perrysburg, and he was admitted to the bar August 7, 1868. Opening a law office in Bowling Green, he continued for a short time, then removed to Fostoria, where he soon built up a good practice. Here, about the year 1874, he formed a partnership with Alex. Brown, attorney at law, but Mr. Eberly, after a few years, retiring from the partnership, returned to Bowling Green, and in the fall of 1877 was elected clerk of the common pleas court of Wood county, at the expiration of the term being re-elected—the two terms extending from February, 1878, to February, 1884. In the latter year he again opened an office at Bowling Green for the practice of law, but in a few days he was seized with a severe attack of pleurisy, from the effects of which, after a long prostration, he was partially restored to health, yet the effect upon his nervous system rendered him unfit to again engage in his profession, or, indeed, in any business, until the discovery of the great oil field of Wood county. Owning eighty acres of land in the heart of this field, his attention was for several years engaged in its development, since which time he has secured a lucrative income from its product.

Mr. Eberly and his son, Joseph F., under the firm name of Eberly & Son, are carrying on a leading retail boot and shoe business at Bowling Green, in a valuable brick block, of which our subject is the owner. He resides in a pleasant, commodious home, embracing eleven acres, and situated in the outskirts of the thrifty and progressive town of Bowling Green. A lover of reading, Mr. Eberly devotes much time to his extensive library of well-selected books, embracing history, biography, science, and all the subjects that interest modern thinkers.

Early in the summer of 1866 Mr. Eberly met and made the acquaintance of Miss Hattie A. Chubb, of Perrysburg, Ohio, upon her return from Delaware, where she had been attending

college. On the 30th of July, in the following year, they were joined in marriage at the home of her father, Rev. R. H. Chubb, then in Perrysburg. Educated, intelligent, graceful in movement, charming in conversation, refined by instinct and by discipline, beloved and venerated by her family, Mrs. Eberly lived her life of forty-seven years, when, after a long sickness, on August 5, 1893, she passed away. The children of this union all survive, viz.: Charles B., Lora O., Joseph F., Ralph J., and W. Neil.

ANDREW J. GARDNER, M. D., of Grand Rapids, was born July 19, 1827, in Hubbard, Ohio, which has been the home of his family since the year 1801, when his grandfather, John Gardner, a native of North Ireland, settled upon a farm in the then frontier region of Trumbull county. He married Elizabeth Pothour, a native of Pennsylvania, and their son Andrew, our subject's father, was born in Hubbard, in 1805. He married Emeline Roberts in 1826, also a native of Hubbard, whose parents came from Connecticut. She was born in 1804. He was an auctioneer, and later in life also followed farming. He (since 1860) was a Republican in politics, and he and wife, from early life, were united with the M. E. Church. He died at Hubbard January 26, 1868, and his widow still resides there at the age of ninety-two years. Of their six children our subject was the eldest; Lydia, next younger, resides with her mother; Harmon G. was a soldier in the artillery service during the Civil war, and died at Memphis, Tenn.; Caroline married Rev. N. G. Luke, and died in Pennsylvania; Mary Ann is the wife of J. F. Corll, of Hubbard; Dillon P. enlisted at Youngstown, in 1861, in Company B, 19th O. V. I., under Col. Beattie, and served four years. He now resides near Martinsville, Indiana.

Dr. A. J. Gardner lived at Hubbard until he was ten years of age, when he accompanied his father to Youngstown, and there attended school for several years. He read medicine for some time with Drs. Woodbridge and Garlick, and then entered the Medical Department of Western Reserve College, graduating in 1848. For a few months he practiced his profession in Sharon, Penn., and five years at Youngstown and Cleveland, Ohio. In 1853, he came to Grand Rapids, Ohio, where he has since resided, and for thirty-six years has conducted a drug store.

On May 5, 1850, the Doctor was married, at Cleveland, Ohio, to Miss Meribah S. Denison, a native of Norwich, Conn., born June 30, 1830. She passed away July 3, 1894, at Grand Rapids,

Ohio. There is one child, Lydia Leanora, now at home. In all measures for local improvement the Doctor has always been a leader. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, as was also his wife. Politically he is a Republican, not particularly active, however, in party affairs in seeking office. He was a delegate to the State convention that nominated John Brough for governor. He is a Royal and Select Mason, belonging to Council No. 33, at Toledo.

MELVIN L. DEVORE is one of the enterprising merchants of Wood county. He was born at Tidioute, Warren Co., Penn., December 11, 1869, and is of French lineage. His grandfather, however, was a native of the Keystone State, and his father, Luke Devore, was born near Meadville, Crawford Co., Penn., where he was reared to manhood. In Warren county, he married Sophia A. Garret, who was born in Pennsylvania, and they have since lived in that county, owning there a farm of 138 acres. They have three children—Garret, a farmer of Warren county; Melvin L., and Alfred, at home.

Our subject first attended school in his native county, and completed his education by a collegiate course in Erie, Penn. Up to his sixteenth year he assisted his father in the work of the home farm, and then engaged in teaching school in Warren county for two terms. Subsequently he engaged in clerking in a grocery store in his native county for about four years, and in the fall of 1893 he came to Wood county, where he purchased a half interest in his present business, which is now conducted under the firm style of Devore & Otterback. He is an enterprising merchant, progressive in his methods, and keeping fully abreast with the times in all particulars.

Mr. Devore was married in Tidioute, Penn., in 1893, to Miss Eva Henry, who was born in Erie county, in November, 1870. Their only child died in infancy. Mr. Devore is a Democrat in politics, and a member of both the subordinate lodge and encampment of the I. O. O. F. of Tidioute. He and his wife occupy an enviable position in social circles, and are leading young people of the community in which they reside, while Mr. Devore occupies a prominent position in commercial circles.

ALFRED THURSTIN, who has the honorable distinction of being the oldest living pioneer of Bowling Green, Ohio, was born in Chenango county, N. Y., April 20, 1806, and is the son of Eli and Margaret (Koons) Thurstin.

Eli Thurstin was born in New York City, and

married in Livingston Manor. He came to Ohio in 1835, and subsequently bought a large tract of land in De Kalb county, Ind., and a portion of his family went there with him. He and his wife remained there awhile, finally returning to Ohio, taking up their residence with our subject and his first wife, near Bowling Green, where they eventually departed this life, he at about the age of sixty-seven years, and she when about eighty.

Alfred Thurstin, our subject, grew up in New York State, and came to the site of what is now Bowling Green, in October, 1833. He secured some land on which he built a log house, and then returned to New York where he married Miss Emily O. Pike. She accompanied him to his new home, where she died in 1879. To them were born the following children: (1) A. A., born in 1836, married, and lives in Bowling Green. He has one son, Frank, who is also married, and has a son, Myron. (2) Wesley S., born in 1838, and has had six children, all but one of whom are living: Jesse, Wilbur, Alice, Wesley, Ethel, Mattie, who is deceased. (3) Alfred Earl, born October 1, 1847, married Miss Edna Foot, who was born in Vermont October 18, 1855. Their children are: Nellie, wife of Andrew Shulson (their marriage took place February 20, 1875); Dora, died January 16, 1885, when seven years old; Alfred, died in 1887, when four weeks old. (Andrew Shulson is a contractor by occupation, and was in Florida for several years, but has recently returned to Bowling Green). (4) R. S., born in 1852, married Miss Ada Fairchild, and they have three children, Dora, Robbie and Ada. R. S. is with the Snow Flake Lime Co. Dora married W. B. Cornwell, and is deceased.

Our subject's second marriage took place January 11, 1888, his wife being Mrs. Martha Louise Van Tassel, a woman of education and intelligence, and unusual business capacity.

Mr. Thurstin's farm was located on the east side of what is now Main street. He laid out and sold the first lots, and built the first house in the town. The town now occupies the land used by him as a farm, on which he lived twenty-five years before Bowling Green was started. He, together with his sons and others, got up the first petition to have the county seat moved to Bowling Green. He was originally a Whig and afterward became a Republican, casting his first vote in New York for Governor DeWitt Clinton. He attended the great mass meeting held at Fort Meigs during the "hard cider" and log-cabin campaign.

J. H. WHITEHEAD, M. D. This prominent physician, and well-known citizen of Bowling Green, is a native of Wood county, his birth having taken place in Plain township, July 20, 1841.

The parents of our subject, John and Eunice (Purden) Whitehead, were natives of New Jersey, the former born in 1806, the latter in 1811. They were married in Brooklyn, N. Y., and had a family of five children, as follows: J. H., our subject; Daniel P., a farmer in Lucas county, Ohio; Theodore D., a carpenter, residing at Storm Lake, Iowa; Ellen F., wife of David Hartman, a farmer of Wood county; and Charlotte E., widow of John J. Parsons, who was killed at Deep Bottom, Va., in the war of the Rebellion. The mother of this family died in 1867, the father on May 12, 1895, at the age of eighty-four years. He was a carpenter by trade, and came to Wood county in 1833, locating at the old Mission, on the Maumee river. Later he removed to within a mile and a half of Bowling Green, where the subject of this sketch was born. He erected many of the residences and other buildings put up in the county in an early day, and was one of the prominent citizens of this community.

Dr. Whitehead attended the village schools during his early boyhood, and was a student in the high school at Bowling Green at the time of the breaking out of the Civil war. In 1861, at the age of nineteen years, he enlisted in Company H, 67th O. V. I., under Col. A. C. Voris, now Judge Voris, of Akron. The Doctor served throughout the entire war, was with Gen. Shield in the West Virginia campaign, with Gen. Gilmore in South Carolina, and with Gen. Ord at Appomattox. He participated in twenty-two battles and skirmishes, including the first battle of Winchester, siege of Fort Sumter, charge on Fort Wagner, Morris Island, and charge at Fort Gregg. In front of Petersburg, while under Gen. Butler, May 9, 1865, he was wounded, in consequence of which he was sent to Newark, N. J., and after an absence of some five months was promoted to lieutenant and adjutant. At Appomattox he was in command of a company, having risen by merit from private through all the grades, including corporal, sergeant, orderly-sergeant and first lieutenant. At the close of the war, in which he made an enviable record as a brave and faithful soldier, our subject returned home and resumed his studies in the school at Perrysburg, of which Prof. Ewing was then superintendent. After completing his course at this school, he engaged in teaching, a vocation he followed several years.

In 1871 the Doctor began reading medicine with Dr. John Osborne, of Portage, Ohio, subsequently entering the Cleveland Homeopathic College, from which he was graduated in 1874, and since that time he has been practicing in Portage and Bowling Green. For four years he was a member of the board of county school examiners, was also a member of the city council four years, and of the board of education three years. He is a member of the Ohio State Homeopathic Society, and local examiner for the Northwestern Life Insurance Company.

On July 2, 1867, Dr. Whitehead was married to Miss Susan Osborne, who was born, in 1842, in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, daughter of Dr. John and Julia (Buchtel) Osborne, the former of whom was born at Harpers Ferry, W. Va., the latter at Bethlehem, Penn. They had a family of six children, as follows: Timothy, a farmer of Wood county; Parsey, wife of J. H. McMahan, a stockman of Wood county; Lavinia, wife of G. F. Munn, a farmer and oil man; Louisa, wife of F. M. Carr, a farmer of Wood county; Susan (Mrs. Dr. Whitehead); and Catherine, deceased. Dr. Osborne died in 1887; his widow is yet living, now at the patriarchal age of ninety-six years. To Dr. and Mrs. Whitehead have been born two children: Kate, now the wife of Bert Case, and John, who was accidentally killed at the age of fifteen while hunting. The Doctor owns a business block in Bowling Green, besides numerous private residences, and has invested to some extent in the oil fields of Wood county. In his profession he holds high rank, has an extensive practice, and is highly regarded by his fellow citizens.

I. L. HANKEY, one of the successful oil producers of Wood county, and a director of the First National Bank of Bowling Green, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, July 7, 1849.

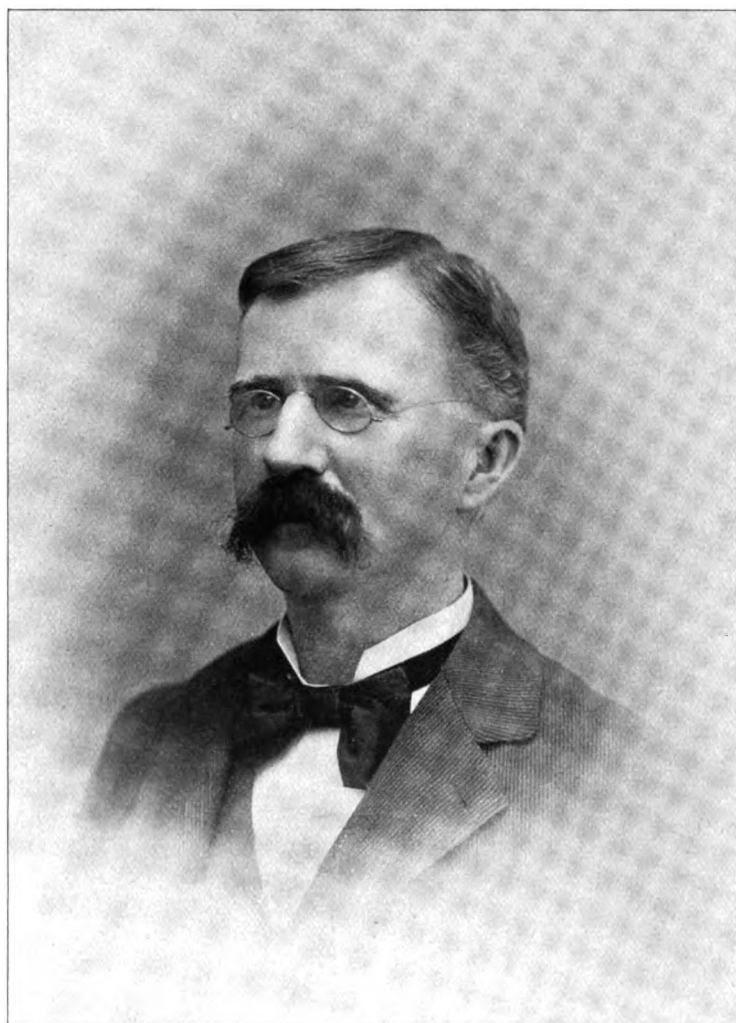
The members of the Hankey family living in Bowling Green are descended from Louis Hankey, a native of Germany who emigrated to America at an early day. It is related that he had just enough money to pay his way across the Atlantic, and furnish his own provisions. The ship lost its course at sea, and the passage consumed so much more time than was anticipated that his stock of food gave out, and he became indebted to the ship for board. On reaching New York City he was sold by the ship's company, as was the custom in those days, they getting the money for his time, which he worked out with a farmer. He afterward became a minister of the Evangelical Church, and also carried on farming. He married a Miss Less, whose father served seven years

in the Revolutionary army, and our subject remembers hearing his grandmother often tell how she could trace the path of the soldiers by the blood left on the ground from their shoeless feet. In later years Louis Hankey lived in both Stark and Summit counties, Ohio, in the latter of which he and his wife spent their last days. This estimable couple were the parents of seven children, as follows: John, father of our subject; Catherine married John Himmelright, of Summit county; Jacob lived in Summit county, near Akron, Ohio; Lydia married Rev. Miller, a minister in the Reformed Church; Sarah married a Mr. Hawk; Louis lives in Wayne county, Ohio; Samuel is a farmer, residing at Copley, Ohio.

John Hankey, father of our subject, was born in Schuylkill county, Penn., in 1814, and was three times married. His first wife was Miss Polly Fostnight, who was born in 1819, and died in 1854. She became the mother of seven children, viz.: Solomon died in infancy; Sarah married William Shammo, and is deceased; Lewis W. is a minister of the Evangelical Church at Tiffin, Ohio; John R. is fully represented elsewhere in this volume; I. L. is the subject of these lines; two died in infancy.

John Hankey followed farming until the death of the mother of these children, when he went into the dry-goods business with another man. He soon after bought out his partner, and a couple of years later sold out his store and purchased a stock of clothing with which he opened a store in West Salem, Wayne Co., Ohio, in 1859. In 1861 he removed to Burbank, in the same county, and some years later disposed of his business and went onto a farm in Medina county, Ohio, where he died in 1867. Like his father, he was an ordained minister in the Evangelical Church, but did not preach on account of bronchitis. Mr. Hankey's second wife was Miss Margaret Reach, who died fifteen months after marriage; she had one child who died in infancy. Mr. Hankey's third marriage was to Miss Sarah Strouse, of Richland county, Ohio, by whom he has two children: Isaiah S., of Bowling Green, and Sarah Katherine, who married A. L. Sourwine, a farmer of Crawford county, Ohio.

I. L. Hankey, whose name opens this sketch, is the architect of his own fortunes, and is a fine illustration of what can be accomplished by pluck and energy. His childhood was shadowed by the death of his mother, after which sad event he went to live with an uncle, Jacob Hankey. When his father was again married he returned home; but his happiness there was cut short by the death of his step-mother, and the next day



*J L Hawley*



he was taken back to his uncle's. There he remained until his father's third marriage, when he spent a short time with the family. After their removal to Medina county, our subject joined the family, and drove a team for his father during the construction of the Broad Guage railway through that county.

When about seventeen years old Mr. Hankey left home with one dollar in his pocket and went to Wooster, Ohio, where he found employment in a brick yard. He was next engaged in driving a wagon for a peddler, working for him some six or eight months, during which time he made a trip to Oil City, Penn., where for the first time he saw oil wells in operation. His next enterprise was to learn the trade of plumber and gas fitter, and from this he went to work on a farm, and later sold patent medicines through the country. He finally drifted into Bowling Green, where his first employment was as hack driver between Bowling Green and Haskins, and subsequently as a clerk in a grocery store.

On December 22, 1870, Mr. Hankey was married in Bowling Green to Miss Sadie Abbott, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, September 28, 1850. He then started a grocery store of his own, but this not proving a success, he began selling sewing and washing machines. In fact, he was a "hustler," and thoroughly tested anything at hand which seemed likely to lead to financial success. In 1874, Mr. Hankey established a clothing business, with his brother, J. R. Hankey, as partner, the firm name being Hankey Brothers. In this he was engaged for ten years, then sold out and went on the road for six years as traveling salesman for A. L. Gans & Co., of Philadelphia. During this time he became interested in the oil business in Wood county, his ventures being very successful. Four years ago Mr. Hankey gave up all other business to attend to his growing and valuable interests in this direction, and to-day he stands in the front rank of a few most successful oil producers in the Wood county field. He is connected with a series of gas and oil companies, and is also a director in the First National Bank of Bowling Green.

Mr. Hankey has taken an active part in all local affairs, and is a public-spirited citizen, whose worth is appreciated. He is a member from the Third ward in the city council, and has been a member of the school board. In politics he is a Republican, and socially he belongs to the I. O. O. F., Daughters of Rebekah, Royal R. A. C., K. O. T. M. He has always been very patriotic, and, when in his early manhood, was a member of the State Militia for five years. In

1863 he ran away from home and tried to enlist at Wooster, Ohio, but was rejected on account of his youth.

Mr. and Mrs. Hankey have had four children, of whom three are living: Minne W., wife of Harry Cook, agent of the T. & O. C. railway, residing at Bowling Green; John W., who is a partner with his father in the oil business (he married Bertha Brown, and they have one child, Don Brown); Ralph Blaine, at home; and Olive Octive, who died when three months old.

Mrs. Hankey's parents, Sylvester B. and Maryette (Caswell) Abbott, were both natives of New York State, the father born in 1812, near the Catskill mountains, the mother in 1813. They were married in Ohio, whither she came with her parents, and seven children were born to them, viz.: Reuben, of Bowling Green; Elizabeth (Mrs. Bryan Niles), of Blissfield, Mich.; Melville, of Bowling Green; George, a farmer in Gratiot county, Mich.; Sadie (Mrs. Hankey); Alice (Mrs. S. Ordway), of Bowling Green; and Louis, a farmer, in Wood county. Sylvester B. Abbott was first married to Abzina Morrey, and their son, John Abbott, is a doctor in Illinois. Mr. Abbott was a lawyer by profession. He came to Wood county in 1853, owned a fine farm here, and died in Bowling Green in January, 1890. His second wife dying in December, 1875, he subsequently wedded Helen Robins, by whom he had two children: Grace (who died when eleven years old), and Jerry (a farmer of Wood county).

B. F. SPILKER. The subject of this sketch is one of the young enterprising farmers of Perrysburg township. He was born in Perrysburg October 28, 1866, and is a son of Christian and Mary Ann (Budt) Spilker, the former of whom was born in Germany, and came to Wood county when twelve years old. He married in this county, and began farming in Perrysburg township, which he made his permanent home and died there in 1888. The wife still resides on the old homestead. Their children were ten in number, as follows: Christian H., resides in Perrysburg; Mary A., his twin sister, is now Mrs. Libbin, of Toledo; Olive married Mr. John Henry, of Perrysburg; Thomas Jefferson is a telegraph operator, and lives with our subject; W. F. is married, and lives in Perrysburg township; B. F., our subject; Edward resides in Perrysburg; Charles Peter is at home; Carstin is a resident of Toledo; Flora is at home.

Our subject was reared in Perrysburg township, where he received his education. In 1889



he bought his present farm of forty acres, which he has cultivated and improved, and on which he erected his residence in 1891. He was united in marriage in Perrysburg April 16, 1891, to Miss Anna L. Schaller, who was born in Perrysburg township July 10, 1870, and is the daughter of Daniel Benedict Schaller, an early pioneer of the township. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Spilker, namely: May E., who died August 29, 1892; and Orcel Benedict. Mr. Spilker is affiliated with the Democratic party, and, with his wife, is a member of the United Brethren Church at Dowling.

FRANK KABIG, one of the most enterprising and successful of the self-made men of Bowling Green, was born in Plymouth, Richland Co., Ohio, October 19, 1852. His father, Anthony Kabig, was a native of Neuberg, Germany, and was married there to Miss Magdalen —, with whom he not long afterward crossed the Atlantic to find a home in America. He was a butcher by occupation, and carried on that business in several towns in Ohio—Wooster, Plymouth, Bettsville, Fort Seneca—before finally locating in Bowling Green, where he died in 1886, at the age of seventy-two. His wife died in 1882. They were consistent members of the Lutheran Church from their youth. Their three children, Edward, Caroline (now Mrs. Christoph Lehmann) and Frank, are all living in Bowling Green.

Our subject's education was acquired in the public schools of the different towns in which his parents lived during his boyhood, and at the age of seventeen he began to learn the butcher's trade with Christoph Lehmann, then of Tiffin, now of Bowling Green. He worked for him ten years, and then entered into a partnership with him, which lasted for two years. In 1882 he bought a lot and built a market of his own, and for fifteen years has carried on a constantly growing trade, which has been developed by his own energy and rare business judgment. By careful investments in real-estate and other securities, he has greatly added to his wealth, and now owns 320 acres of land in Wood county, and many valuable pieces of property in the city of Bowling Green, including a half-interest in the Kabig & McKinsie block.

In 1880 he was married to Miss Fannie Micklee, a native of Wood county, born August 19, 1852. They have no children of their own, but are rearing a girl, who is now nine years of age. Mr. Kabig is a Democrat in politics, and takes a prominent part in all progressive local move-

ments, wherein his shrewd practical judgment has been no less effective than in the business lines, in which he has made such a marked success. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F. at Bowling Green.

CAPTAIN J. W. KNAGGS, a well-known agriculturist and oil operator residing near Portage, was born May 22, 1832, at Maumee City, Ohio. His paternal grandfather, Whitmore Knaggs, was a native of England, who came to America in Colonial times and located at Detroit, where he engaged in farming. He gained the confidence of the Indians in his vicinity, and at the time of Hull's surrender he was taken to Quebec and kept in close confinement—the British refusing to exchange him because they feared his influence over his savage neighbors. His farm near Detroit was stripped of everything portable, and his buildings burned, leaving his family destitute. In later years he was an Indian Agent under the U. S. Government. He died at his old homestead. He and his wife were Roman Catholics, and all their descendants are followers of the same faith. They had five children: Whitmore, deceased; George, who died at Maumee City, in October, 1866; James, now a resident of College Hill, Ohio; Elizabeth, deceased, who married a merchant at Detroit; and John W., our subject's father, who was born near Detroit in 1800, and in early manhood engaged in trading with the Indians of northwestern Ohio, and later locating near Toledo, where he owned four farms.

Our subject's father married Miss Melinda Gunn, who was born in 1810, at Salem, Mass., and died in Toledo, in 1889. Seven children were born to them: Mortimer, who died at three years of age; Eliza, who married Tim O'Connell, of Toledo, and died in 1842; Adaline, the wife of Dr. W. W. Jones, of Toledo; James W., our subject; Henry, a resident of Springfield, Mass.; Sophia, the wife of Henry Hitchcock, of Toledo; and Maria, who married Mr. Valentine, the editor of a paper in New York City.

Capt. Knaggs attended schools during boyhood in Toledo, and later assisted his father in the management of his farms. He came to Wood county in 1845 to see some land, and there met and married Miss Cynthia Haskins, who was born in Portage, February 6, 1832. After their marriage they spent one year at Toledo, and then returned to Portage where they have since resided. Their five children are all living. Lottie married G. Carlin; Forest, a

farmer in Portage, is not married; Ivy is the wife of Charles Vandenburg, and has one child—Ruth; Mortimer lives at home; and Wellington, a farmer at Portage, is married to Cora Gunn, and has one daughter, Myrtle, and one son, George. When the war broke out Capt. Knaggs enlisted in Company C, 21st O. V. I., and was commissioned 1st lieutenant; and at Nashville, in 1862, he was promoted to the rank of captain and placed in command of Company B. He was wounded at Stone River and discharged for disability, but after a short stay at home he returned to the front only to find that he could not endure the strain of active service. Coming home, he again engaged in farming and later in oil producing. He now owns 120 acres of land and four oil wells. A patriotic and popular citizen, he is a prominent worker in the Republican party, and shortly after his return from the army he was elected clerk of the court of Wood county. He is a member of the F. & A. M.

I. V. WIREBAUGH, a prominent physician and surgeon of Prairie Depot, has been remarkably successful in his chosen calling owing to his ability, professional knowledge and skill. He is a native of Ohio, born in Tod township, Crawford county, August 11, 1863, a son of John and Elizabeth (Horner) Wirebaugh, well-to-do and successful farming people, the latter now living. Our subject was reared like most farmer boys, assisting his father in the labors of the field, and attending the district schools of the neighborhood. In 1886 he began the study of medicine under the direction of Dr. Chesney, of Bucyrus, Ohio, and the next year attended a course of lectures at the Western Reserve Medical College, from which he was graduated in March, 1890, after completing the three-years' course and continuing his studies during vacations with Dr. Chesney. He began practice at Tiro, Ohio, where he also owned an interest in a drug store, but gave most of his attention to his profession. In December, 1892, he sold out his business there, and on January 31, 1893, he closed a deal for property in Prairie Depot, and on March 4, following, opened an office there, where he has since been successfully engaged in practice. He is a talented and skillful physician, and has attained his present honorable position among the medical fraternity by his own unaided exertions. He gives the closest attention to his business, and surely an honorable career lies before him in his chosen calling.

On June 10, 1896, Dr. Wirebaugh was married to Celia Sage, a prominent young lady of

Prairie Depot, who was for several years a successful teacher in the schools of that place.

The Doctor takes quite an active interest in civic societies, belonging to the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the Knights of the Maccabees.

H. A. HAMILTON, M. D., of Perrysburg, one of the oldest and most honored members of his profession, is descended from a long line of physicians and surgeons. Of his ancestry the Centennial Edition of the Hartford County Medical Association says: "One of the most distinguished names upon the roll of physicians in our locality, whether during the last or the present century, is that of Hamilton. Early in the eighteenth century Josiah Hamilton, then a boy, came to Boston from Edinburgh, Scotland. He studied medicine and located for practice in the town of West Brookfield, Mass. He begat Josiah, Jr., who also became a physician, and followed his father in practice in the same town. About the middle of the century Josiah, Jr., begat Asa, who also studied medicine, and commenced practice at the age of seventeen or eighteen, so precocious was he in the art inherited from his father and grandfather. Dr. Asa Hamilton early left Brookfield and settled in Somers, Conn. He with his young wife and infant son made the journey on horseback. This Somers physician was the most distinguished of his family, and became an officer and surveyor in the Revolutionary army. He was a remarkably fine-looking man, physically, and exceedingly popular in his professional capacity. He was one of the early members if not a charter member of this society. Although he lived only about twenty years after he commenced practice, his reputation for skill in surgery became extensive. On one occasion his services were sought from East Windsor Hill, a village only eight miles from Hartford. He lived about twice that distance in the opposite direction, and this call was worthy of note because it shows that his reputation enabled him to encroach upon the domains of the surgeons of a capital city. This fact seems to us quite remarkable, for their reputation is now so pronounced that we surgeons eighteen miles away can hardly keep our minor surgery out of their hands.

"Horatio Arnold Hamilton, who when an infant rode into Connecticut with his father, Dr. Asa, on horseback, early in or just before the Revolutionary war, in due time studied medicine also, and practiced in Somers until his two sons, Horatio Asa and Erskine Erasmus, who also

studied medicine, were ready to practice, when he gave up the field to them and retired to Enfield. Here he built up a large practice, in which he continued to labor until his death, which occurred about the year 1850. He was a remarkable man in his way. He had quite a literary taste, and was proud of his professional pedigree, he being the fourth doctor in direct line from Dr. Josiah. He was anxious to continue the line in his posterity, and it is said that on one occasion when his only remaining son, Dr. Erskine Hamilton (Dr. Horatio having died), was inclined to give his time and attention to farming exclusively, he spent whole nights in violent lamentation. His vigorous protestations prevailed, and the line remains unbroken to this day. Dr. Horatio and Dr. Erskine each begat a son who studied medicine, and both of these are now in active practice; one, Dr. Horatio Arnold, in Perrysburg, Ohio, and the other, Dr. Theodore Erasmus, in Springfield, Mass. And still further, a son of Dr. Horatio Arnold (Harry Arthur) is practicing with his father, and a son of Dr. Theodore Erasmus is graduating this year (1892) from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City."

As will be seen from the above, Dr. Horatio Arnold is the subject of this sketch. His father, Dr. Horatio Asa, who died at the age of forty, married Miss Clarissa Peck, a daughter of Dr. Peck, of Stafford, Conn., and had three children: Elizabeth married Dr. Royal Strickland, of Enfield, Conn., who despite his eighty years is still in practice; H. A. is our subject; and Marinda Eliza is the wife of James Murray, a prominent lawyer, once State's attorney of Ohio.

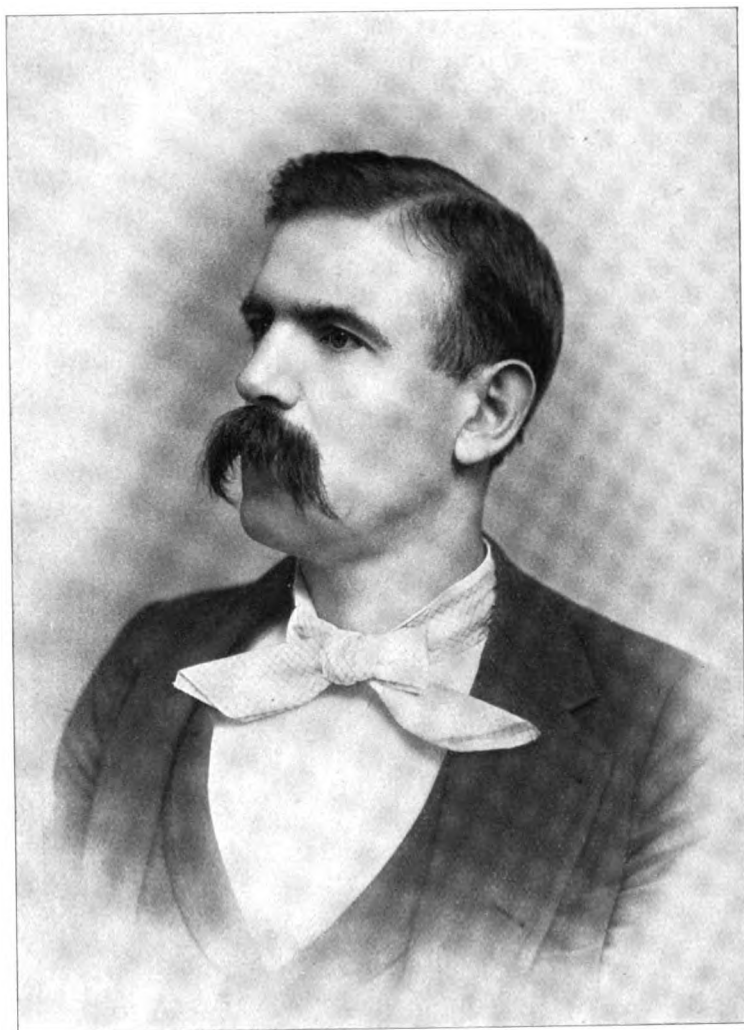
Dr. H. A. Hamilton was born in Somers, Conn., March 27, 1829, was educated in Suffield, Conn., and in the Medical Department of the University of New York, graduating from the latter school March 22, 1852, after a three-years' course. He practiced three years in Springfield, Mass., and then, in 1854, came to Perrysburg and commenced practice along with the late Dr. Peck. Dr. Hamilton married October 3, 1855, Miss Delia Dewey, who was born in 1828, in Middleton, Conn. They have three children: Ida married W. J. Parks, of Toledo, and has four children—Grace, William, Hamilton and Harold; Harry Arthur, born January 27, 1862, is now practicing medicine with his father; Charles Murray, born July 1, 1866, is in the employ of the Milburn Wagon Co., of Toledo (he married Miss Anna Bryant, and has two children—Harry and Helen). Dr. Hamilton and his family are prominent in the social life at Perrysburg. He

is a man of unusual robust physique, and although nearing the ordinary term of three score years and ten, no task is too difficult for him, and he displays an energy which puts time at defiance. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Ohio State Medical Association, and the Northwestern Ohio Medical Association. He has been a Freemason for many years; in politics was originally a Whig, and has been a Republican since the formation of that party.

ARTHUR B. MURPHY, the able prosecuting attorney of Wood county, was born in Condit, Delaware Co., Ohio, December 15, 1860. Since coming to Bowling Green, in 1887, he has made rapid progress in his profession, his thorough legal training and fine oratorical gifts receiving prompt recognition.

Mr. Murphy's ancestors on both sides were among the early settlers of the Buckeye State. His paternal great-grandfather, William Murphy, came from Maryland early in the century, and settled in Franklin county, Ohio. He was a prominent Democrat, and an extensive land owner, but was chiefly noted for his love of hunting and his large pack of fox hounds. He married a Miss Leaf. Their son Basil, our subject's grandfather, was born in Franklin county, in 1802, whence, in 1828, he moved to Delaware county, and bought a farm on Rattlesnake creek. He acquired a fine competence, and in later years retired to Delaware, Ohio, where he died at the age of seventy-nine. In early life he was a Democrat, but on the nomination of Fremont he joined the Republican party. He married Miss Rachel Algire, a lady of German descent, and a member of an old pioneer family living near Winchester, Fairfield county. She was greatly beloved for her good works. She was an aunt of the late John A. Shannon, a prominent attorney of Bowling Green, whom she reared. Basil Murphy and his wife had seven children, two of whom died in infancy. The others were Minerva, who married John Sinkey, of Delaware county; Mary, the wife of the late Abraham D. Adams, a well-known lawyer and a partner of Ex-Gov. Dennison; Charles Leaf, our subject's father; Linnie B., now residing in Delaware, and William, who went to Texas and died there.

Charles L. Murphy was born in 1837 at the old homestead in Delaware county, Ohio, where he now resides. He is a Republican with Prohibition tendencies. He married Martha S. Adams, a native of the same county, and a descendant of an old Connecticut family. Her parents, John



*A. B. Murphy*



and Desire (Cook) Adams, came to Delaware county when that region was a wilderness. They were at first undecided whether to locate there on "Derby Plains" or at the present site of Columbus; but the finding of a peach tree growing in the woods at the former place turned the scale in its favor. They were devout Methodists, and their house was for many years a regular place of meeting for that society. Both lived to advanced age. Mrs. Adam's sister, Cassandra (Cook) Converse, was the mother of Hon. George L. Converse, of Columbus. Jay Cooke, the financier, was a relative of the family. John Adams and his wife reared a family of seven children named as follows: (1) Ursula, the widow of Dr. L. P. Sigler, formerly of Upper Sandusky, and later of Garden Grove, Iowa. (2) Calvin, a fruit grower in Placer county, Cal. (3) Abraham B., who married Mary Murphy, our subject's aunt. (4) Martha S. (Mrs. Murphy). (5) James, deceased, formerly a resident of Delaware county. (6) John, the recorder of Placer county, Cal. (7) Elijah, formerly recorder of Delaware county, and now a resident of Columbus. Our subject is the eldest of a family of eight children, the others being: (2) Lovett, now in Washington. (3) Delano, who died at the age of twenty-two. (4) Grant, at home. (5) Ernest, deceased at the age of twenty-one. (6) Farrah, a student in the Ohio State University at Columbus. (7) Gertrude, married to George E. Thrall. (8) Cora, at home.

Mr. Murphy attended the district school until he was twelve years old, and then entered the Sunbury High School, and two years later the Ohio Wesleyan University, where he graduated from the scientific course in 1885, with the degree of A. B. He was one of the editors of the college paper, *The Transcript*. In 1884 he won the college prize for oratory, and in February, 1885, took the second place among eight contestants in the State oratorical contest at Oberlin, Gov. McKinley being one of the judges. He began the study of law with John S. Jones, of Delaware, and in 1886 entered the senior class of the Cincinnati Law School, graduating the following year. He also engaged in oratorical contests there, obtaining second place. On the advice of J. D. Cox, Secretary of the Interior in Grant's cabinet, he came to Bowling Green in the fall of 1887, and engaged in general practice. In November, 1890, he was appointed mayor to succeed Andrew Mears, and in the following April was elected to that office. In 1892 he was re-elected, but resigned to take the office of prosecuting attorney January 1, 1894. He is acknowledged to be the

most polished speaker of his age in this part of Ohio. He is a close student, but occasionally breaks the routine of professional life by social diversions and hunting expeditions. Mr. Murphy is a Republican in politics; socially he is a member of the K. of P., the K. O. T. M., and the Phi Delta Theta.

On Thanksgiving Day, 1893, our subject was married to Miss Lizzie Kershner, a native of Liberty Center, Henry county, and they have one child, Nellie F., born January 28, 1895. Mrs. Murphy's parents, Andrew R. and Lanie (Andrix) Kershner, were natives of Pennsylvania, and were married in Ohio. They had eight children, viz.: Jennie and Alice, who both died in infancy; Kate, wife of Rev. W. P. Bender, a minister of the M. E. Church; Mrs. Murphy; George Washington, of Bowling Green; Zella, at home; Adaline, teaching in the Bowling Green schools; and one whose name is not given. The father was a hotel-keeper. He served in the 160th O. V. I., during the Civil war, and was wounded in the service. He died May 15, 1879; the mother resides at Fostoria. Mrs. Murphy was born August 16, 1868, was educated at Liberty Center under the superintendency of George H. Poulson, now of Cleveland, Ohio, and commenced teaching when sixteen. She taught four years in the Bowling Green schools.

GEORGE RETHINGER, of Custar, is a native of Ohio, born in Lucas county, February 13, 1848, a son of John and Mary C. (Long) Rethinger. Our subject passed his boyhood on his father's farm, receiving the usual winter school advantages, later taking a business course at Toledo. In early manhood he worked on a farm during the summer, teaching school in the winter season, till 1874, in which year he came to Custar, and entered the general merchandise store of Ingram, Keeler & Co., in the capacity of clerk and bookkeeper, remaining there some nineteen months, or until the firm was burned out. Mr. Rethinger then taught the parochial school of Custar for one winter, after which he embarked in the grocery trade, in course of time, in connection therewith, engaged in the grain and live-stock business, and expanding his grocery store into one of general merchandise. This he conducted some nine years, then selling out, and again taking up the profession of teaching, this time in the public schools, in which he continued for one winter. Once more he commenced general merchandising, including, as before, the grain trade, having a partner in the person of Abram Phenix; but at the end of one

year our subject purchased his partner's interest, and conducted the business for his own account until the winter of 1895, when he retired from it. He is now representing Southworth & Co., in the grain business at Custar, managing their elevator, and buying grain.

On June 8, 1876, Mr. Rethinger was married to Miss Catherine Dunigan, daughter of Manus and Bridget (Burns) Dunigan, the former of whom died in 1877, and the latter resides in Springfield, Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Rethinger were born ten children, as follows: Charles J., Lucy R., Mary P., Frederick J., Bridget A., George Leo, Lawrence I., Anna G., Andrew Raphael, and Agnes C. (who died July 26, 1895, at the age of eight months). The entire family, including the parents, are members of the Catholic Church; socially Mr. Rethinger is affiliated with the Catholic Knights of St. John, and the Catholic Knights of Ohio.

GILBERT T. KNAUSS. Devoting his energies to farm work is this native son of Ohio, who now owns and operates a farm in Middleton township. He was born in Medina county, June 2, 1852, and is a son of George Knauss, one of the early settlers of this locality. When only two years of age he came with his parents to Wood county, and attended school in Plain and Center townships. He worked with his father on the farm, aiding in its development, and also learned the trade of a blacksmith, which he followed for two years in Plain township. At the age of nineteen he came to Middleton township, where he owned forty acres of land, and at once began the development and improvement of his property. He has erected a comfortable country home thereon at a cost of \$1,500, built good barns, laid many rods of tiling, and set out an excellent orchard. In connection with the development of this property, he has also engaged in conducting a blacksmith shop, and has been quite successful in his business. His son now cares for the farm, while he is devoting his energies entirely to the work in the smithy.

Mr. Knauss was married on June 18, 1871, to Frances Grover, who was born in Ballville township, Sandusky county, September 3, 1848. They now have four children—George Franklin, born September 26, 1872; Nora M., born February 20, 1877, now the wife of Allen Ewing, of Plain township; Florence May, born November 19, 1878; and Edna M., born August 9, 1889.

Mr. Knauss has ever been a loyal citizen, a fact which he demonstrated when only eleven years of age by attempting to enlist in the army,

but on account of his extreme youth his father prevented him. He has for a number of years served as school director, and was instrumental in securing the establishment of a school near his home. In politics, he is a Republican, and in religious faith adheres to the United Brethren Church. He is a broad-minded man, possessed of excellent qualities, and is deservedly numbered among the leading citizens of the community.

FRANK A. REID, a well-known attorney of Bowling Green, was born at Ottokee, Fulton Co., Ohio, December 4, 1852. His grandparents, James and Priscilla Reid, were born near Edinburgh, Scotland, and a few years after their marriage they came to America, locating in Pennsylvania and later in Hancock county, Ohio, at a point since known as Reid's Corners, where Mr. Reid, who was a ship carpenter by trade, engaged in business as a housebuilder. He was also a justice of the peace for many years. Seven of their children grew to maturity; James, who lives in Van Wert Co., Ohio; William, a character *sui generis*, a carpenter, a shoemaker, a lawyer and world-wide traveler, who died at Sedalia, Mo.; John H., our subject's father; Raine, a resident of Paulding county, Ohio; Alexander G., living at North Baltimore, Wood county; Sarah P., the wife of Edward Koons, of Lawrence, Kans.; and Thomas C., who died at Bowling Green, Ohio, September 7, 1892.

John H. Reid was born in Pittsburg, Penn., February 11, 1823. Not being content with a common-school education and the carpenter's trade, he determined to enter Oberlin College, where, by working in the harvest field in summer, and doing odd jobs during term time, he succeeded in paying his expenses and graduating. He then read law in Findlay, and on being admitted to the bar located at Delta, Fulton county, where, in 1851, he was elected prosecuting attorney. There he remained until 1853, when he moved to Perrysburg, Wood county. He had previously married a native of this county, Miss Aurelia Augusta Howard, who was born at Grand Rapids January 30, 1826. On his appointment as postmaster in Perrysburg, his wife, a lady of fine mental ability, took charge of the office while he devoted his time to his profession. In 1863 he organized Company D, 86th Regiment, O. V. I., and went to the front as their captain. The company went through the campaign which resulted in the evacuation of Cumberland Gap, Capt. Reid receiving a severe sunstroke while in the mountains. His company had enlisted for

six months, but were kept on duty nearly a year. After returning home he again entered the army, this time as quartermaster of the 144th O. V. I., in the 100-day service. Shortly after the regiment went to the front Frank A. joined his father at Fort Dix, Md., and saw considerable of army life during that summer. They took part in the operations in the vicinity of Annapolis and Harper's Ferry. At the close of the war Capt. Reid resumed his practice at Perrysburg, and at the time of the contest over the county seat he was retained on the side of Bowling Green, whose interests he heartily espoused and earnestly defended in the highest courts of appeal. Victorious in spite of the array of learned counsel on the opposing side, he removed to Bowling Green, where he carried on his practice, the latter part of the time in partnership with our subject, until a stroke of paralysis gave warning of his approaching death, which occurred on November 1, 1885. As a judge he had few equals in soundness of logic and subtlety of analysis. As an advocate he was remarkably successful, and when occasion required he could rise to an impassioned yet graceful eloquence. So well balanced was he in his acquirements and gifts that it is difficult to make a distinction, and mention any leading characteristic. Before the war he was a Democrat, but studying the issues of that time he became a Republican.

He and his wife, who survives him and resides at Chattanooga, Tenn., were members of the Presbyterian Church. Of their children, five grew to adult age, of whom Frank A. is the eldest; J. Howard, born May 13, 1860, died September 30, 1886; James R. and Richard W. are clothing merchants at Chattanooga; Mary Augusta lives with her mother.

The Howard family, from whom our subject's mother descended, were prominent in the history of the Maumee Valley. Thomas Howard, our subject's great-grandfather came from Yates county, N. Y., in 1823 with his wife, a daughter, Sidney, who afterward became Mrs. Howard Davidson, and his three sons—Edward, Robert A., and Richard M. W.—with their respective families. Part of the family came by water, the rest taking the land route and driving their live stock. They first located at Fort Meigs, but later removed to the Rapids of the Maumee, Gilead, where they made their home for many years. Thomas Howard (who was born November 15, 1758), died there May 25, 1825. His son, Robert A. Howard, our subject's grandfather, was born November 10, 1798, and survived all the other members of the band of pioneers. His

last years were spent in what is now Pike township, Fulton county, where he died November 26, 1872. The *Toledo Commercial* of December 4, 1872, gave an extended obituary notice, and mentioned his valued services as a justice of the peace in Fulton county, an office which he held for many years, and used as a means of quietly adjusting difficulties, his kindly advice as a man of well-known impartiality being as potent in its influence as his judicial decisions. After Fulton county was established he was employed to transcribe the old records, and later was elected county recorder. His wife, formerly Miss Priscilla Nelson, was highly esteemed by all who knew her. After a half century of married life, they died within a year of each other. Of their nine children five are now living: A. A., of Mason, Mich.; Col. N. M., a prominent business man of Omaha; Edwin A., of Hillsdale, Mich., formerly an Indian agent in Dakota under President Grant; James W., of Fulton county, Ohio; and Aurelia Augusta (Mrs. Reid).

Frank A. Reid was less than a year old when brought to Wood county, and he received his elementary education in the public schools here. He then entered the Law School at Ann Arbor, where he was graduated in 1877. Until his father's illness he practiced with him, and since that time he has continued alone, conducting his extensive practice with unusual ability and marked success. He is an active and influential Republican, and during Garfield's campaign was organizer and president of the Garfield Club. On June 15, 1878, he was married to Miss Alice Lundy, born November 15, 1856, the daughter of Henry and Margaret (Smith) Lundy, who came from Pennsylvania to Wood county in 1836. Mr. Lundy was prominent among the pioneers of Wood county, was for years a director of the County Infirmary, trustee of Center township, and took a leading part in securing the location of the county seat at Bowling Green, contributing generously toward the new court house. Mr. and Mrs. Reid have two children: Earl A., born August 30, 1879, and Helen A., born March 27, 1881.

LEONARD DANIELS (deceased), who was a highly respected citizen of the county, born in New York December 5, 1811, died at his home in Middleton township in 1871, esteemed by all who knew him. He was one of a family of ten children born to William and Prudence (Prior) Daniels. In his early life he learned the carpenter's trade, and followed that occupation for some years.



On February 15, 1856, Mr. Daniels was united in marriage with Miss Martha Worth, a native of the Empire State, born on the 2d of May, 1817. She was one of a family of ten children, whose parents were Thomas and Mary Worth. By the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Daniels were born nine children, namely: D. W., a farmer of Washington township; Prudence, wife of G. A. Simmons, of New York; Amon J., who is operating the old homestead; Herbert R., who is in the West; Jesse M., a carpenter; H. C., who is living in Bowling Green; D. L., a farmer; Alice M., wife of E. H. King; and Inez M., wife of V. R. Porter, of Bowling Green.

The subject of this review continued his residence in the East until 1866, when he came with the family to Wood county, where he purchased 100 acres of land, on which the widow now resides. It was then wild and unimproved, but he at once began to clear it, and worked long and earnestly in transforming it into richly cultivated fields. He continued his work until 1871, when death relieved him of his labors. He was a man of sterling integrity and commendable worth, and had the confidence and good will of all who knew him.

After his death Mrs. Daniels took up the work where her husband laid it down, and, with the help of her sons, has succeeded in clearing the farm and bringing it under a high state of cultivation. Many rods of tiling have been laid upon the place, and, thus drained, it has been transformed into richly cultivated fields. A good residence and barns add to its value, and it is now highly improved. Mrs. Daniels deserves great credit for carrying on the work as she has done, and she is still, at the age of seventy-eight years, keeping house for her sons.

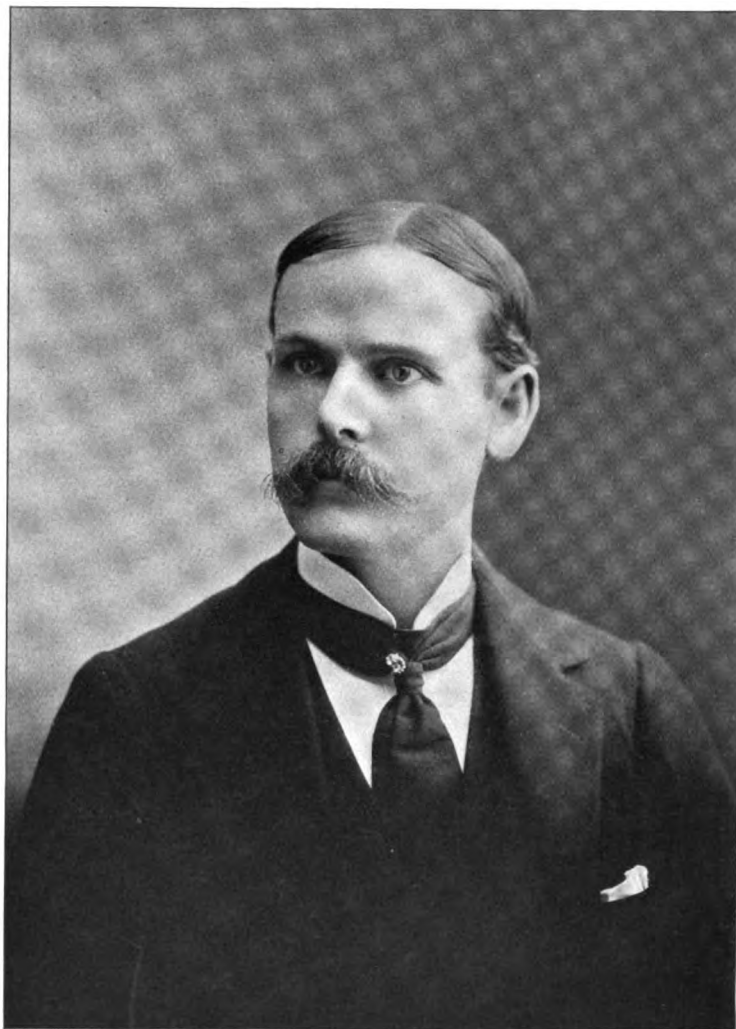
HON. BENJAMIN F. JAMES, a prominent young attorney of Bowling Green, of the firm of James & Beverstock, and ex-representative of Wood county in the State Legislature, was born near Mt. Gilead, Morrow Co., Ohio, April 30, 1863.

His paternal grandfather, Edmund James, a native of Wales, came to America when a young man, locating near Granville, Ohio, where he met and married Miss Esther Griffith. She had come from Wales in childhood with her parents, who settled at the "Welsh Hills," in Licking county. After their marriage they remained some years in the same locality, and then moved to Chesterville, in Morrow (then Knox) county, where they spent the remainder of their lives. They had ten children, among whom was William D. James, our subject's father, who was born

near Chesterville, December 22, 1815. He was a farmer and stock dealer by occupation, and an active politician, first in the Whig, and later in the Republican, party, being one of five in his locality to vote the latter ticket during the war. Strange to say, in 1894, each one of this little band was represented in the State Legislature; William D. James, by his son, the subject of this sketch; John McConica, by his son Senator Thomas H. McConica, of Findlay; Benjamin Philips and David Thomas (cousins of William D. James), by Senator Dudley B. Philips, of Manchester; while Hugh G. Rogers, one of the survivors of the quintette, was there in person as member from Morrow county.

Our subject's mother, Sarah (Meredith) James, was born in July 30, 1818, at Chesterville, the seventh of the ten children of William and Mary (Farmer) Meredith. Their respective families had emigrated from England to America in 1800, and settled near Chesterville, where, after their marriage a few years later, Mr. Meredith and his wife also located upon a farm. Our subject's father died May 13, 1875, his mother on September 27, 1894. They also had ten children, of whom Benjamin F. is the youngest. Lucretia married T. H. Peterson, of Longley, Ohio. Milo, a private in Company D, Third O. V. C., died at Nashville, Tenn., September 10, 1862. Mary E. is the widow of Capt. James A. Moore, of Olathe, Kans., and now resides in Fulton, Ohio. James H. is a farmer in Fulton, Morrow county. Milton D. is the president of the Globe Building & Loan Association of Columbus, Ohio, and a prominent real-estate dealer there. Robert W., formerly a stock dealer at Marengo, Ohio, died May 9, 1883. Keturah is the wife of G. L. Donals, of Helena, Ohio. Jennie E. died July 9, 1883, the wife of A. A. Crawford, county commissioner of Morrow county. Ellsworth W., who died December 5, 1889, was a stock dealer in the same county.

Mr. James spent his boyhood upon his father's farm, and up to the age of fifteen was mainly employed in outdoor labor. But he was not one to be contented with the peaceful but monotonous life of a farmer, and he determined to secure an education and take a place in public life. The next six years were passed in different educational institutions, the Chesterville High School, the Ohio Wesleyan University, Dennison University, at Granville, and the Chicago University, where he was graduated June 11, 1884, at the age of twenty-one, with the degree of A. B. The following year he took the professorship in Latin and Greek in Burlington College, Burlington,



*Bergr. J. James*



Iowa, which he resigned at the close of the year to enter Yale University, New Haven, Conn., although he was tendered the presidency of the college, which he declined. At Yale he took post-graduate and law studies, and on June 28, 1887, he received the degree of LL. B. In October of that year he began to practice his profession, first in partnership with Judge G. C. Nearing, and later with Edward Beverstock, his present partner. Although the firm of James & Beverstock is one of the youngest in the county, they already have an extensive practice, having law offices both in Bowling Green and Toledo, Ohio.

Mr. James is highly gifted as an orator, and his speeches at the bar and before public assemblies are regarded as masterpieces by competent judges. He is a born politician, and his abilities were promptly recognized by the older members of the Republican party. In 1890 he was chosen vice-president of the Ohio Republican League, and a year later a vice-president of the National League. In local politics he was also a leader from the first, and in 1890 he was elected city solicitor, resigning that office in 1891, after his election to the General Assembly. His first term gave him a reputation as a tireless worker, and a fearless champion of any measure which he believed to be right, and he was re-elected in spite of strong partisan opposition. He has the happy faculty of making friends, seldom forgetting a face or a name, and there are few other men in this county who have as wide a circle of acquaintances. He is a 32° Mason, holding his membership in the Cincinnati Consistory, and he belongs to the Zeta Psi, a college fraternity, as well as the Phi Delta Phi, a legal fraternity, having been the founder of the Yale Chapter during his attendance there.

CHRISTOPHER FINKBEINER, ex-recorder of Wood county, and one of the most prominent residents of Bowling Green, was born June 9, 1845, in Wurtemberg, Germany, where his ancestors on both sides had for many generations been worthy and industrious citizens. His parents, Friedrich and Mary A. (Audee) Finkbeiner, came to America in 1847, settling finally in Perrysburg, Wood county. The father was a miller by trade, but after coming to this county found more profitable employment as a carpenter and contractor. He took a hearty interest in the welfare of his adopted country, and sent three of his sons to the defense of the Union. Previous to the war he was a Democrat, and then became an ardent Abolitionist and Republican. He died Jan-

uary 17, 1863, aged forty-eight years, and his wife in 1865, at the age of fifty. Of their large family four lived to adult age: Frederick and John, who have been engaged in mining in Arizona and the West since the war closed; Christopher, our subject; and Mary, the youngest child, now the wife of Charles Church, of Toledo, Lucas Co., Ohio.

Our subject, who is the third son, was two years old when he came to this county, and his education was obtained in the common schools of Perrysburg. His first business venture was driving a dray, which occupation he followed until December 4, 1861, when he enlisted in Company E, 72nd O. V. I., under Gen. Sherman. During the advance upon Corinth, he contracted typhoid fever, and July 25, 1862, he was discharged for disability, and sent home. On July 1, 1863, he again enlisted, this time in Company L, 3d O. V. C., joining in time to take part in the battle of Chickamauga, the pursuit of Gen. Wheeler, and the engagements at Missionary Ridge and Knoxville. In the spring of 1864 his regiment joined Sherman's forces at Cartersville, Ga., and took part in his famous campaign. After the capture of Atlanta they followed Hood into Alabama, and in the last engagement with his troops, October 25, 1864, near Gadsden, our subject was wounded, necessitating the amputation of his right foot. Until March 16, 1865, he was a patient in various hospitals—at Rome, Chattanooga, Nashville, Jefferson Barracks, at St. Louis—and then declining to enter the Invalid Corps he came home. For a short time he worked in a stove factory in Perrysburg, later clerked in a store, and September 30, 1867, he opened a store of his own, dealing in books and notions. After four years he moved his stock to Napoleon, where he remained two years, and then sold out to take a position as traveling salesman for a firm of dealers in wooden ware. During the next seven years he visited in their interests points in Canada, and the northern States from Massachusetts to Colorado. Under Garfield's administration he was appointed postmaster at Perrysburg, and after four years and a half he opened a store for notions and gents' furnishing goods, which he carried on until his election to the office of county recorder in 1888. He served the people of the county in this capacity two terms, his faithful and efficient service having been rewarded in 1891 by a re-election.

On January 1, 1867, Mr. Finkbeiner was married to Miss Mattie A. Bellville, a native of Perrysburg, born November 8, 1847, and they have had four children: Fred J., born November 5, 1867,

is living at Bowling Green, Ohio; William A., born September 13, 1869, is a merchant at Perrysburg (he married Miss Winnie See, and has one son—Donald A.); Helen Gertrude is now at home; and Jessie Belle is also at home. Mr. Finkbeiner is one of the influential Republicans of Wood county, and he is a member of the I. O. O. F., the N. U. and the G. A. R.

HENRY S. CHAPIN, editor and proprietor of the *Democrat*, Bowling Green, is a native of Connecticut, born January 4, 1835, at Collinsville, Hartford county, a son of Ariel S. and Mary D. (Jones) Chapin, natives of Berkshire county, Massachusetts.

Ariel S. Chapin was a son of Amos and Rebecca (Sheldon) Chapin, who were also of Berkshire county nativity. Mary D. (Jones) Chapin was a daughter of Barnabas and Ada (Harmon) Jones, of the same locality in Massachusetts, and on both sides of the house they followed agricultural pursuits. Both families (Chapin and Jones) moved in 1836 from Massachusetts to Lenox, Ashtabula Co., Ohio, where they bought land and cleared up farms. Ariel S. Chapin, father of our subject, lived in Collinsville, Conn., for a time, being there employed in some of the manufactories of that place, though his occupation in the main was that of a farmer. The son, Henry S., was a year old when his parents came to Ohio, and but seven years of age when his father died at Lenox; the mother passed from earth, in 1893, at the home of our subject in Bowling Green. They were the parents of two children: Harriet, who married J. C. Frankeberger, of Sidney, Shelby Co., Ohio, and died there in 1868; and Henry S., our subject, who has never married.

Henry S. Chapin attended the common schools; also the Union school of Jefferson, Ashtabula Co., Ohio, and worked on a farm until he was seventeen years of age, when he commenced learning the printing business in the office of the *Weekly Telegraph*, Ashtabula. At the end of two and one-half years he left there, and during the succeeding two years attended the Union school at Bellefontaine, Ohio. Returning to the printer's trade, he, from 1856 to 1862, was a compositor on Cincinnati and St. Louis newspapers, and in October of the latter year, in connection with F. J. Oblinger, he purchased the Perrysburg *Journal*, which they jointly conducted two and one-half years. In 1864, Mr. Chapin went with Company E, 144th O. V. I., Capt. Asher Cook, on the "100-days' service." In the spring of 1865 he bought the

*Republican*, of Peru, Ind., and published the same until 1868, in which year he went to Toledo, and opened a job printing office, being associated therein with James Timmons. At Toledo, in 1872, he commenced the publication of the *Sunday Journal*, which later he sold to Sherwood & Canfield. On April 26, 1876, he commenced the publication of the *Toledo Daily Bee*, and had charge of that paper eight years, afterward becoming connected with the *Toledo Post*, which two years later was sold, and for a short time, in 1888, he was identified with the *Toledo News*. During the year 1889, and up to August, 1890, he was editor of the *Post*, of Columbus, Ohio, and on September 1, 1890, took charge of the Bowling Green *Democrat*, which he had purchased, and he has since conducted it with his well-known ability.

GEORGE WILLIAMS was born in Heistenbach, Province of Nassau, Germany, January 4, 1847. His father, Ludwig Williams, a native of Germany and a farmer by occupation, was twice married, first to Katharina Danzer, by whom he had two children, Anton and Clara. For his second wife he married Louisa Fischer, and to this marriage one child was born, George, the subject of this sketch, who remained at home until the age of fourteen years, attending school from the age of six until fourteen. November 1, 1858, the father died, and the widow and son were left with but little, and the former was of necessity compelled to work hard from day to day in order to make ends meet. March 15, 1861, when in his fourteenth year, himself and mother left the old home in Germany, and came to Washington township, Wood Co., Ohio, and made their home with a half-brother of the son, Anton Williams, who had come to this country several years before. The first three years after his arrival George remained with Anton, working on the farm, then for four years he worked for Anton Opperman, and one year for Nelson Kuder, farmers of the same township. Following this in 1869, he rented forty acres of land in Middleton township, on which himself and mother made their home for five years.

On October 5, 1873, at the age of twenty-seven, Mr. Williams was married to Emma Hartman, of Middleton township, and the union was blessed with one son, George Frederick, born April 2, 1884. March 1, 1874, he bought seventy-three acres of land near Haskins, Middleton township, at fifty-four dollars per acre, paying \$800 down. The land was in a poor condition, only a few acres being cleared, and the improve-

ments—buildings, fences, ditches, etc.—were poor indeed, and Mr. Williams was required to work hard to clear and improve this land, and under the burden of 12 *per cent.* interest part of the time. The present buildings on the place are good and substantial, and the other improvements correspond. This simple record of actual achievements shows better than praise the industry and enterprise of the man. July 27, 1874, the mother died at the age of sixty-one years, having lived only four months and twenty-seven days with them in their own home. The wife's mother, aged seventy-four years, is spending the evening of her life with them. Mr. Williams is a member of the Lutheran Church, of which he is a trustee, and he has been superintendent of the Sunday-school since the organization of the Church, at Haskins, twenty-three years ago. He has been a school director for two terms, and assessor also for two terms.

Faithful in the discharge of every duty, energetic, and possessed of an unusual measure of common sense, Mr. Williams has won the esteem and confidence of all who know him.

JOSEPH E. BURNHAM, M. D., one of Wood county's rising young physicians, and junior member of the well-known firm of Sage & Burnham, of Prairie Depot, belongs to the homeopathic school of medicine. A native of New York, he was born at Pottsdam, St. Lawrence county, May 1, 1865, a son of Aaron and Sarah (Nesbit) Burnham, the former born at Augusta, Maine, and the latter in New York. The father was a citizen of Pottsdam, where he died at the age of seventy-two years, but his wife is still living at that place.

The Doctor is the third child and eldest son in the family, and was reared to manhood in his native town. His elementary education was obtained in the public schools, where he learned rapidly, and at the age of sixteen years entered the Pottsdam Normal School, an advanced institution, where he pursued his studies for two years and a half at different times, his attendance being interrupted by school teaching, which he followed very successfully. The illness of his father necessitated his leaving the Normal, where he had intended to take a full course, and then followed the profession of teaching in the West.

In 1889 our subject entered the office of Dr. H. D. Brown, of Pottsdam, one of the most successful practitioners of northern New York, and there began the study of medicine. In the fall of 1892 he became a student in the Cleveland Medical College, from which he was graduated with high honor in the class of 1895, standing

second in a class of forty-two. He began practice at Port Clinton, Ohio, but on November 18, 1895, he located at Prairie Depot, and has since been associated with that successful old practitioner, Dr. Sage. He is a thorough student of his profession, keeping well informed on the recent discoveries in science, and his worth and merit have been justly recognized. Politically, he is identified with the Republican party.

W. H. WOOD, the well-known ex-surveyor of Wood county, and a prominent resident of Bowling Green, is a native of this county, born at Tontogany, July 13, 1836.

The family is of English origin, and the founders of the American line were early settlers in Virginia, where his grandfather, Judge Joseph Wood, was born about 1768. He removed to Marietta, Ohio, where he surveyed the first seven ranges that were officially located in Ohio, being accompanied by a guard to keep the Indians at bay. In later years he served as probate judge of Washington county.

His son Emilius, our subject's father, born in 1793, was the third white child born in the old fort at Marietta. He was educated at the university at Athens, Ohio, and became a surveyor, and for twelve years was county surveyor of Perry county where he married his first wife, Miss Addie Fuller, who died in 1833 leaving two children—A. J., now in Oklahoma, and E. R., a resident of Belle Plaine, Kans. His second wife was Miss Sarah North, who was born in Philadelphia, Penn., in 1817, and came with her parents, Joseph and Catherine North, to Wood county in 1828, to settle in the wilderness. Her mother, after their arrival, was lost in the woods for three days and nights, staying in a tree at night to keep out of reach of the wolves. She found her way home by following a small stream to the river. Our subject was the eldest of eight children by the second marriage. The others were: Adeline Amelia, Caroline Aurelia (deceased), Catharine Lucelia, John R. (deceased), Josephine Adelia, Emeline Ophelia, and Angeline Fidelia. Our subject's father came to Wood county, in 1834, and settled at Tontogany, and for many years was engaged in surveying the wild and unbroken forests. During his later years he followed farming as an occupation. His death occurred in 1875 while on a visit in Iowa. (His wife had died in 1871 at the age of fifty-four). In politics he was a Republican, and he took a leading part in all the progressive movements in the community. The first Masonic lodge in the county was organized in his house where the

lodge met for six years, and he was the second to hold the office of Master. At one time he rode to Zanesville on horseback, once to Marietta and once to Columbus, to attend Grand Lodge meetings.

Our subject's early education was acquired in the district schools near his home, and in the high school at Waterville and Maumee City. He taught for five terms, and in the intervals worked on the farm. In 1862 he enlisted in Company D. 111th O. V. I., and served in the army of the Cumberland. For some time he was detailed as hospital guard, having been sick and unfitted for more serious duty, and here his fine abilities as a musician were found useful. During the first and last years of the war he was with his regiment, and marched across Kentucky and Tennessee, taking part in the engagement at Fort Saunders, Tenn. He was mustered out at Salisbury, N. C., June 27, 1865, and discharged at Cleveland, Ohio, July 13, 1865. After the war closed he spent eighteen months in Missouri, and then returned to Wood county, where he has since been engaged in his profession. He has laid out over 15,000 miles of ditches, not to mention other work. He was elected county surveyor in 1871, and held the office for four terms, to the satisfaction of all concerned. In 1865 he married Miss Josepha R. Hoskins, who was born in Portage county, Ohio, in August, 1844. She is of the family of Morse, the inventor, and her grandfathers were in the Revolutionary war. Mr. Wood has for many years been the organist of the M. E. Church. He is a Republican, and a member of the G. A. R., No. 46, Wiley Post, and of the I. O. O. F.

R. S. PATTY, a highly esteemed citizen of Bowling Green, is one of the most extensive oil operators in the country, his interests being located in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Indiana. He began work in the oil fields when quite a young man, being first employed as a driller and pumper. Later he became a contractor for drilling wells, first doing business for himself as a member of the firm of Patty Brothers, their wells being located near Bradford, Penn. This firm afterward extended their operations to West Virginia, Indiana, and Kentucky, and in 1889 to Ohio.

Of late years the firm of Patty Brothers has also engaged in the gas business, and is at present conducting extensive plants at Weston, W. Va., under the name of the Weston Natural Gas & Fuel Co., and at Logan, Ohio, as the Logan Natural Gas & Fuel Co. The latter supplies the

Boys' Industrial School at Lancaster, and is preparing to extend their line into Circleville and to Chillicothe. At Weston, W. Va., they supply, among other public institutions, the State Insane Asylum with light and heat. Our subject and his brother were the promoters of these companies, and now control them.

The subject of this sketch was born in Armstrong county, Penn., June 16, 1852, and was reared there, his education being limited to the common schools. He was married December 15, 1876, to Mary E. Smathers, who was born in Clarion county, Penn., March 15, 1859; daughter of Isaac (a lumberman) and Harriet (Reed) Smathers, both yet living, who are parents of eight children: Sarah, Lawson (who died when a young man), Mary E., Malinda, John, Robert, Amelia, and Palmer (deceased when young). Mrs. Patty is descended from the Hulling family, and her great-great-grandmother was a sister of Daniel Boone. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Patty: Harry L., Roy Levern, who died when young, and Eddie R. The family occupy a palatial residence in Bowling Green, whither they removed in 1889, Mr. Patty's main office being in the *Times* building, Pittsburg, Penn., where he directs the affairs of his extensive business. He is essentially the architect of his own fortune, a genial gentleman who has won his way to success by energy and enterprise, and to-day is conceded to be one of the best business men, and most successful operators in the oil fields of this or any other State. In his political predilections he is a staunch Republican, but has no time to spare for office hunting or office holding. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church, of Parkers City, Penn.; Mrs. Patty of the Church of the same denomination at Bowling Green.

The parents of our subject, James (a carpenter by trade) and Nancy (Speer) Patty, were both born in Pennsylvania, the father, in 1800, in Westmoreland county, of Scotch-Irish descent, the mother, in Armstrong county, in 1817. Both passed away in the latter county, she in 1864, and he in 1882. The father of James Patty, also named James, was a native of Westmoreland county, Penn., and one of the early settlers of Gettysburg, that State. Our subject was one of five children, namely: James, who was a member of the oil firm of Patty Brothers, and died in 1894; R. S.; Belle, who was a prominent school teacher in Armstrong county, Penn., and is now deceased; George, who, it is supposed, was murdered while drilling wells in the West; and Elizabeth, the wife of Samuel Blakely, of Marion, Indiana.



*R. S. Patty*





T. T. ROSENDALE, M. D., one of Fostoria's rising young physicians and business men, is a native of West Millgrove, Wood county, the son of that well-known and successful practitioner, Dr. Charles R. Rosendale. His early education was obtained in the district school of his native village, his first teacher being Miss Sally Buckingham. In 1887 he entered the Northern Indiana Normal School, where he remained three years. He had previously read medicine with his father and Dr. C. A. Henry, of Fostoria, and in 1890 he entered Western Reserve Medical College at Cleveland, from which he was graduated with the degree of M. D. in 1893. In 1892 he made a trip to Europe in the interest of his profession, and immediately after graduation entered into active practice, taking an office in the opera block at Fostoria, where he is still located. In common with all young professional men he found it no easy matter at first to compete with older practitioners, but each year has found him steadily gaining in the confidence of the people, and he now enjoys a practice highly creditable for one of his years and experience. In 1894 he attended the University of California, where he pursued post-graduate work, giving special attention to dissecting.

On September 10, 1895, the Doctor was married to Miss Madge P. Harris, a native of Virginia, who is the daughter of V. H. and Augusta P. Harris. Mrs. Rosendale was graduated from the Fostoria High School in 1885, and in the scientific course from Buchtel College, Akron, Ohio, in 1889.

Dr. Rosendale is one of the wide-awake, progressive young men of Fostoria, seeming to inherit the business tact and shrewdness of his father, whose success in life has but few parallels in Wood county. In addition to his practice he has extensive business interests, which receive careful attention. In 1895 he erected on Perry street one of the finest houses in the city, where he and his wife entertain their large circle of friends in a delightful manner. Politically he is a stanch Republican, taking an active part in the politics of the city.

CAPTAIN J. B. NEWTON, one of the most prominent citizens of Bowling Green, with the chief interests of which city he has for many years been identified, was born September 10, 1837, in Chenango county, New York.

His grandfather, Daniel Newton (1), a native of New England, born May 9, 1786, settled in Chenango county, N. Y., in early manhood, and married Miss Patty Bell, who was born in Con-

necticut, July 8, 1788. Their son, Daniel Newton (2), born October 12, 1810, married Miss Sarah Burdick, also a native of Chenango county, born February 10, 1810. They were married January 12, 1834, and six years later came west, located in Wood county, Ohio, first in Center township, and later (eight years afterward) in Bowling Green. In 1864 they removed to Roachton, but in 1876 they came back to Bowling Green, there to pass their declining years. They were both earnest and consistent members of the M. E. Church, and faithful workers in every line of Christian duty. Mr. Newton was originally a Whig, later a Republican, and was an intelligent student of public affairs. He died March 20, 1881, his wife having preceded him to the grave, November 18, 1872. Of their six children, three grew to adult age: Louis M., born October 8, 1834, now a leading resident of Garnett, Kans.; J. B., our subject; and Jennie, who married L. D. Stearns, now of Willapa, State of Washington. The deceased are: Jeremiah C., born September 20, 1842, died August 19, 1849; James L., born August 9, 1846, died December 4, 1846; and Chloe E., born July 21, 1847, died July 31, 1847.

Capt. Newton's early education was restricted to an attendance at the district schools near his home. When the Civil war broke out he was among the first to enlist for the three-years' service, in August, 1861, joining Company A, 14th O. V. I. His regiment was assigned to the 14th Corps, army of the Cumberland, commanded by Gen. Thomas, and served through the campaigns in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Georgia, taking part in the historic march to the sea, and was present at the surrender of Johnston. Capt. Newton was promoted from private through the grades of corporal, sergeant-major, second lieutenant, first lieutenant, to the rank of captain; as second lieutenant he was detailed as adjutant, and served in that capacity until promoted to captain. During the latter part of his service he was detailed mainly on brigade staff duty. At the close of the war he went to Washington and participated in that "Grand Review," and was finally discharged at Cleveland, Ohio, in July, 1865. He was never wounded, and never absent from his command, except once, by reason of sickness, in 1862.

In 1868 he married Miss Maggie Blackwood, who was born in Oakland county, Mich., January 23, 1844, and four children came of this union: Welles B., born April 17, 1869, now a druggist in Toledo; Clyde B., born May 22, 1874, a student at Alma, Mich.; Earl W., born June 8,

1881; and Mary Belle, born November 27, 1882. Soon after his return from the army, Capt. Newton was elected county auditor, and served three terms of two years each. He then engaged in agricultural pursuits in Center township some fifteen years, during which time he did an extensive business in feeding and shipping stock. When the gas boom came to Bowling Green, the Buckeye Glass Co. was among the first to utilize the new product, and selected him to manage the financial affairs of the company. The Ohio Flint Glass Co. was incorporated in 1891 for the manufacture of table glassware, and the attendant lines common to that branch of the business. When the natural gas, for fuel for manufacturing purposes, failed at Bowling Green, the company decided to remove their plant to the gas fields of Indiana. They selected Dunkirk for their location, and entrusted Capt. Newton with the management of the affairs of the company. In 1895 he was elected president thereof, and given charge with general management of its affairs, retaining his residence in Bowling Green. Politically he votes the Republican ticket, is very influential in party affairs, and takes a leading place in all public movements; he has always been ready to assist in any movement tending to advance the interests of the city, and was one of the early clerks of the corporation as soon as he became of age. Socially he is a member of the G. A. R., Wiley Post, No. 46; of the I. O. O. F. and Encampment, and a member of the Loyal Legion in the Ohio Commandery.

COLONEL M. F. MILES, a representative farmer of Montgomery township, was born in Chesterville, Morrow county (at that time Knox county), Ohio, December 10, 1838, and is a son of Davis and Julia A. (Denman) Miles. His grandfather, Enos Miles, was born in Chester county, Penn., July 3, 1786. He married Miss Elizabeth Frame, who was born April 3, 1790. They came to Ohio in an early day, bought up tracts of land, and Mr. Miles named Chester township, also Chesterville. A man of means, he erected a large brick hotel and other buildings, one of which he fitted out as a school and boarding-house; but his ideas were far too advanced for those days, and his venture involved him in financial difficulties. Mr. Miles died in Chesterville, May 18, 1840, and his wife on August 18, 1871. Their children were Davis, Euclid, Enos, Jane and Catherine.

Davis Miles, the father of our subject, was born in Chester county, Penn., in 1814, came to Ohio with his parents, and was married in Ches-

terville in 1837. His wife was a daughter of Joseph Denman, a farmer. At the time of his father's death, Davis took charge of his affairs, which were much involved; but he took an extension of time, and was able to hold the property. He conducted the hotel business successfully, and when the property was divided it was not by a forced sale. At the organization of Morrow county Mr. Miles was chosen first sheriff. He owned considerable land adjacent to the village of Chesterville, and hired almost all of his work done, although in early life he was an active farmer. He was a man of excellent judgment and common sense, and possessed a strong natural intellect. He was a stanch Republican, a prominent man in his community, and served two terms in the Ohio Senate. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Miles were as follows: M. F., our subject; Enos W., a traveling salesman, of Mansfield, Ohio; and Mary C., who died young. Mr. Miles passed away August 6, 1865, and Mrs. Miles in 1876, and both are buried at Chesterville. They were members of the Baptist Church, in which, later in life, Mr. Miles took an active part; socially he was a member of the Masonic fraternity.

The early schooling of our subject was obtained in his native village schools. At the age of twenty he entered the Ohio Wesleyan University, at Delaware, where he remained one year. For two years he was a student in the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, and while there enlisted in the students' battalion, whose services were rejected on account of the quota of men being already filled. Mr. Miles returned home, and on September 14, 1861, enlisted in Company B, 43d O. V. I., under Gen. C. Smith, and went into camp at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, where he was appointed sergeant. On January 9, 1862, he was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant, and assigned to Company A, 49th Regiment, then camped at Green River, Ky. On February 14, 1862, the regiment was ordered to Bowling Green, Ky., and thence to Shiloh, advancing to the assistance of Gen. Grant. His regiment participated in that battle, and with other forces held their position from 11 A. M. to 4 P. M., when the enemy was obliged to retreat. The other battles in which our subject took part are as follows: Corinth, Lawrenceburg, Stone River, Liberty Gap, Crab Orchard, Chickamauga, Murfreesboro, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face Ridge, Cassville and Pickett's Mills. In the battle of the last mentioned place, which occurred May 27, 1864, the 49th entered the fight with 560 men, and lost 224. After the fall of Atlanta our

subject returned with his regiment to Nashville, participating in the battles of Franklin and Nashville. On June 15, 1865, it was taken to Texas in order to quell any continuance of the Rebellion, it forming a part of the 4th Army Corps. On September 30, 1862, Mr. Miles was promoted to first lieutenant, and assigned to Company B, 49th Regiment. On March 2, 1863, he was made adjutant of the same regiment, and was then transferred to Company H, and promoted to the rank of captain of that company. On October 4, 1863, he was made major, and March 29, 1865, promoted to lieutenant-colonel. On June 26, 1865, he was mustered out, but in November of the same year he was sent to Victoria, Texas, and was not finally discharged until December 31, 1865.

After the close of the war, Col. Miles engaged in the lumber business at Logansport, Ind., for some time, and then went to Chicago and started in the retail drug trade on State street, at the corner of Taylor. He had a previous knowledge of this business, but failing health compelled him to give it up and return to Wood county. Here he was married, October 11, 1866, to Miss Maggie E. Diver, a native of Montgomery township, born June 30, 1843, the daughter of Osman and Esther F. (Robinson) Diver, the former of whom was born August 23, 1809, and the latter April 2, 1818. Mr. Diver was twice married, his first wife being Miss Margaret Kinnaman, who bore him three children, two of whom — Franklin and Laura — grew to maturity; by his second wife, Mr. Diver had three children — Maggie, Osman A., and Harriet M.

Col. Miles began the business of flour-milling in West Millgrove, Wood county, in 1868. The mill burned down in 1872, and he and O. A. Diver built on its site the present structure, with which our subject was connected for twelve years. Since retiring from that business he has resided in Montgomery township, in Section 29, where he has a comfortable home and carries on farming, having over 377 acres under his direction. He has always been a Republican, and in 1887 was elected sheriff of Wood county, serving two terms, but retaining his residence in Montgomery township during his service. Both he and his wife are members of the Christian Church, in which he has been an elder for many years. He is also secretary and treasurer of the 19th District Ohio Christian Missionary Society. Socially he belongs to the Masonic order in Fostoria, and to the G. A. R. Col. Miles, as he is always called, is a prominent citizen of Montgomery township, is a man with a keen concep-

tion of right and wrong, loyal and trusted, and a strong supporter and earnest advocate of whatever is for public good.

Mrs. Miles is State president of the Christian Woman's Board of Missions, an auxiliary to the Christian Church, which is a grand organization. She went to school at Fostoria, Ohio, and at Oberlin, later graduating at the Seminary at Mt. Vernon. She is a woman of considerable literary ability, her writings being mostly on religious subjects, which have been printed in the leading publications of that character.

GEORGE C. STEVENSON, a member of the firm of Matthews & Stevenson, leading grocers of Bowling Green, who is even better known as a breeder of blooded horses, was born June 2, 1844, in county Down, Ireland.

His grandfather, James Stevenson, was an officer in the British army, a quartermaster under Sir John Moore, and while in Ireland on a recruiting expedition he was so charmed with the beauty of the country that he resolved to return there to live, if it were possible to do so. Some time afterward, having been wounded in the battle of Waterloo, he was retired from service, and he purchased an estate in county Down, whereon he spent the rest of his life.

William Stevenson, the father of our subject, was born in Spain, eight days before the battle of Coruna, in which Sir John Moore was killed. His early life was passed mainly in Ireland. At the age of nineteen he came to America, but returned to Ireland, where he was married to Miss Jane McAlpine, a descendant of one of the oldest and most powerful of the Scottish clans. In 1851 he came to America again, bringing his family, and located first at Pittsburg, Penn., and finally settled in Ashtabula county, Ohio, where he engaged in the lumber business. Our subject was second in order of birth of six children: James, the eldest, lives in Seneca county, Ohio; Margaret is the wife of Charles Scoville, of Ashtabula; Mary (deceased) was the wife of V. L. Chapin; W. J. is a resident of Williams county, Ohio; William died in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Our subject was educated in an academy at Ashtabula. When the Civil war began the martial spirit inherited from both paternal and maternal ancestry impelled him, though a boy in years, to join in the struggle. On August 20, 1861, he enlisted in Company K, 83d P. V. I., and served throughout the war, receiving his final discharge June 18, 1865. He was in the battles of Big Bethel, Yorktown, Malvern Hill, Cold

Harbor, Spotsylvania, North Anna, Chancellorsville, Gaines Mills (where he was slightly wounded), Laurel Hill and Charles City Cross Roads. In 1862, at Malvern Hill, he was shot through the right lung, and the night after the battle his captain, who had hunted him up, got the surgeon to examine and dress his wounds; but Mr. Stevenson was then informed that he could not live till morning, as he was bleeding internally. Thus confronted with death, this worthy descendant of heroes declared that, having done his duty, he was satisfied. He could die in no better cause. About 7 o'clock the next morning, however, a negro discovered him, and, lifting him up, gave him a drink of whiskey, which so revived him that he managed to walk or crawl some five miles, when he was picked up and taken to Harrison's Landing. Thanks to his wonderful constitution, he recovered, and at the end of eleven months re-enlisted in his old company. At Cold Harbor, in 1864, he fell on the field with two wounds. At Laurel Hill he was rendered unconscious by the concussion of a shell, and when found by his lieutenant he was bleeding from the mouth, nose and ears, but he soon had his external wounds dressed. After the close of the war, Mr. Stevenson engaged in the lumber business in Ashtabula county and that vicinity, and in 1874 located in Dunbridge, Wood county. In 1886 he began breeding fine horses, roadsters and trotters, a business in which he still continues, and he owns a fine stock farm in Middleton township. On May 22, 1895, he bought an interest in a grocery store in Bowling Green, formerly owned by Henry Hughes.

In 1866, Mr. Stevenson married Miss Viola L. Reeve, who was born in Ashtabula county, August 2, 1850. They have six children: E. K.; Jennie, who married O. N. Grover, a teacher at Dunbridge, and has one child—Genevra; Lamira L.; Ethel A.; George R., and Clyde V. The family reside at Bowling Green. They are members of the Presbyterian Church, and active in various forms of philanthropic work. Mr. Stevenson is a leading worker in the Republican party in this county. He served two years as trustee of Middleton township, and also as member of its board of education, of which he was president one year. Fraternally, he is a member of the F. & A. M., and of Kenneth's Lodge No. 158, K. of P., of Bowling Green; he also belongs to Robert Stewart Post No. 690, G. A. R., of Dunbridge. The Reeve family came from Connecticut. Mrs. Stevenson's parents, H. A. and Lamira (Peck) Reeve, were born in Ash-

tabula county, Ohio, where they were engaged in farming. The father is still living; the mother died in 1871. They had five children, three sons—Wells H., Ellsworth S. and Wilson—and two daughters—Viola L. (Mrs. Stevenson), and Celia Adele. The Reeves were noted Abolitionists in ante-bellum days, their home being a station on the famous "Underground Railroad." Capt. James Reeve, Col. Arthur Reeve, Harrison F. Reeve (all three of whom died in the army during the Civil war), and Capt. L. C. Reeve, Mrs. Stevenson's uncles, were valiant defenders of the Union cause.

DANIEL MERCER (deceased), who in his lifetime was one of the most prominent of the pioneer citizens of Bowling Green, better known as "Uncle Dan" throughout his wide circle of acquaintances, was born August 3, 1826, in Columbiana county, Ohio, where his ancestors were among the earliest settlers. He was of mixed German, English and Irish blood, and manifested the best qualities of each strain.

His father, William Mercer, was born in Columbiana county, and was there married to Miss Margaret Ikirt, a native of Pennsylvania. They came to Portage township, Wood county, in 1836, and settled in the woods where they made their first dwelling out of brush supported by a couple of trees. Our subject was ten years old at that time, and can well recall the howling of the wolves around them, and his fear lest they should break through the frail shelter. A log cabin was built later, and the land prepared for crops, the father seeking work after the seed was planted, in order to supply his family with food. He died at the early age of forty-three, and his wife at thirty-seven, the lives of both having been shortened by the privations and exertions of pioneer life. Of their fifteen children, twelve grew to maturity, our subject being the eldest: Elizabeth married Josiah Milburn; Elizabeth married W. Johnson; Pierce was a farmer in Liberty township; Mary Ann married Cornelius Simons; Harriet married George Babcock; one son, Bielby, lived in Indiana; Margaret and Martha (twins), the former was Mrs. Robert Johnson, and the latter is now Mrs. Frederick Amos, of Portage township; Rufus is a farmer in Henry county; Euphemia married Russell Chilcote, of Perry township, and Caroline married John Boozer, of Bloom township. None of this large family are now living except Daniel and the four younger children.

Uncle Dan's early educational advantages were limited, but he made the most of them, and



*Daniel Mercer*



at the age of seventeen gained an insight into the principles of arithmetic in seventeen days. He was twice married, first time at the age of twenty to Miss Susan Roberts, who died August 22, 1865. Ten children were born to this union. (1) Emeline, married Sheldon Welton (now deceased), formerly of Liberty township; they had twelve children—Emmett, who married and has one child; Norton; Lillie, who married and has one child; Della; Daniel; Myrtle, who married George Brubaker, and has one child, and John, Edna, Ruth, Clayton, Anna and Clarence, the six last being still at home, except Ruth, who is deceased. (2) Delascos lives in Liberty township; he married Louisa Donsey, and has five living children—Lucy, married to James White, and has one child; Eddie, a student at Bethany (W. Va.) College; Clarence, Tillie and Abraham G.; two others died in early life. (3) Apalinda first married Samuel Whitaker (now deceased), and had two children—Thomas E. and Ella E.—both attending Bethany College; she afterward wedded John Knight and had two children, one of whom, Deyo, is living. (4) Alcenus is a farmer in Liberty township; he married Ella Ducat, and has four children—Rosa, Libbie, Normia and Lloyd. (5) Elmira married Robert Place, of Liberty township, and has two living children—Alfred, a student at Bethany College, and Alta. (6) Eugene married Jerusha Bay, and has three children—Mable, Virnie and Edith. (7) Ruth married Robert Marbel, of Bowling Green, and has one son—Leonidas. (8) Cyrenus married Alice Dubbs, and has one son—Ira. (9) Flora and (10) Florence (twins) are married, Flora to Milton Tellers, of Plain township, and Florence to Clarence Griner.

Mr. Mercer was married the second time, June 24, 1866, to Mrs. Lucy A. Aller, who was born in Genesee county, N. Y., July 23, 1828, daughter of Asahel and Lucy (Johnson) Martin. By her former marriage with Zacheus Aller she had nine children, of whom seven are living: (1) Margaret, married to Porterfield Mercer, and has five children—Frank, Ethel, Manley, Marian and Emma. (2) Nelson (now deceased), married to Julia Lowe (now deceased), and had three children—Millie, Leory and Porterfield. (3) Zerelza, married to James Miller, and has four children—Ernest, Grace, Royal and True. (4) Elliott, married to Cora Hunt, and has three children—Ernest, Bertha and Lucy. (5) Henry, married to Addie Swartz, and has two children—Elmer and Blanche. (6) Amos, not married. (7) Rebecca, married to Dowling Mercer, and has three children—Lorenzo, Ina and Hazel.

By his second marriage "Uncle Dan" had two sons: (1) Leonidas, pastor of the Christian Church at Ravenna, Ohio; was educated at Bethany (W. Va.) College and Chicago University, and ordained in 1891; he is married to Jessie Green, of Alliance, Ohio. (2) Robert, a farmer near Bowling Green; he completed his education in Hiram College, Ohio, and is married to Miss Millie De Lano; like his father, he is an ardent Prohibitionist. All of these nineteen children have been reared together by our subject, and all are members of the Church. He lately gave each of them \$2,000, making \$4,000 in all to each, he having previously given \$2,000 to each one.

About two years after his second marriage Mr. Mercer bought a farm of 400 acres in Liberty township, where oil was afterward discovered, and at the time of his decease he had an income from sixty-five wells. In 1889 he retired to Bowling Green, there to spend his declining years, and he employed his time devising new ways to do good with his money. He was a liberal patron of the Christian Church, of which he had been a member some fifty-three years, and an elder for thirty years. He took the lead in the financial affairs of the Bowling Green society, and made large donations in other places, helping to build more than twenty churches. He also gave generously to Bethany College, Hiram College and other educational institutions, and was extremely liberal to Churches, regardless of creed. Politically, he was formerly a Democrat, but in later years was a Prohibitionist, taking an active interest in all temperance work. Daniel Mercer, the subject of this sketch, died September 23, 1896, and was buried in the cemetery at Rudolph.

MURRAY P. BREWER, one of the proprietors of the Wood County *Sentinel*, and editor of the same, is a native of Ohio, born November 23, 1849, and received his schooling at Westerville.

In 1868 he went to Toledo and engaged in the printing business as a practical printer, and in 1870 came to Bowling Green, here taking a position on the Wood County *Sentinel*—the official organ of the Republican party. In 1873 he became sole proprietor of the *Sentinel* by purchase from C. W. Evers, later selling to Rudolph Bros., and was then for one year one of the proprietors of the *Wauseon Republican*. In 1884 he again became one of the proprietors of the *Sentinel*, and has been its editor ever since. He is one of the ablest writers in Ohio, and always alert to the interests of his town and county. He has



been mayor of Bowling Green two terms (1882 and 1884), and served ably and well on the school board many years, also in the city council 1877-1879-1881-1885-1886-1894-1895 and 1896.

On January 8, 1873, Mr. Brewer was married to Miss Luella G., daughter of Norton and Ella R. (Wells) Reed, natives of Ohio and New York State respectively, the father being of Scotch origin. To our subject and wife have been born children as follows: Charles R., John W., Harry and Dixie.

E. L. SPAFFORD, the well-known young civil engineer of Bowling Green, is a descendant of one of the earliest pioneers of this region, his great-great-grandfather, Major Amos Spafford, who was born in Sharon, Conn., April 11, 1753, having been for some time deputy revenue collector at Perrysburg. The Major's eldest son, Samuel Spafford, our subject's great-grandfather, was commissioner of Wood county, from 1822 to 1828; he died at Perrysburg in 1831, at the age of fifty-six. Amos Spafford, the grandfather of our subject, went to California during the "gold fever" of 1848-49, and was never heard from afterward. His son, Ara C. Spafford, our subject's father, was born in 1835, and in 1861 enlisted in Company C, 21st O. V. I., and served in the army of the Cumberland until he was stricken with yellow fever, from which he died October, 1864, at Camp Sorghum, South Carolina.

On the maternal side, also, Mr. Spafford is descended from a family which has held a prominent place in the history of northwestern Ohio, his mother, formerly Miss Amanda M. Baird, being the daughter of G. W. Baird, a man of recognized influence in business and political circles, and a representative in the Legislature from this District, in 1841-42. E. L. Spafford is the second in a family of three children. The eldest, Clifton A., lives in Providence, R. I.; the youngest died in infancy. His mother, who was born September 18, 1838, is still living, and has contracted a second marriage with F. H. Thompson, of Perrysburg; they have had two children—L. A. and Edward.

Our subject was born at the old homestead in Perrysburg July 8, 1861, and received his early education in the schools of that town. The foundation, thus laid, has been added to by subsequent reading and observation, until he has become noted for his broad and accurate information. His technical studies in engineering and surveying were pursued under the able guidance of Prof. Hubbard, at Perrysburg. At the age of

nineteen he began teaching, and, after seven years of successful work in this county, he engaged in the practice of his chosen profession, working as an assistant to the county surveyor. His ability and skill, combined with absolute fair dealing in disputed cases, has brought him an extensive business in this and adjoining counties.

On May 4, 1894, Mr. Spafford was married to Miss Mildred Kramer, of Bowling Green, who is a worker in various philanthropical movements, and an active member of the M. E. Church. One son, James Francis, born January 1, 1896, has blessed this union. Mr. Spafford is a straight Republican in politics; socially, he belongs to the I. O. O. F. Lodge No. 77, of Perrysburg.

PROF. J. N. BAKER, a prominent educator, of Wood county, now residing in Bowling Green, was born near New Lisbon, Columbiana county, Ohio, May 9, 1843.

His father, Abraham Baker, was born in 1808, in Adams county, Penn., and came to Ohio, with his parents, when a little boy; his mother, who was Miss Elizabeth Cope, before her marriage, was a native of Harper's Ferry, Va., and came to this State, with her parents, at the age of eighteen months—both families settling in the vicinity of New Lisbon. Poverty was no obstacle in the eyes of lovers in those days, and in 1830 our subject's parents were married, although they had nothing to live upon but the young husband's wages as a day laborer. In 1850, they bought a farm of ten acres, which they sold four years later, when they removed to a farm in Section 31, Bloom township, Wood county. Here they spent the remainder of their days. They were Quakers in religion, with all the sterling moral qualities of that sect. Mr. Baker died May 27, 1888, aged eighty years; his wife August 15, 1894, aged eighty-six years. Of their six sons, five served in the Civil war, and the other had a willing spirit, but failed to pass the examination. Their two daughters married men who volunteered and went to the front. John C., the eldest son, enlisted in the 47th O. V. I. He now resides at the old homestead. Sarah A. married J. R. Slaughterback, of Hancock county, a private in Company E, 21st O. V. I. Joshua C. was drafted, but was discharged on account of physical disability; he now resides in Hancock county. Elisha M., served in Co. D, 5th Mo. Cav. during the war, and now lives in Auburn, Nebr. Jason C., a private in Co. E, 21st O. V. I., under Gen. Sherman, was killed at Vining Station, Ga., July 9, 1864. Isaac P. served in Co. G, 21st O. V. I., and died in the

hospital at Nashville, February 6, 1863, of pneumonia, caused by exposure during the battle of Stone River. Mary C. married Frank Pattee, of White Beach, Wisconsin.

Our subject was the sixth child in this patriotic family. He was about twelve years old when his parents came to Wood county, and he received his early education in the district schools of Bloom township, and in the high school at Findlay. Before completing his course, the war broke out, and August 9, 1862, he enlisted in Co. G, 99th O. V. I., taking the rank of corporal. He served under Buell, Rosecrans, and Sherman, and took part in the battles of Perryville, Ky., Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, Ringgold, Dalton, Dallas, and others of the Atlanta campaign. He was wounded at Kenesaw Mountain, June 21, 1864, and sent to Regimental Headquarters, but returned to duty in three weeks. After the capture of Atlanta, his regiment formed part of the force under Gen. Thomas, sent against Hood, and took part in the two-days' struggle at Nashville, in which that campaign ended. The 99th was then consolidated with the 50th Ohio, and transferred to the East, and was engaged at the capture of Wilmington. They re-joined Sherman at Goldsboro, and were discharged from the U. S. service at Salisbury, when the war closed, and finally mustered out at Camp Dennison, Cincinnati, in June, 1865.

Returning to Findlay, Prof. Baker resumed his studies, finishing the course in the Findlay High School, in 1866. He has ever since been engaged in educational work, teaching two years in the A Grammar Grade at Findlay; three years as superintendent at Carey; two years at home, where he bought a farm and spent his spare time in cultivating it; nine years as superintendent at Portage; three years as superintendent at North Baltimore, and seven years in the A Grammar school at Bowling Green. He then resigned, intending to retire from professional work, but was prevailed upon to take charge of the schools at Tontogany, where he spent last year. He is now resting. While attending school at Findlay, he taught three winters' terms in the country, making, in all, thirty years of work. He married Miss Levina Shellabarger, one of his pupils at Carey, who was born in that town, November 3, 1852. She has been a true helpmeet, sympathizing heartily in all his plans, and has taught with him in the schools of Portage, North Baltimore, grammar grade, and Bowling Green, in the A Primary grade. Prof. Baker has been a member of the board of county examiners for four

years. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the G. A. R., Wiley Post, of which he has been commander for two terms.

**ROBERT STEWART DAVIDSON.** The Davidson family is of Scotch origin, and the subject of this sketch, a prominent business man of Scotch Ridge, Webster township, traces his genealogy back to Robert Davidson, who was a farmer, born in Linlithgow, Scotland.

His son, Robert Davidson (2), grandfather of our subject, was also born in that country, and was one of seven children. He came to America in 1834, and settled at Perrysburg, Ohio. A few months later, going to Pennsylvania and buying a large tract of land. While on his journey homeward he died, when four miles from Fremont, on the Maumee and Western Reserve Pike. His wife was a Miss Margaret Murdock, also a native of Scotland. Nine children were born to them: Robert, who is now a retired farmer, living at Scotch Ridge; William; Jeanette; James; Walter, father of our subject; Anna; Andrew; Thomas and Margaret.

Walter Davidson married Jane Stewart; both were natives of Scotland, born in 1822. They came to America in 1832, when children. For a time they lived in Perrysburg, Ohio, afterward removing to Webster township. Their family consisted of the following children: Robert Stewart, subject of this sketch; Maggie, born in 1845, married Thomas Shanks, and lives in Webster township; Mary, born in 1847; Sarah, born in 1849, married Frank Stevens, of Webster township; Andrew died when about two years old; Thomas, living in Webster township; Mattie is the wife of Charles Muir, of the same township. The father was county commissioner for six or seven years. He died April 14, 1891, aged sixty-nine years; his wife died some four years previous.

Robert Stewart Davidson was born in Scotch Ridge, Webster township, this county, April 1, 1843. He attended the district school, which in those primitive days was held in a log school house with rough slabs for benches, a puncheon floor, and a slit in the side of the walls, covered with greased paper, doing duty as a window. When eighteen years old his patriotic impulses were stirred by the call to arms, and he offered his services to assist in putting down the Rebellion, enlisting on October 22, 1861, in Company H, 67th O. V. I., his regiment being assigned to the Eastern Division of the army. His term of service expiring, he re-enlisted in February, 1864, and remained until the close of the war,

being mustered out December 7, 1865. Mr. Davidson took part in some of the most noted engagements of the war, among them being the battles of Winchester, Va.; two battles at Fort Wagner, Chester Station, Va.; Bermuda Hundred, two battles at Wier Bottom Church, Va.; Petersburg and Appomattox. He was wounded at Fort Wagner and Chester Station, and has the record of a brave and faithful soldier, of which he may well be proud.

Mr. Davidson was married August 14, 1872, to Miss Alice Stevens, who was born January 28, 1850, in Monroeville, Huron Co., Ohio. Eight children have blessed this union, namely: Jennie May died when eighteen months old; Walter is in business with his father; Maggie; Daisy; Bruce, died when two years old; Frank, Arthur and Laura. Mr. Davidson established a general merchandise business in Scotch Ridge, in 1872, being at the outset in partnership with his father, under the firm name of Davidson & Son, and which style is still used, although the senior partner died some years ago. Mr. Davidson erected the large building which he now occupies, in 1883, and has built up an extensive trade by his strict attention to the details of his business, his well-known integrity, and genial personality also attracting to him many warm personal friends. He has been greatly prospered during the twenty-three years of his active business life, and is one of the highly esteemed residents of the township. Mr. Davidson has always taken an active part in politics, in which he affiliates with the Republican party. He has been treasurer of Webster township for twenty-four years, first being elected in 1869, and serving for twelve years; after an interval of two years he was again re-elected, and has held the position ever since. He is the treasurer and a stockholder in the Pemberville Creamery, and is the treasurer of the United Presbyterian Church, of which he is a member, and is now treasurer of the Wood County Farmers' Mutual Fire Association, which has an assessable stock of \$1,000,000.00, and is steadily increasing. He is also a member of Wiley Post, G. A. R., at Bowling Green, and is prominent in all public enterprises. He owns a farm of sixty-two acres near Scotch Ridge, on which he resides, where he has a delightful home.

FRANK W. DUNN, a well-known resident of Bowling Green, was born on the east coast of England December 18, 1841, and is the eldest in the family of four children born to John F. and Miriam (Wright) Dunn.

The mother and two of the daughters died in

1847, and a few years subsequently the father emigrated to Canada, bringing with him his two remaining children—the subject of this sketch and his brother Robert. Members of the family on the paternal and maternal sides had previously emigrated from the mother country, some of them having settled in Canada, others in the United States. For a time, Frank lived with his uncle on a farm near Toronto, and afterward with an old friend of his father. After a residence of about two and a half years in Canada, the father and his two sons came to Ohio, settling in Bloom township, this county, on a tract of land adjoining the village of Eagleville, where some of his father's relatives were then living. The land purchased was covered with heavy timber; the surrounding country was new; money was a scarce commodity, and a good deal of hard work was necessary to make a comfortable home.

With a view of earning money to assist his father in paying for and improving his land, our subject went to Lorain county, in the spring of each year, for several seasons, and worked on a farm, during the summer months, returning to Wood county in the fall. In September, 1862, while employed on a farm in Lorain county, he enlisted, for three years, in the Hoffman Battalion, afterward merged into the 128th Regiment, O. V. I. He remained in the service until June, 1865, and was honorably discharged, by reason of the termination of the war. In September, 1865, he went to Alpena, Mich., then a very small village, and spent the winter in the pinneries north of that place. Returning to Ohio in the spring of 1866, he followed the pursuits of a farmer for several years, in Perry township, Wood county, and was twice elected assessor of the township, at the second election receiving every vote cast in the township. In the winter months, he usually taught a term of district school, in either Bloom or Perry township. In 1873 he came to Bowling Green, and has resided here ever since, excepting two years spent in western Kansas.

For several years Mr. Dunn was deputy sheriff of Wood county, and at intervals has been employed in all the various offices of the county. In 1880, he was one of the United States census enumerators, and was clerk of Center township, for two years. While living in Kansas he was elected and served as county recorder.

In the spring of 1888, our subject was married to Miss Emma J. Loomis, the eldest daughter of Daniel Loomis, of Bowling Green. She was deputy clerk of courts, in Wood county, for several years, and has the distinction of being the first lady legally appointed to an office in the



*Frank W. Dunn.*



county, the late Judge Pillars making the appointment. Subsequently she filled the office of deputy recorder of the county. Mr. Dunn is a member of the firm of Robert & Frank W. Dunn, abstracters of land titles, who have made a specialty of this work for more than twenty years.

GEORGE W. GAGHAN, auditor of Wood county, and one of the most capable and popular business men of Bowling Green, was born in Whitehall, N. Y., May 3, 1850.

His parents, George and Mary (Finney) Gaghan, were born in Ireland, the father in 1816, the mother two years later. They came to America in 1849, settling in Whitehall, where they lived some eight years, in 1857 removing to Toledo, where they remained two years. In 1859 the family removed to Medina, Medina Co., Ohio, where they also resided two years, thence removing to West Millgrove, Wood county, where, in 1865, they rented a farm near Tontogany. Here they lived three years, at the end of that time buying a farm in Milton township, where Mr. Gaghan died. Politically he was a Democrat. An upright citizen, and an energetic worker, he never spared his strength when he set himself a task to accomplish. His life was extended beyond the limit of three-score and ten, his death occurring September 23, 1892. His wife, and six sons and daughters survive him, of whom our subject is the eldest; Catherine is the wife of J. Dubbs, of Milton township; Mary married Nate Corhell, of Jackson township; James lives at the old home in Milton township; Rosa married Wesley Sharp, of Hammansburg, Wood county; Myrtle is the wife of Caleb Roe, of Jackson township.

G. W. Gaghan acquired the rudiments of his education in the common schools near his home, and at about the age of fifteen came to Bowling Green, to find or make for himself a place in the business arena. For two years and a half he clerked in the general store of C. F. Button, and for four years with S. L. Boughton, in the same line. Possessing in a marked degree those innate qualities of character which win public confidence, he had by this time gained a host of friends, and on venturing to invest his savings in a stock of dry goods, his enterprise found ready support. He continued in business with a growing trade until late in the year 1887, when he was burned out with a loss of \$3,500. He then engaged in the oil business, in which he continued some two years. In 1888, he rebuilt the Gaghan Block, which is a fine property. In 1889, he was appointed postmaster of Bowling Green, re-

ceiving the appointment from Harrison without solicitation on his part, and held the office until January 1, 1894, when he gave it up, having been elected to his present position the previous November. Since October 15, 1894, he has ably discharged the duties of county auditor, to which office he was re-elected in November, 1896. He did not come to this work an untried and inexperienced official, having held many minor offices in which the public had learned his worth. As township clerk, and for ten years treasurer of Center township, and as a member of the city council for twelve years, his integrity, good judgment, energy and public spirit had been fully proven. What Mr. Gaghan lacked in collegiate training has been made up by close observation and private study, the love for which college life does not always develop. He has always been a recognized leader in the local ranks of the Republican party, for whose interests he has devoted both his time and means. He has served on the County Central Committee, and is regarded as one of the party's best men in Wood county.

Mr. Gaghan was married, March 14, 1872, to Miss Alice A. Pike, who was born in Bowling Green in 1853, and they have two children, Byrdie and Mabel. He is a member of the K. of P. and Modern Woodmen of America.

JOHN GAGHAN, who is one of the agriculturists of Jackson township, has lived an honorable and upright life. His career, however, is unmarked by events of thrilling experience, but is that of a man who has faithfully performed his duty. He was born in Wood county, January 15, 1868, of parents George and Mary (Finney) Gaghan, who for a time resided at West Millgrove, then in Washington and Milton townships respectively. In the latter our subject began his education, acquiring a fair knowledge of the English branches. He was brought up as a farmer's boy, and his training in that line of labor was not meager. He early displayed an industrious, energetic nature, and these qualities are among his marked characteristics, and have been important factors in his success.

Mr. Gaghan remained at home until twenty-four years of age, and then removed to his parents' farm, comprising eighty acres of land which was given him by his father. He was married in Milton township, Thanksgiving day, 1892, and at once took up his residence on his land where he has since had a comfortable and pleasant home. The work of improving the property has all been accomplished by him, for it was an unbroken

wilderness when it came into his possession. His characteristic energy, however, has transformed it into a fine farm, and he now has a valuable and richly improved tract of land.

Mrs. Gaghan bore the maiden name of Sarah Srohl. She was born in Ottawa county, Ohio, in January, 1873. By her marriage she has become the mother of one child, an interesting little daughter, Myrtle, born July 20, 1894. The parents are widely and favorably known in this locality, and have many warm friends. In politics, Mr. Gaghan is a Democrat, unswerving in his support of the principles of the party.

DANIEL W. HUFFMAN, farmer and fruit grower, Washington township, was born September 12, 1841, in Dauphin county, Penn., the third son of John and Nancy Huffman.

Our subject's boyhood was passed on his father's farm, which he assisted in clearing up, while in the winter months he also attended the district school. He was seven years old when he accompanied his parents from Pennsylvania to Weston township, Wood county, and when he attained his majority, he began to work for his father on wages. In 1867 he bought his first land, forty acres, and, when he had improved it to a considerable extent, sold it and bought sixty acres. On disposing of this last property, he bought eighty acres in Washington township, and has transformed it into a valuable farm, highly improved. In 1872, he bought eighty acres adjoining, and now has a quarter section, all under a high state of cultivation. Thereon he erected a comfortable country residence, at a cost of \$2,000.00, and has built commodious barns and other necessary out-buildings. In addition to the cultivation of grain he raises some fine varieties of fruits, which find a ready sale on the market. For the past ten years he has also engaged in stock raising.

On May 2, 1864, Mr. Huffman enlisted at Tontogany, in Company B, 144th O. V. I., under Capt. Black and Col. Miller. The regiment went to Columbus, Ohio, thence to Baltimore, Md., participated in the battle of Monocacy, July 9, 1864, and August 13 following, our subject was taken prisoner, by Col. Mosby, while he was guarding a wagon team *en route* from Harper's Ferry to Winchester. It was the more aggravating to Mr. Huffman, as on that very day his term of enlistment had expired, and he fully expected he would be sent home as soon as the wagon train should arrive in Winchester. After capture, he and three fellow prisoners (two of whom were John Phillips, of Tontogany, and

Hugh Stewart, also of Wood county) were placed on mules and started off, under guard, to join the Rebel army at Culpeper, Va. At the end of some forty-eight hours' ride, however, Mr. Huffman succeeded in effecting his escape by hiding in the bush, his guard being not over ten feet from him when he made his dash for liberty. This was on a Monday morning, and the following Saturday night he found himself within the Union lines, near Alexandria. During the nights he tramped along with great caution, in daytime keeping close or resting himself, never once stopping at any house for fear of capture, but living on green apples and anything else he could find in the woods. He suffered much from hunger and exposure, which resulted in an attack of rheumatism. On September 14, 1864, he was honorably discharged at Columbus, Ohio.

In 1866, Mr. Huffman was married to Carrie Phillips, who was born April 27, 1844, a daughter of John Phillips, of Washington township. They had four children: Arthur, who died in infancy; Alice, wife of Charles Bassett, of Weston township, by whom she has three sons—Wayne, Clyde and Cecil; and Eva and Howard, both at home. The family is one of considerable prominence in the community, and the home is noted for its hospitality. Mr. Huffman has been school director for a number of years, and clerk of the board. He was also supervisor for some years, and is now serving his fourth term as trustee. He belongs to Walter A. Wood Post, G. A. R., of Tontogany, and in politics is a Republican. His possessions have been acquired entirely through his own efforts, and his career demonstrates what can be accomplished through earnest labor.

NORTON REED, a prominent capitalist and real-estate holder of Bowling Green, has been a conspicuous factor in the growth and development of the commercial interests of this region. Coming to this county in 1865 with ample means, his energy and financial ability soon made him an acknowledged power. In the removal of the county seat from Perrysburg, he gave noteworthy evidence of those qualities which insure success in the business world.

Mr. Reed is of Scotch descent, his grandfather, Samuel Reed, having come from Scotland to America in the last century, locating in Connecticut. His son, Samuel (2), our subject's father, was born in Hartford, in that State, in 1791, and in 1814 came to Ohio, settling first in Erie county, but finally in Huron county, where he died in 1865. He married Miss Hannah

Brown, who died in Milan, Erie county, in 1884. They had six children: Mary, the widow of the late Volney Beverstock, of Milan, Ohio; Edwin, a resident of Toledo, Ohio; Norton, our subject; Helen Jane, the wife of Thomas J. Butman, of Milan; Harriet, Mrs. Thomas Bradley, of Milan, Ohio, and Samuel, who lives at Carthage, Missouri.

Our subject first saw the light in Erie county, Ohio, January 18, 1821, and received his early education in the district schools there, and in Huron county. He was married in 1845 to Miss Ellen R. Wells, who was born September 4, 1823, in New York. Their three daughters are all married: Julia, born October 14, 1848, is the wife of W. C. Martin of Bowling Green and the mother of four children—Martia, deceased, Norton, Jo., and Frank. Helen W., born May 18, 1850, married George Wooster, of Bowling Green, and has one daughter—Carrie. Luella G., born September 6, 1851, married M. P. Brewer, editor of the *Sentinel*, of Bowling Green, and has four children—Charles R., John, Harry, and Dixie.

Mr. Reed followed farming as an occupation for some time after his marriage, first in Ridgefield township, Huron county, and then in Oxford township, Erie county. Since 1865 he has had his home in Bowling Green (with the exception of two years spent in Fulton county), and his fine brick residence is an ornament to the city. Mr. Reed takes a philosophic view of life, and enjoys the privileges which his wealth bestows. He spends a portion of each year in travel, and of the last nineteen winters, one has been spent in California and the rest in Florida, where he owns a large tract of wild land. His first vote was cast for James K. Polk, and he has remained a Democrat to the present time.

JOHN S. MAHONY. This gentleman, who spent his early manhood in active labor, and mainly in agricultural pursuits, is now living retired in Fostoria, Ohio, but still owns some valuable oil land in Montgomery township. A man of great energy and more than ordinary business capacity, his success has been largely due to his own efforts and sound judgment, by which he has been enabled to make wise investments and take good advantage of his resources.

Mr. Mahony was born at Liverpool, England, December 31, 1828, and is one of the four children—two sons and two daughters—of Thomas and Ellen Mahony. His father, who was a successful grain merchant, died when our subject was only four years old, leaving his fam-

ily in comfortable circumstances, and they continued to carry on the business. In the common schools John S. Mahony received a fair education, but at the age of thirteen years he formed the acquaintance of a sea captain who took a liking to him, and, despite the pleadings of his mother, he shipped on the "Mary Gray," where he was chore-boy. They sailed for Brazil, but the voyage ended with a shipwreck on the Falkland Islands, while *en route* for Valparaiso, Chili, where they lived for a month on a desert island, but were finally taken by a schooner to Port Egmont, and later were taken on board a New Zealand vessel, the "Bolena," which came to that port for water. He and another boy appealed to the governor of the Falkland Islands for passage home, but were refused. Finally, however, by working his passage, he got back to London, and then, after an eighteen-months' absence, to his home in Liverpool, where he found the family mourning for his supposed death. Mr. Mahony then clerked in the American wholesale house in Liverpool of James McHenry & Co. until the hard times caused him to lose his position, and then he went as a sailor to New Orleans, whence he went to Havre, France, and on that trip returned to New York with immigrants. For a time he sailed along the Atlantic coast and to the West Indies, but, on January 26, 1849, he left New York for San Francisco, having been taken with the gold fever, and arrived there the following August. He became part owner of a small boat engaged in rafting on San Francisco bay, and remained in California until June, 1854, engaged in rafting and mining. He returned to New York by way of the Panama route.

Before leaving the Golden State, Mr. Mahony had been told, by a fellow-worker, of the "Black Swamp" in Wood county, Ohio, where he proceeded after his arrival in New York, and purchased 120 acres of partially improved land in Sections 3 and 10, Montgomery township; but before he located thereon he made a visit to his mother in England, who died the following year. Farming was entirely a new business to our subject, who, under many difficulties, secured a knowledge of the business, and his first attempts at plowing will never be forgotten. He also made several runs on the lakes in the fall after the farm work was done.

On February 21, 1855, in Montgomery township, Mr. Mahony was married to Miss Lorinda F. McFerren, a native of Wood county, and a daughter of Ezekiel and Hannah McFerren, and they have become the parents of five children—



Ellen A., now Mrs. R. C. Canfield, of Washington; Kate E., wife of E. D. Tandy, of Colorado; Clara E., wife of Charles A. Whaley, of Washington; Mattie G., at home; and John F., a hardware merchant of Fostoria, Ohio.

Resolving to aid his adopted country in her struggle to preserve the Union, Mr. Mahony enlisted in 1861, leaving his plow standing in the field, and became a member of Company K, 21st O. V. I. He was in all the battles in which his regiment participated until September, 1863, when, after the battle of Chickamauga, Ga., he, with his regiment, was taken prisoner, and for seventeen months he was confined at Richmond, and in other Confederate prisons. Was mustered out May 15, 1865. He has never regained his former health. From private he received one promotion after another until after the battle of Stone River, when he was given a commissioned office, and later received a first lieutenant's and captain's commission. He was mustered out May 15, 1865, when his services were no longer needed, and returned to his home with an honorable war record.

Until 1893 Mr. Mahony continued the cultivation and improvement of his excellent farm, and then removed to Fostoria, where two years later he built his elegant residence on West Fremont street. He comes from a good English family, and he has given to his children excellent advantages. In religious belief he is a Congregationalist, while his estimable wife belongs to the Presbyterian Church. He is a charter member of Hamilton Post, G. A. R., of Bradner, Ohio, in which he served as its first adjutant. He is a staunch Republican, a firm believer in high protection, and is one of the most progressive and enterprising men of the county, who has here secured a comfortable competence and the regard of all with whom he comes in contact.

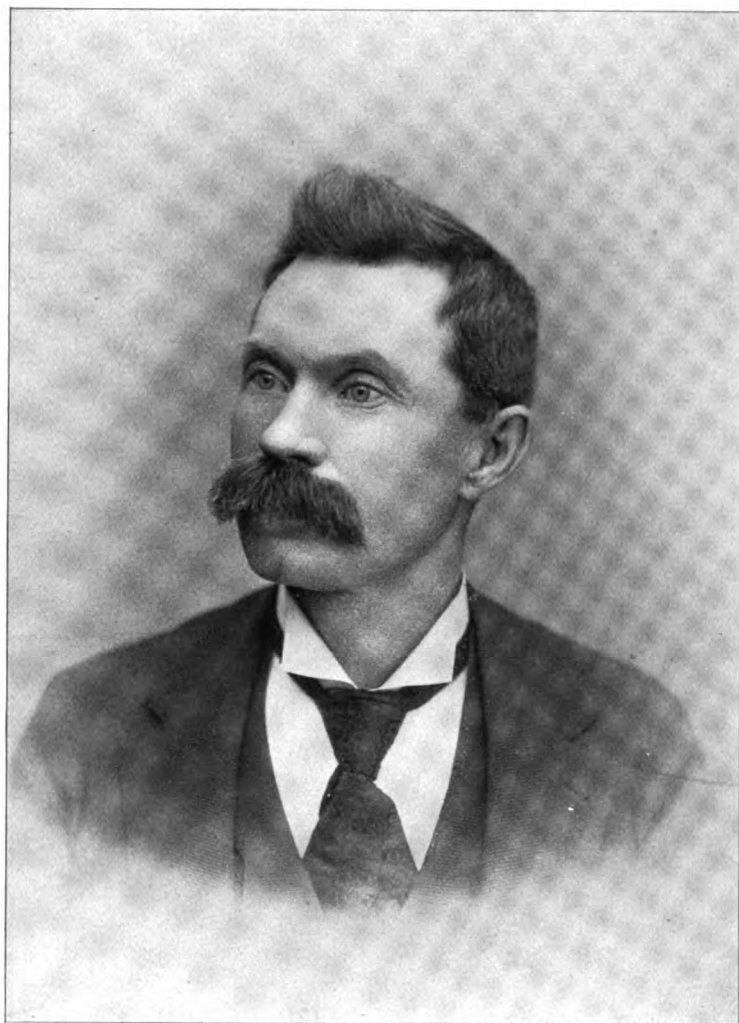
W. M. TULLER, M. D. Among the physicians of Bowling Green none bears a higher position in the respect and esteem of the community than does the subject of this sketch, who well merits the confidence the public reposes in him, and who has attained to success in his professional career by his force of character and devotion to his work.

Dr. Tuller was born in Delaware county, Ohio, July 7, 1848. On the paternal side he is of Dutch descent, John Tuller, the original American ancestor, having come from Holland some two hundred years ago. Roswell Tuller, the grandfather of our subject, was born in 1794 in Connecticut, was a lifelong farmer, and died

in February, 1866, in Delaware county, Ohio. He married Nancy Thompson, who was born in 1797 in New York State, and died in 1876. Roswell Tuller was a soldier in the war of 1812, in which his father, also named Roswell, served as captain.

Alvin Tuller, the Doctor's father, was a native of Delaware county, Ohio, born August 5, 1817, was married, and engaged in farming there until after the birth of all his children, who were five in number, viz.: Adelbert D., a farmer in Wood county; Mary A., the widow of Isaac W. Yoakam, who was killed in Franklin county; one who died in infancy; W. M., and Milo A., living in Wood county, Ohio. Mr. Tuller subsequently removed to Franklin county, and in 1893 to Bowling Green, where the family still reside. His wife, whose maiden name was Elvira Maynard, was born in Franklin county October 30, 1819, and was there married. Her parents, Stephen and Mary (Philips) Maynard, were both natives of Massachusetts, the father coming to Franklin county, Ohio, when he was nineteen years old. He was a farmer by occupation, and lived to be eighty-three years old. The mother died at the age of thirty-nine years. They had four children—Matilda, Elvira, Darwin and Augustus. The Maynard family is of English and Scotch descent.

Until sixteen years of age our subject remained at home, attending the common school and assisting his father on the farm. He then entered Central College, in Franklin county, Ohio, and after completing the course taught school for six years, after which he began reading medicine with Dr. H. Hendrickson, of Columbus, Ohio. He subsequently took a course in the Cincinnati College of Medicine and Surgery, from which he was graduated in 1876, coming immediately thereafter to Bowling Green and beginning the practice of his profession, in which he has ever since been engaged. When Dr. Tuller first took up his residence in the place the town was composed of small wooden buildings, and was primitive in all its surroundings. He has been a witness of its growth and prosperity, and his practice has grown and prospered with it. For the past eight years he has been the physician and surgeon for both railroads passing through Bowling Green—the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton and the Toledo & Ohio Central. Of late years Dr. Tuller has confined his practice more especially to consultation and office business, in which he has a large clientage, being known far and near as a man of deep learning and great skill. He is a member of the



*Willis M Fuller M.D.*



Northwestern Ohio Medical Association, the American Medical Association, and also of the National Association of Railroad Physicians and Surgeons. Socially he affiliates with the Subordinate Lodge and Encampment, I. O. O. F., with the K. O. T. M. and the Woodmen of the World, and although prevented by his arduous professional duties from attending as much as he would like to, he is an enthusiastic supporter of these fraternal organizations.

Financially Dr. Tuller has been very successful. He was one of the number who drilled the first gas well in this locality, and has ever since been connected with the company as an organizer, it proving a very profitable business. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank at Dunkirk, Ind. In politics he is a Republican, has held the offices of mayor and member of the city council, and has also been one of the board of city examiners of schools. In every relation of life he has borne his part well, and he is one of the representative men of the county.

On July 4, 1871, Dr. Tuller was married to Josephine Mott, who was born July 24, 1846, at Rockaway Beach, L. I., daughter of Henry Mott, who was a sea captain. Their union has been blessed with five children: Willis Ray and Lillie May, living, and Jessie, who died when five and a half years of age; Bertha, who died when two and a half years old, and one that died in infancy.

**CHARLES J. SAGE.** The subject of this sketch was born in Washington county Va., April 11, 1836, and was one year old when his parents moved to Erie county, Ohio. He attended the common schools of his time, but his opportunities were limited and much inferior to those of the present day. The death of our subject's father, when the former was a little over four years old, lost to him a valuable friend. Fortunately he had a good mother and older brothers—the latter, though young, seemed competent to discharge the duties thus thrown upon them. When our subject was eleven years old his widowed mother and her family came to Wood county, and located a short distance west of Prairie Depot, where Charles attended school. In the summer of his sixteenth year he left home and was employed as driver on the Wabash canal at a salary of \$12 per month. The following summer he again worked at that business and received \$15 per month. When eighteen years old he began to learn the trade of a carpenter under his eldest brother William, of Huron. He spent some time with him and then went to Coldwater,

Mich., where he worked with his brother-in-law, M. H. Parker.

In the summer of 1856 Mr. Sage went to Chicago, where he worked awhile, and then returned to Michigan, and Ohio, until 1859, when a desire to go west possessed him, and he went to Atchison, Kans., hired out as a teamster and drove an ox-team of six yoke through to Salt Lake City, Utah, from which place he went on to Sacramento, Cal., which he reached after a journey of four months. He hired out to a rancher, and later worked at his trade. In the spring of 1861 he went to Nevada, in the vicinity of Virginia City, where new mines had been discovered. Here he followed his trade and bought a blacksmith shop in the mountains; not being a blacksmith himself, he hired a smith, and he did the wood work. This proved to be a good business, and Mr. Sage stayed in the Far West until the fall of 1865, when he returned to Ohio and spent the winter of 1865-66, and in the spring of the latter year returned to his business in the mountains, which he subsequently sold out, and went to work for the government at Fort Churchill, Nev., as wheelwright, until the fall of 1867, when he again went back to Ohio.

Mr. Sage was married in Perrysburg November 17, 1868, to Miss Marian C. Benjamin, of Montgomery township, a native of Summit county, Ohio, where she was born February 3, 1845. Her parents were Aaron and Laura (Markham) Benjamin, the former of whom was born in New York State and the latter in Massachusetts. They were married in New York, and went to Tuscarawas county, Ohio, losing their money on the way, by robbery. Mr. Benjamin bought a farm in Tuscarawas county, and from there moved to Summit county, and, when Marian was nine years old, they went to Scott township, Sandusky county, and finally to Montgomery township, where Aaron died February 4, 1883, nearly eighty-four years old. His wife died March 22, 1895, over eighty-seven. Their family consisted of six children: Nelson lives in Florida; Aaron was a blacksmith and shoemaker by trade, but followed farming much of his later life; and all living but one.

At the time of our subject's marriage his finances were reduced very low; but being a good mechanic, he could always find something to do, and eventually got a start. In 1872 he located on the lot where he now lives, and where, in 1889, he completed an elegant house, arranged after his own ideas and under his personal direction. To him and his wife two children have been born, namely: Celia, an educated young lady,

is a teacher in the Prairie Depot schools; Charles B. is at home. Mr. Sage is a staunch Republican, and has served four years as township clerk, six years as justice of the peace, councilman for one term, and mayor of Prairie Depot for one term. Mr. Sage is a well-known mechanic of considerable skill, he has a comfortable home, an excellent family, and is highly respected and one of Prairie Depot's best citizens.

J. C. EBERLY. The subject of this sketch is a farmer of Portage township, and has the distinction of being the first white child born in that locality, his birth taking place March 18, 1834.

Jacob Eberly, the father, was born in Huntingdon county, Penn., July 14, 1804, and moved to Franklin county when but a child. He learned the blacksmith's trade, and when a young man came to Northern Ohio and worked at his trade in Upper Sandusky, Fremont and Toledo. He was married in Waterville, Lucas county, to Miss Elizabeth Cox, daughter of Benjamin Cox, who was born September 20, 1806. Mr. Eberly began life as a poor boy, and early in the '30s he came to Portage township and took up eighty acres along the Portage river, in Section 6, which was then in a wild state, the forests being full of game, large and small. Mr. Eberly made a clearing, in which he built a cabin 16x20 feet, and a blacksmith shop. It was strictly a pioneer settlement, and the earliest in the township. The farmers would come from a distance of eight and ten miles to have work done for them, which they would engage to be done for days ahead. In this way he became well known by the farmers for miles around. He was a Whig and later a Republican, and served a longer term as treasurer of Portage township than any other incumbent of the office. He died October 31, 1894, at the advanced age of ninety years, his wife following him to the better land November 17, of the same year, and they both rest in the Portage cemetery. They were the parents of the following children: Jane, born October 6, 1828, died August 14, 1830; John, born June 3, 1830, died December 17, 1850; Mary, born June 2, 1832, married Elisha Prescott, and died November 24, 1858; Martha, married Allen Hampton, and is deceased; J. C., our subject; Matilda, born April 2, 1835, married John Johnson, of Toledo; William, December 19, 1836, is a merchant of Bowling Green; Elliott, September 10, 1838, lives in Center township; Harriet B., March 17, 1841, became the wife of L. L. Dowd, of Norwalk, Ohio; Benjamin C., January 11, 1843, is a resident of Bowling Green; Lucy, January 8, 1845,

married John Sargent, and later wedded Albert Goumont. She is now deceased.

Mr. Eberly was a great hunter, and had but one superior and he was "Squire" McMahan, in hunting deer in his section of the county. He was compelled to give up his trade when forty years old, and spent the remainder of his life upon the farm. His death had been predicted forty years before it occurred.

Our subject was reared as a farmer's boy, and attended the district schools in Portage township, and for one term he went to the graded school at Waterville. He began to learn the carpenter trade, but gave it up and returned home where he remained until August 7, 1862, when he enlisted at Portage in Company A, 100th O. V. I., under Capt. John A. Shannon. They camped for a while at Toledo, and then went to Covington, Ky., where our subject was confined in the hospital for a time, and then rejoined his regiment at Lexington. During an engagement at Resaca he was struck by a fragment of a shell, and was sent to the hospital at Chattanooga, where he remained for several weeks. After the fall of Atlanta, he went there and again joined his regiment, with which he remained until it reached Newbern, N. C., when he was taken with typhoid fever and confined in the hospital at that place, and later was removed to Fort Schuyler, N. Y., where he recovered, and was finally discharged from the service there.

Mr. Eberly returned to Portage after the war, and went to work on a farm. December 2, 1866, he was married to Miss Martha L. McFerren, who was born in Montgomery township, March 21, 1842, and who was the daughter of Ezekiel and Hannah (Lloyd) McFerren, both of whom were born in New York. Mrs. Eberly was a school teacher in her younger days. Our subject located in Section 7, on eighty acres of land which was owned jointly by himself and his brother William, and only a few acres of which was cleared at that time. Our subject later bought out his brother's interest, and became sole owner. He now has ninety-five acres. Mr. and Mrs. Eberly had two children, Grace, born August 20, 1880, died November 20, 1883; and Hazel, born November 3, 1883, now living at home. Mr. Eberly is a staunch member of the Republican party, and in former years was one of Portage's greatest workers in the cause. He never held office, being in politics not from selfish motives but to assist in the success of his party. In 1894, he built a fine home where he dispenses hospitality to all his friends, of whom he has a large number. His wife is a member

of the United Brethren Church, and they contribute freely to its support.

HIRAM ADDISON CRAW is one of the early pioneers of Wood county, and for many years one of its prominent agriculturists. He is now, after many years of active labor, spending the evening of his life in quiet and ease at his home in Bowling Green. He was born in Fairfield, Franklin Co., Vt., March 9, 1829.

His parents, John and Laura (Boardman) Craw, the former of whom was born in Suffield, Suffield Co., Conn., October 25, 1787, and the latter in West Corinth, Orange Co., Vt., November 14, 1789, were married December 14, 1809, in West Corinth, and lived in Fairfield, Franklin Co., Vt. In the fall of 1835 they came to Ohio, settling in Ridgefield township, Huron county, where they bought a farm and lived until 1851, then removing to Wood county and locating in Plain township, four miles north of Bowling Green. The father died in that city July 7, 1883, the mother having passed away March 13, 1871, while living on the farm. The mother early in life was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but in February, 1858, with her husband and one of her daughters, Almira Gregory, and her husband and the subject of this sketch and his wife, all fully believed and indorsed the Seventh-Day Adventist faith, and commenced to observe the Sabbath of the Lord according to the Scripture and Bible plan, and have observed it ever since. But the organization of the Church did not take place until October 6, 1861, at Battle Creek, Mich., by a conference, by the vote of which it was recommended that the Churches enter into organization, adopting the following as a Church covenant: "We, the undersigned, hereby associate ourselves together as a Church, taking the name Seventh-Day Adventists, covenanting to keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus Christ." All of the above-named family united with this body, and are still connected with it, except the father of the subject of this sketch. He was as firm a believer in the truth and practice of it as any one of the family to the day of his death, and felt assured that he would have a part in the first resurrection at the second coming and appearing of the Blessed Master. In accordance with the views of this sect the Sabbath begins at sundown on Friday evening, and ends at the same hour on Saturday evening. Mr. Craw, Sr., while a religious man and an earnest Bible student and believer in its doctrines, never united with any Church. He was originally an old-line Whig,

subsequently becoming a Republican, was a man of much intelligence, and was highly esteemed by all who knew him.

This worthy couple were the parents of six children, of whom the following record is given: Matilda, born October 14, 1810, married Addison Fay January 19, 1832. They settled in Fairfield township, Franklin Co., Vt.; in 1834 came to Ohio, and for a number of years lived in Huron county, and in 1850 came to Plain township, Wood county, adjoining Bowling Green, where Mrs. Fay died October 27, 1864, and her husband in 1892; Prudence D., born May 20, 1814, was married May 21, 1834, to Peter Hathaway (they lived in Milan township, Huron county, but after some years the county was divided, and Milan and where Mr. Hathaway lived on the Huron river became a part of Erie county, and they continued to live there until he died, when she sold out and moved to Adrian, Mich.); Almira, born June 26, 1817, was married in Fairfield township, Franklin Co., Vt., December 29, 1834, to Levi S. Gregory, and they now reside in Bowling Green; Horace B., born October 7, 1820, died in infancy; Boardman, born June 29, 1826, also died in infancy; Hiram A., our subject.

The paternal grandfather of the latter was Reuben Craw, one of the early settlers of New England, who died in Vermont. His maternal grandfather, Amos Boardman, was born in England, November 17, 1764, and was married February 4, 1789, to Prudence Chapman, who was born March 3, 1768, in Corinth, Vt. They were farmers, and lived in West Corinth, Orange Co., Vt., where he died July 31, 1854, and his wife July 21, 1851. Their family comprised the following children: Laura, the mother of our subject, born November 14, 1789; Betsy, born October 16, 1792, died August 15, 1802; Erastus, born August 3, 1795, died January 25, 1842; Almira, born December 5, 1797, died July 4, 1876; Edna, born December 10, 1799, died November 3, 1827; Direxa, born September 19, 1801, died October 5, 1802; Electa, born March 17, 1803, died in West Corinth, Vt., in 1892; Hiram, born October 3, 1805, died April 14, 1871; Direxa (2), born March 20, 1808, died January 6, 1812; Hatsel, born January 2, 1811, died April 13, 1851.

Hiram A. Craw lived in Huron county, Ohio, where he attended school and assisted his father upon the farm until the removal of the family in 1851 to Wood county. He was married June 2, 1853, to Miss Ann Hall, who was born in Olivesburg, Richland Co., Ohio, June 19, 1833, and is

the daughter of James and Jane (Ralstin) Hall. Mrs. Craw's grandfather Hall was a hatter by trade, and on one of his expeditions after furs it is presumed he was killed by the Indians, as he never returned. After his death the mother bound out her two children, of whom one was the father of Mrs. Craw, to families in Pennsylvania. The people who took the sister moved away from the State, and the two were separated for the remainder of their lives. Mrs. Craw's father was married in Pennsylvania and came to Ohio, settling first in Richland county, afterward living in Hancock county, two and one-half miles north of Findlay, and finally, in the fall of 1843, taking up his residence in Wood county. He was a wheelwright by trade, but later in life turned his attention to farming. He died in Bowling Green, February 3, 1883, when about eighty years of age. His wife died in Plain township, in 1863. Their family consisted of four children, namely: Olivia, who was married December 12, 1850, to F. E. Meagley, and lives in Middleton township, Wood county; John R. was married April 26, 1853, to L. R. Gregory, and lives in Bowling Green; Ann, wife of our subject, and her twin sister, Jane, the latter of whom died at Findlay when seven years old; Juliett, born July 9, 1836, was married August 16, 1851, to John T. Sweet (deceased), and lives in Bowling Green.

Our subject first settled on a farm in Plain township, where he owned 120 acres of land. This he cleared up and improved, adding to it at various times until he had three hundred acres in one tract. Here he carried on general farming until his removal, on Thanksgiving day, 1882, to Bowling Green. He still owns 160 acres of this land, which he rents out, and is also the owner of four city lots. When Mr. Craw first settled in this county everything was in a primitive state, and he has been a witness of, and an important factor in, its growth and development. Among his early recollections are those of the school he attended in his boyhood days, which was in an old log school house in the Webb settlement, Ridgefield township, Huron county. He still has in his possession, and in a good state of preservation, the old Elementary Speller and English Reader, which were the text books in those days, the latter of which was given to him April 5, 1836. These antiquated volumes, with their coarse paper and coarse wood cuts, are a real curiosity in these days of handsome printing and illustrations.

When Mr. and Mrs. Craw returned from their wedding tour in Huron county, Ohio, all he had was fifty cents in cash; but, as they both say, they

were willing to work. The following children have blessed their union: Laura Jane, born February 25, 1854, died March 15, 1861; Prudence D., born October 4, 1855, married Herbert L. Denman, and has one child, Blanche; John B., born May 1, 1857, married Miss Ada Boardman, and lives on his father's farm (they have four children, Lorin, Iva, Howard and Cressa); George S., born May 23, 1860, married Anna Loomis, and has one child, Roland; Hiram O., born February 3, 1862, died January 6, 1885; Ira Lemon, born December 1, 1863, married Mazie Whetstone, and has two children, Eva and Hazel A.; and two younger children who died in infancy. Our subject and his wife have been members of the Adventist Church for some thirty-eight years, and have taken an active part in Church work. He is a man of high moral character, and holds an honored place in the community. Mr. Craw has been a leader in local affairs, and has held some responsible offices. He was supervisor of his township for six years, was constable for two years, and assistant postmaster at Lovett's Grove for fifteen years, afterward being appointed postmaster and serving two years, when the post office was discontinued. Progressive in his ideas, he saw at an early day the advantage of draining the soil, and has used tiling on his farm for a number of years.

The great-aunt of Mr. Craw, Jemima Mitchell, had fourteen children, and each of these had fourteen (making one hundred and ninety-six grandchildren), who, with their children, brought the number of her immediate descendants to two hundred and twenty-six.

ROBERT S. PARKER. If history teaches by example, the lessons inculcated by biography must be still more impressive. We see exhibited in the varieties of human character, under different circumstances, something to instruct us in our duty, and to encourage our efforts, under every emergency. As an illustration of the results of youthful enterprise and earnest effort, the life of this prominent attorney and successful man of Bowling Green cannot fail to be of interest, especially to the ambitious young man still struggling on the lower rounds of the ladder.

The Parker family, to which the subject of this sketch belongs, is of English origin. In the history of Westford, Massachusetts, by Rev. Edward R. Hodgman, A. M.; Cutler's History of Jaffrey, New Hampshire; the Genealogy of John Parker, of Lexington, and his descendants, by Theodore Parker, and other authorities, his ancestors may be traced by clear and unbroken



*R. S. Parster*





records as far back as 1470, and by less perfect records to a much earlier date. In these records we find many divines, the most notable being Matthew Parker, seventy-first Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of all England (1559-1575). The Thirty-nine Articles were passed by convocation under his presidency in 1562. There were also many lawyers in the family in England, and it is a somewhat curious and striking fact that among the lawyers were several bearing the name of Robert.

Mr. Parker is thoroughly American and democratic in his tastes and sentiments, and therefore lays no store by the titles, knightings, coats of arms and the like which are noted in these records; but he respects and reveres his ancestors because they proved themselves God-fearing, law-abiding, self-respecting and honorable men and women—having the solid virtues of the substantial yeomanry of the country. He is especially and pardonably proud of the honorable record made by his family as patriots in the Revolutionary war. Of this family was Jonas Parker, a typical "minute man," who, after being wounded at the battle of Lexington, disdained to retreat from the "Red-coats," though cautioned to fall back by his commanding officer, but kept his ground, and was bayoneted by the British soldiers; he being the first Revolutionary soldier thus slain. In the celebrated painting, "The Battle of Lexington," which hangs in the Lexington town hall, he appears as the central figure. Of him Edward Everett said: "History, Roman History, does not furnish an example of bravery that outshines that of Jonas Parker." His is one of the names of the eight martyrs for American independence cut in the granite monument erected on the Common or Green at Lexington by a grateful people to their memory.

Capt. John Parker, also of Lexington, who was in command of the "minute men" on that occasion, and who fired the first shot that was fired at the British soldiers, was a full cousin of said Jonas Parker; and there were in the company, and in the fight, Corp. Ebenezer Parker, nephew of Jonas; and Thaddeus Parker, a brother of the Captain. Later in the day, on the march to Concord to intercept the British, Capt. Parker's company was reinforced by troops from Woburn, with which were two of his nephews—Edmund and Josiah Parker; and from Reading came seventeen more who bore the name of Parker, under the command of Capt. Brooke, and they also took part in the hot fire which was poured in upon the enemy's column during the remainder of that eventful day.

In the rosters of the Continental troops enlisted in Middlesex county, Mass., in the Revolutionary war, are found a great many Parkers who served as officers and privates, more of that name than any other, unless the Fletchers and Proctors may equal them in number. These three families were related by many intermarriages; representatives of all these families removed to Windsor county, Vt., soon after the close of the Revolutionary war, and their descendants are quite numerous in that State at the present time, as well as in Middlesex county, Massachusetts.

Theodore Parker, the famous Unitarian divine, was of the same family. In the war of 1812, and in the war of the Rebellion, this family displayed the same spirit of patriotism as in the Revolutionary war.

At the time of the war of the Rebellion the subject of this sketch and his only brother were mere boys, too young to enter the military service, but his half-brother, Edwin, enlisted at an early period of the war, and served until near its close, when his left leg was shattered by a shot, and he was compelled to retire from the service. Three of his half-brothers, of the family name of Robinson (his mother's children by her first husband), were also in the Union army. When Cincinnati, Ohio, was threatened by Morgan's raid, and volunteers were called for, Abel F. Parker, the father of Robert S., though verging on three-score-and-ten, enlisted to assist in the defense of that city, and his children keep and prize the "Squirrel Hunter's Discharge," which he received at the termination of that service.

The first ancestor of Mr. Parker in America was Abraham Parker, who was born in Marlborough, Wiltshire, England, in 1612. The exact date of his coming to America is not known, but it was about 1634. He first settled in the town of Woburn, Middlesex Co., Mass., where he married Rose Whitlock in 1644. He removed to the town of Clemsford, same county, upon its incorporation in 1653. His son Moses was born in Clemsford about the year 1657; he married Abigail Hildreth, daughter of Richard Hildreth, and removed to Westford, same county, where his son Aaron was born in 1689. Samuel, second child of Aaron, was born in 1717; he was married in 1739 to Sarah Fletcher, daughter of Deacon Joshua Fletcher.

Leonard, the fifth child of Samuel, was born at Westford in 1745; he married Mary Foster in 1768. Early in this century he removed with most of his family to the Holland Land Purchase, in the vicinity of Arcade, Wyoming Co.,

N. Y., and the large tracts of land which they there took up and improved are still owned and occupied by some of his descendants. His son Abel was born in Westford in 1773, was married to Catherine Edgar, and removed with her to Cavendish, Vt., where in the year 1800 their eldest child, Abel Foster Parker, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born.

About 1818 Abel Parker also removed with his family to the vicinity of Arcade, N. Y., at which place Abel Foster was married, in the year 1824, to Maria Strong. The children of this marriage were Edwin (mentioned above), who died at Findlay in 1883; Julia Ann, unmarried, residing at Findlay, Ohio; Lucy, married to John Martin, and residing at Lima, Ohio; and Albert, who died in infancy. In 1836 Abel F. Parker removed with his family to Findlay (then called Fort Findlay), Hancock Co., Ohio, where he spent substantially all the remainder of his lifetime, and where he died in 1881. His wife Maria died in the year 1849, and in 1852 Mr. Parker married Mrs. Sallie Ann (Gail) Robinson, who was born in Wyoming county, N. Y. She was a daughter of Rev. Samuel Gail, a pioneer of western New York, many of whose descendants are living in Erie county, N. Y., where he died. The children of this union are Frederick Foster, a business man of Conneaut, Ohio; Robert S.; and Dora Alice (unmarried), who lives at Findlay, Ohio. By her marriage with Mr. Robinson, her first husband, Mrs. Parker had seven children, all but one of whom are still living, namely, Samuel G., a farmer in Hancock county, Ohio; Benjamin Oscar, a farmer and manufacturer of brick and tile in Putnam county, Ohio; John Edgar, formerly a locomotive engineer, and now employed at the Hamilton County (Ohio) Court House; Henry Harrison, a market gardener, of Findlay, Ohio; William Franklin, a locomotive engineer of Bellaire, Ohio; Mrs. Eleanor Woodruff, of Findlay, Ohio; and Elizabeth, who died in infancy. Mrs. Sallie Ann Parker died at Findlay, Ohio, in 1864.

While a resident of New York, Abel F. Parker was agent for the Wadsworths and other owners of the Holland Land Purchase; upon his removal to Findlay, Ohio, he was for a time principal of the Findlay schools, but, applying himself to the study of law, he was soon thereafter admitted to the bar, and, until his health gave way, devoted most of the remainder of his life to the practice of that profession in Hancock and adjoining counties. He ranked with the leading members of the bar in that part of the State, in his day. He was a public-spirited man, taking a

prominent part in politics, and in all enterprises that tended to promote the interests of the people of his section. In political sentiment he was originally a Democrat, and held high rank in the councils of his party; served as postmaster under President Pierce, and for three terms held the office of prosecuting attorney of Hancock county, Ohio. In 1860 he severed his connection with the Democratic party, and supported Abraham Lincoln for the Presidency, and thereafter ardently and loyally championed the principles of the Republican party. He was a gentleman of the old school, courtly and deferential in his manner, faithful in his friendships, and universally esteemed for his personal worth and integrity. He was a charter member of the Masonic Lodge at Findlay, and a member of the I. O. O. F. He was a great reader of good books, also a close observer of events, and consequently was possessed of extensive general information, which, united with a cheerful and vivacious disposition, fluency of speech and forcible style of discourse, enlivened by wit and humor, made him an entertaining and instructive companion.

Robert S. Parker, whose name introduces this biography, was born March 8, 1855, in Findlay, Ohio, where he attended the public school until he was twelve years old. In early youth he learned the cigar-maker's trade, which he followed seven years, during part of which time he also attended school, and when not attending school he pursued his studies at home. In 1874 he commenced the study of law in Findlay with Shaffer Brothers, with whom he continued one year, and the following year read law under his father, meanwhile supporting himself by working at his trade, his father and sister reading to him while he made cigars. The mother having died, our subject and his father kept "bachelor's hall," the son doing the cooking and other housework. In April, 1876, just after attaining his majority, Mr. Parker was admitted to the bar, and immediately thereafter opened an office in North Baltimore, Ohio, where he remained several months, practicing in partnership with William H. Anderson. In September of the same year he came to Bowling Green, where he has ever since been engaged in the active duties of his profession. The first year he practiced alone, and then became associated with Col. John A. Shannon, under the firm name of Shannon & Parker, this connection lasting for about two years, when it was dissolved. Mr. Parker practiced alone from that time until 1890, when he and R. B. Moore established the firm of Parker & Moore, which continued some five years, since the end of which

time Mr. Parker has practiced with E. M. Fries, under the style of Parker & Fries.

Our subject has been eminently successful in his profession, and holds a leading rank among the lawyers of Wood county and vicinity. During his twenty years of active professional life he has never missed a term of court in Wood county, and has a large and lucrative practice, principally in the northwestern counties of the State. For two terms he served as prosecuting attorney of Wood county, and he was nominated by the Republican party for judge of the Court of Common Pleas, but shared the fate of others of his political faith in the "Foraker landslide;" in three of the four counties of the judicial district, however, he ran ahead of his ticket. In the fall of 1894 he was indorsed by the Wood county delegation for representative in Congress, but was defeated in the convention by James H. Southard, of Toledo, at present representing that District in Congress.

On May 1, 1879, Mr. Parker was married to Miss Susan Thomas, who was born November 5, 1859, in Bowling Green, Ohio, daughter of George H. Thomas, who was a native of New York State. He was a carpenter by trade, but in his later years was proprietor of the "Thomas House" (now the "Russell House"), and was widely known in Wood county; he died in 1890; Mrs. Thomas is still living. Mrs. Parker had two sisters: Emma, deceased wife of William H. Rudolph (also deceased), and Flora, widow of Edward Fryberger, of Bowling Green. Two children came to Mr. and Mrs. Parker: Edward Foster, born January 31, 1880, and Julia Alice, born June 8, 1887. In religious connection the family are Presbyterians. Mr. Parker is a member of the I. O. O. F., being connected with Centennial Lodge No. 626; also of Green Encampment, Bowling Green, and is Colonel of the 4th Regiment, Department of Ohio, of the Patriarchs Militant. He is a director of the First National Bank of Bowling Green. Highly popular, and held in much esteem by his neighbors and fellow-citizens, he occupies an enviable social as well as professional position.

JONATHAN W. MYERS, who was called from earth September 21, 1892, is remembered by the people of Wood county as one of its most worthy and useful citizens. His birth occurred in Trumbull county, Ohio, December 11, 1810, a son of John and Rachel (Wolfecale) Myers, the former born August 8, 1783, and the latter October 28, 1787. The names and dates of birth of the brothers and sisters of our subject are as follows:

Mary Ann, March 30, 1809; Robert C., October 30, 1812; John, October 2, 1814; Reason, September 16, 1816; Pleasant, December 21, 1819; Elizabeth, February 25, 1822; Jacob B., September 2, 1824; Rachel M., May 2, 1827; Agnes J., August 3, 1829; Margaret, May 11, 1833; Robert C., died November 9, 1834, John, July 12, 1842, and Rachel M., October 11, 1844.

On April 3, 1834, Mr. Myers, of this review, led to the marriage altar Charlotte Hull, who was born February 5, 1812, and they became the parents of four children, namely: Henry B., born January 7, 1835, making his home in St. Louis, Mo.; Mary Ann, born September 24, 1836, is the wife of G. M. Barnd, of Bloomdale; Caroline, born November 27, 1838, is the wife of Benson Clayton, of Van Buren, Hancock Co., Ohio; and John A., born January 5, 1847, makes his home in Hancock county. The mother of this family died in 1849, and was buried in Hancock county.

In Bloom township, on December 30, 1849, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Myers and Miss Elmira Robbins, a daughter of Daniel and Rhoda (McCarty) Robbins, and a native of Franklin county, Ohio, born October 23, 1827. To this union three children were born—Rachel L., who died in infancy; Ella E., widow of L. D. Hatfield, of Bloomdale; and Jonathan E., of Campbell county, Tennessee.

Daniel Robbins, the father of Mrs. Myers, was one of the first settlers of Bloom township, Wood county, locating near Bloomdale, when it was still a wilderness. He was born September 5, 1795, in Fishing Creek township, Columbia Co., Penn., and was a son of Thomas, and a grandson of William Robbins, a resident of New Jersey. Thomas Robbins lived and died in Fishing Creek township, and by his marriage with Elizabeth Kline, became the father of nine children—William, Abraham, Thomas, Daniel, John, Mathias, Isaac, Charity and Mercy. In eastern Pennsylvania, the parents of Mrs. Myers were married, and the mother, who was born October 17, 1802, was a daughter of John and Sarah (Thomas) McCarty, the former born November 8, 1773, and the latter in May, 1776. In their family were the following children—Mary, Rhoda, Margaret, Phoebe, James, Martha, Samuel, Sarah, and Elida. After his marriage Daniel Robbins lived in eastern Pennsylvania until 1825, when he removed to Franklin county, Ohio, but in October, 1833, came to Wood county, locating on what is now the northeast corner of Main and Vine streets, but was then an unbroken forest. His was the third family to find a home in Bloom township, and their first

dwelling was a rude log shanty with a blanket hung up for a door. There they lived for six weeks when a more substantial log house was erected. Mr. Robbins died January 7, 1879. His wife had passed away in the fall of 1874, and they now sleep side by side in the cemetery at Fostoria. In 1834 Mr. Robbins and wife assisted in forming a Religious Society at the Vicker's home, and taught singing at private houses. Mr. Robbins held the office of justice of the peace for several years. He was formerly a staunch Whig, but on the organization of the Republican party he joined its ranks. In the family were seven children—Ellinda, born in Columbia county, Penn., married Joseph Urie, and died in Bloomdale in 1892; Jackson died in the same city, July 27, 1892; Elmira is next in order of birth; Rhoda A. married John Bolan, and died in Indiana; Margaret is the wife of G. W. Locke, of South Bend, Ind.; Russell B. died in Iowa; and Minerva is now Mrs. Peter Bussey, of Fostoria, Ohio.

In the fall of 1844, Mr. Myers located in Bloom township, and his first purchase made him the owner of 160 acres, now comprised within the corporate limits of Bloomdale. To that tract he later added 100 acres, all of which was an unbroken forest, but he cleared his land, making it one of the best farms of the county. He was entirely self-made, having started out in life at the tender age of ten years, and assisted his widowed mother in paying for the home place. By good management and close attention to the details of his business, he left at his death a good property, and Mrs. Myers still resides on the home farm. For forty years she has been a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which her husband also belonged. He now rests in the cemetery at Fostoria, and an acquaintance of forty years thus writes of him: "He was industrious, always busy—not a lazy drop of blood coursed in his veins. He was honest. This was one of his peculiar traits of character. He deigned to stoop to nothing groveling or low. He was generous, as the unfortunate always found in time of need."

Jackson Robbins (a brother of Mrs. Elmira Myers) was born in Franklin county, Ohio, March 17, 1826, and was but a small boy when his parents removed to Wood county where he grew to manhood, and November 9, 1848, was married to Miss Mary A. Beam. To this marriage were born eight children, namely: Emma, Jacob, William, Mary, Richard, Clement, and two who died in infancy.

Mr. Robbins owned forty acres of land in this

county, on which he erected a dwelling, but soon after the Civil war sold the place to W. H. Redfern (now deceased) and purchased eighty acres north of Findlay, Ohio, where his wife died June 18, 1884, and on July 9, 1887, he was married to Clara May, and to them was born a daughter. During the Findlay boom Mr. Robbins sold his farm to some capitalists of that place for a goodly sum, and moved to Bloomdale, where he purchased a home, which was within several hundred feet of the place where his first days in Wood county were passed, under a shanty made by driving some forks into the ground, the covering of which consisted of bark and blankets. His death occurred July 27, 1892. His pastor, Jason Young, officiated at his funeral. His remains rest in the cemetery at Findlay. He was greatly endeared to his sister (who wrote this brief sketch) and to all who knew him. He was a good citizen and an excellent neighbor. He was a Methodist, and in politics an unwavering Democrat.

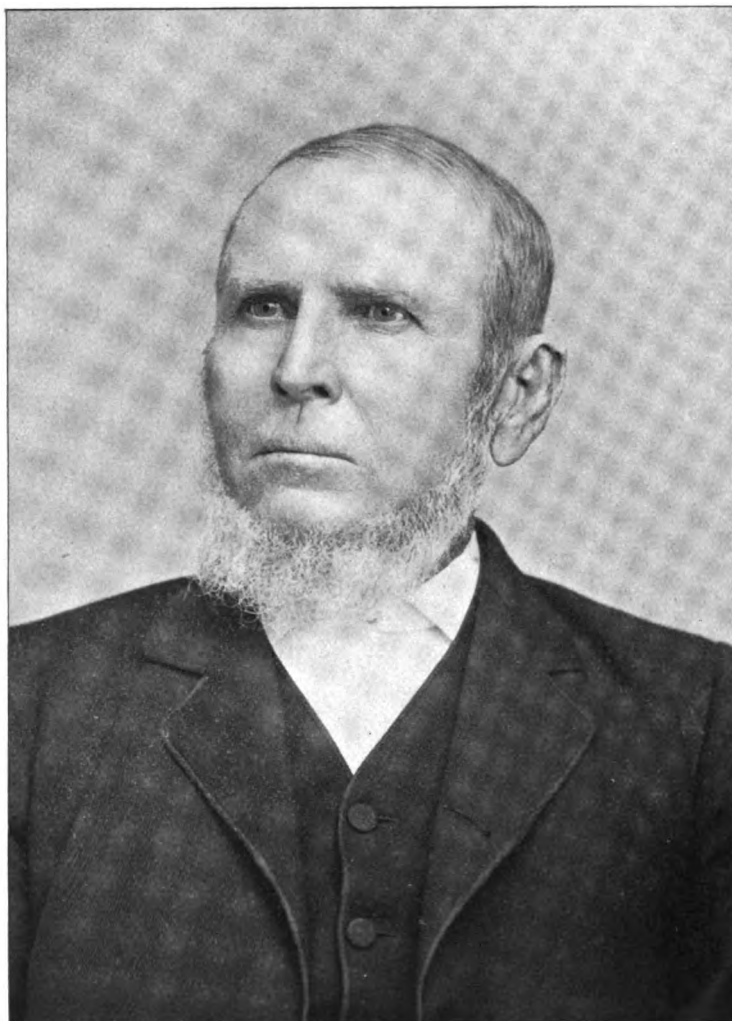
CAPTAIN OMAR P. NORRIS, a leading agriculturist of Perry township, with residence near "Norris" Station, T. & O. C. R. R., post office Longley, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, November 18, 1838, and comes of English and Scotch ancestry.

Hon. John Norris, father of our subject, was born April 22, 1813, in Fort "Findlay," Wayne county, Ohio, and became one of the most prominent and influential citizens of Perry township, Wood county. Amos Norris, his father (grandfather of our subject), was born October 16, 1779, in Huntingdon county, Penn., and was married to Mary Shaver, of the same nativity, born February 16, 1788, of English descent, a daughter of Maj. John Shaver, who served in that rank during the war of the Revolution. Amos Norris and his wife moved from their native county to Ohio in 1802, making their home in Wayne county until 1814, when they removed to Ashland county, being the first white settlers in the neighborhood, at which time the Indians were troublesome, some of them, after Hull's surrender, murdering three families in Wayne county, so that the pioneers had to build a fort in which they and their families could take refuge. This fort was named "Findlay," and in it was born Hon. John Norris. Amos Norris and his wife both died in Orange township, Ashland county, he at the age of sixty-five, and she, when seventy-six years old. He assisted in the organization of that township, and was one of the rugged old pioneers well adapted by nature for the work of pioneer days. A brief record of their family of five sons and three





*Capt. O. P. Morris*



*John Norris*





daughters is as follows: John (deceased) was the eldest; Vachel was drowned at the age of twenty-one, near Orange, Ohio; Nancy married Marsham Bowman, and died in Ashland county, Ohio; Temperance wedded W. J. Rigby, of Fostoria, Ohio; William, a farmer, died in Orange, Ohio; Amos was a lawyer and State Senator of Minnesota sometime in the "fifties," and afterward in the "seventies" judge of courts in Florida, whither he had gone for the benefit of his health, and died there; Andrew, who was a Doctor, died in Farmer City, Ill.; Sarah, the youngest of the family, was twice married, and died in Ashland county, Ohio.

Hon. John Norris was reared in Wayne county, Ohio, attending school "off and on" in what is now Orange township, Ashland county, until he was fourteen years of age. Having accidentally cut his foot, so badly that he was unable to move about, he took that opportunity to learn the trade of a shoemaker, which he picked up so readily, and was so industrious at, that he made a pair of shoes the first day he worked. After he learned his trade he taught several terms of school, during the winter months only, receiving for his services eight dollars per month, meanwhile "boarding round" at the homes of his scholars. With this exception, he remained under the parental roof until his marriage, March 19, 1834, in Wayne county, Ohio, to Miss Rebecca Cuthbertson, who was born May 28, 1815, in Washington county, Penn., a daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Brownlee) Cuthbertson, both natives of Scotland, the mother born in Glasgow, the father a stocking weaver by trade. After marriage the young couple commenced house-keeping in Orange, Ashland county, Ohio, but soon afterward they took charge of his mother-in-law's farm in Wayne county, and continued thereon until 1843, in the fall of which year they came to Wood county, settling on 160 acres of unimproved land in Perry township, no clearing having been done until after they moved on the place. Mr. Norris had previously visited the locality, and built a common log cabin on the premises, which originally comprised 240 acres. In 1845 he sold eighty acres, with the proceeds of which he paid off some of the indebtedness he had incurred in the purchase. In April, 1880, retiring from the labors of the farm, and also on account of the burning of his home in Perry township, he moved to Fostoria, and here passed his declining years. The family born to John and Rebecca Norris were as follows: Omar, who died in infancy, in Wayne county, Ohio; Thomas C., who entered the service as captain of Com-

pany B, 111th Regiment, O. V. I., was promoted to major and commissioned lieutenant-colonel, mustered out with the regiment as major, and died in Fostoria, Ohio, in 1867, from injuries received in 1865, near Salisbury, N. C., in jumping from a flat-car that was off the rails, in a train carrying the regiment of which he was then in command; Amos was killed by the premature discharge of a cannon while celebrating July 4, 1863, at West Millgrove, Ohio; Omar P., the subject proper of this sketch; Mary, married to W. H. Kiger, of Prairie Depot (P. O.), or Freeport, Wood county; William B., who was a fine scholar in his younger days, and died at the age of forty-two; James H., who served in Company H, 49th O. V. I., was promoted three times for bravery—twice in the company, and promoted to sergeant while in the signal corps, which he voluntarily left to please his captain—and was killed in the battle of Pickett's Mills, or Dallas, Ga., May 27, 1864, while leading his company as sergeant; Jane, who married Capt. Thomas H. Chance, of Fostoria; Fanny, married to Andrew G. Yates, of Perry township; Annie, wife of C. H. Stewart, of Fostoria; Emma, who was the wife of Dr. J. C. Lincoln, and died at Bowling Green; John H., a prominent physician of Fostoria; and Frank M., a farmer of Perry township.

The mother of this family was a daughter of Scotch parents who were born and reared in the land of Wallace, Bruce and Burns, coming to this country at an early day. After a wedded life of half a century she passed from earth March 17, 1884, at Fostoria, Ohio, aged sixty-nine years, and was buried on the anniversary of her wedding. She and her husband joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, at their marriage, and remained consistent members of the same. She died in the triumph of a living faith in Christ, her Redeemer. She wanted and took Him for her all-in-all, in Time and Eternity. She was a very conscientious woman, and when her sons enlisted to go to the war, she stood up in a large audience and exclaimed: "Boys! It almost breaks my heart to see you go; but do your duty. Your country demands your help; be brave, and die with your face to the foe, and be men." She and her husband commenced in the woods twice during their married life—once in Wayne county, where they cleared up heavily-timbered land, some fifty-seven acres, then after ten years moved to Wood county, and here also cleared up heavily-timbered land, about 200 acres.

In 1885 Hon. John Norris married his second wife, Lydia A. Crum, of Columbiana county, Ohio, who survives him, living in a fine home he

deeded her. Here he passed the declining years of his life, dying May 23, 1896, of blood poisoning, aged eighty-three years and one month, a useful member of society all his life. In his political preferences he was originally a Whig, later a Republican, and was one of the staunchest supporters of the party in Wood county. In 1843 he was appointed township clerk, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of U. M. Corey; was then elected to the same office two terms; then as treasurer two consecutive terms; then as trustee two terms; then as justice of the peace two terms of three years each; then as assessor three terms. In 1872, when the county was for the first time entitled to a representative the people selected Mr. Norris to represent the county in the Sixtieth General Assembly, as a Republican. This was the first of the three-years' fight between Bowling Green and Perrysburg, as to which should be the county seat, Bowling Green in the end winning the prize. He was renominated for a second term as representative, but was defeated at the polls, on account of the county-seat fight; but he did not sour, or leave the party, or its principles. In religious faith he was for over sixty years a member of the M. E. Church, toward which he contributed liberally, and held office in the same. As a farmer he was systematic and progressive; as a public official he was straightforward and honorable; as a man no one was better known or more highly honored. He was hale and hearty up to the illness that caused his death, and not long before the final summons came, he said: "I wonder why it is that I am living, and so many former friends and acquaintances gone forever from this world! But I bide my time."

Capt. Omar P. Norris during boyhood attended the district schools near his home, and after studying for a term in an academy at Republic, taught for three winter terms. He then entered Prof. Turner's school at Fostoria; but the war breaking out before his term was finished, he joined the army, as did every other male student in that school. Our subject enlisted, in April, 1861, in Company H, 21st O. V. I., three-months' regiment, and was rejected at Camp Taylor, Cleveland, Ohio. In June, same year, he re-enlisted, this time in Company G, 25th O. V. I., soon rose to the rank of sergeant, and was in all the marches and engagements of that regiment up to and including the battle of Greenbrier, W. Va., was honorably discharged for disability November 21, 1861, and returned home. In August, 1862, he entered Company B, 111th O. V. I., and served until the end of the war, coming out with the rank of captain, having

served in every intermediate rank except that of corporal. He and fifty-two men of Company B, of whom he was in command as first lieutenant, were sacrificed, while on picket duty, to let a division get "out of a hole," on midnight of November 15, 1863, near Lenoir Station, East Tenn., when the Rebel general, Longstreet, crossed the Tennessee river with his army, *en route* for Knoxville. Lieut. Norris and his men were surrounded and taken prisoners early on the morning of November 16, 1863. They were all stripped of their hats, overcoats and shoes, by the Rebels, and sent to Atlanta, Ga., thence to Richmond, Va., where he and his men were separated, Lieut. Norris being sent to Libby Prison, and his men to Belle Isle. Of those fifty-two men, thirty-six died in Rebel prisons. [See "Ohio in the War."] Lieut. Norris was in Libby Prison until May, 1864, when he was sent with all other officers, confined in Libby at that time, to Salisbury, N. C., from there to Augusta, from there to Macon, and from there to Savannah, Ga., where he lay at the point of death for several days, and was reported as dead in the New York papers, by chaplains who were exchanged at Savannah, and mourned as dead by his parents and friends at home. From Savannah he was sent to Charleston, S. C., where, for twenty-nine days, the Federal prisoners were under fire of the Union guns at Morris Island, and where, too, the yellow fever was raging among the prisoners confined in the city jail yard, among whom was Lieut. Norris. From Charleston he was sent to Columbia, S. C., where many of the officers died of yellow fever, among them being Capt. William Bender, 123d O. V. I., of Fostoria, Ohio, and Lieut. Asa Spafford, 21st O. V. I., of Perrysburg, Ohio. Lieut. Norris escaped from Columbia, traveled over a hundred miles, and was then tracked up by blood-hounds and recaptured, taken back to Columbia and out to Prison Camp, where he soon afterward escaped again, at a great risk of his life. After traveling thirty-four nights, he reached the Union lines at Sweet Water, E. Tenn., December 27, 1864, having passed through many hardships and privations, and experiencing narrow escapes. He rejoined his regiment at Washington, D. C., February 8, 1865, and returned to the seat of war by the old ship "Prometheus," that narrowly escaped foundering off Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. His regiment landed near Fort Fisher, N. C., and engaged in the North Carolina campaign. Here Lieut. Norris was promoted to captain of Company I, to date November 17, 1864. Capt. Norris was in all the marches and

engagements of the North Carolina campaign, and received his final discharge July 12, 1865, at Salisbury, N. C. [See History of the Regiment, by Capt. W. S. Thurstin, 111th O. V. I., Toledo, Ohio.]

After his return home he sold goods for ex-Gov. Foster, of Fostoria, for two years, then traveled a year selling a patent-right of his own invention, and then settled upon his farm in Perry township, where he has since carried on the business of stock raising, giving special attention to sheep. He has been twice married, first time, in 1869, to Miss Frona Patton, a school teacher, a daughter of Lieut.-Col. John J. Patton, O. V. I. She was born January 1, 1850, in Quincy, Logan Co., Ohio, and died December 9, 1876, leaving three children: Ida, a school teacher, who married George E. Reed, enrolling clerk of the 72d General Assembly, and now editor and proprietor of the *Prairie Depot Observer* (they have two children—Frona and Mary); Emma, a school teacher, who now lives at home; and Belle, a successful teacher of the county. For his second wife Capt. Norris married Miss Libbie Yates, daughter of John W. Yates, first sergeant Company H, 49th Regiment, O. V. I., of Crawford county, Ohio, who was killed December 16, 1864, in the engagement at Nashville. Mrs. Libbie Norris was born September 9, 1857, and was a teacher in Wood county for some time. Three children were born of this union: Omar, Fannie and Thomas.

A man of broad views and liberal judgment, Capt. Norris wields great influence in the community, and so fully does he enjoy the confidence of the public that he has been elected to the office of chairman of the board of education of Perry township. He has served two terms as treasurer of Perry township, also two terms as justice of the peace (refusing to serve longer), and was also a candidate before the county convention for commissioner. In 1895 he was elected to represent Wood county in the State Legislature (Seventy-second General Assembly). He was the author of two general Bills, which passed the House; one Bill was defeated in the Senate; the other, the "Anti-treat Bill," was smothered in the Senate committee. He also introduced three local Bills, all of which became laws. Capt. Norris took an active part in the Presidential campaign just closed. He delivered eight speeches in favor of the election of McKinley, protection to American industries, reciprocity and a 100-cent dollar, and is now happy over the election of Major McKinley as "President of our greatest nation on earth."

D. A. HAYLOR, the efficient and popular superintendent of the public schools of Bowling Green, and one of the prominent educators of this State, was born February 14, 1851, in Yorkshire, England.

His father, John Haylor, and his mother, Ann (Marshall) Haylor, were both natives of the same locality. As a mechanic and merchant, the father was successful and well-to-do, but came to America with his family in 1866 for the better opportunities it afforded. The family lived for two years in Oberlin, Ohio, and then removed to a farm in Henrietta township, Lorain county, afterward moved to one in Russia township, where they remained until the father's death in 1891. They were leading members of the M. E. Church, with which they united in early life. Of their nine children all are living, and five have settled in or near Oberlin, where their mother now resides. Sarah married Jacob Hales, of Ridgeville, Ohio; Henry is a dry-goods employe at Canton, Ohio; D. A., is the subject of this sketch; John is a farmer near Oberlin; William is in business in that city; Herbert, merchant and farmer, living at Irving, Kansas; and Anna, Mrs. Fred Papworth; Clara, Mrs. John Papworth; and Walter, all reside in or near Oberlin.

Our subject attended an excellent private school in England until the age of thirteen. After coming to America he continued his studies in the district schools of Lorain county, working at the same time with his father on the farm, and at the shoemaker's trade. So well did he improve his opportunities that he received the position of teacher in the same place where he had been a pupil, and there and elsewhere he taught during the winter terms until the age of twenty-three, when he entered Oberlin College to fit himself for a professional teacher. He supported himself during five years of study, earning over one thousand dollars and completed a seven-years' classical course. He took the degree of B. A., and has also finished a professional course for teachers. He ranked among the first in a class of fifty-five, and received the president's recommendation for the first place among their applications for teachers. During his senior year he was engaged as a tutor in mathematics. Since graduation he has been continuously and successfully engaged in educational work; one year in Seville, Medina county; two years in Perrysburg, Wood county; six years in Bryan, Williams county, and from 1889 to the present time he has been superintendent of schools in Bowling Green, and is a member of the city board of ex-

aminers. He has been an active institute instructor and lecturer. In each of the above places the schools secured under his management a reputation for thorough work and judicious control that has never been questioned, but has brought to him and the communities both honor and permanent good.

He was married in 1882 to Miss Netta G. Lawrence, of Perrysburg, and has three children, Ruth, Vida and Janet. His high scholastic attainments and fine natural abilities give him an influential place in intellectual circles. He and his wife are leading members of the Presbyterian Church, and generous supporters of all educational and philanthropical movements in the community. In politics he is a Republican.

EDWIN R. SAGE, M. D. No man in Wood county is better known or has a larger circle of warm friends than this popular physician, who for over thirty years has ministered to the sick and suffering of Montgomery township. He was born at Windham, Conn., January 18, 1825, and is a son of George and Lucy (Davis) Sage.

The early education of our subject was obtained in the district schools of Erie county, Ohio, whither his parents moved when he was eleven years of age. The father dying when Edwin was fifteen years old, he was thrown upon his own resources, and at eighteen began learning the trade of a shoemaker at Berlin Heights, Ohio. At this he worked for three years, being paid at the rate of \$30, \$35, and \$40 per year, out of this paying for his board and clothing. When twenty-one years of age he was sent on horseback to Prairie Depot for a yoke of oxen, and while there was urged to start a shoe-shop, as there was none in the village at that time. He returned to Berlin Heights, and soon afterward took the stage to Lower Sandusky (now Fremont), from which place he walked, carrying his kit of tools, to Prairie Depot. This was in 1846. In the office of Dr. Hutchins he found the only available space for his bench, the use of this place being tendered him by the Doctor, who took a great liking to him. This was a fortunate crisis in his life, for he had a craving for scientific study, and, being surrounded by medical books and appliances, he took up the study of medicine.

Six months later Dr. Sage returned to Berlin Heights, where he spent the winter of 1846 and 1847. In the latter year his widowed mother, with his brothers and sisters, removed to Wood county, where he had procured a lot of land, he himself remaining in Berlin Heights until 1848, in which year he cast his first Presidential vote

for Martin Van Buren, the Free-soil candidate. In 1850 he went to Chagrin Falls, Ohio, where he worked at his trade until the summer of 1857, at which time he took up his permanent residence in Wood county, at Prairie Depot, and the following year "hung out his shingle" as an M. D. During his stay at Chagrin Falls Dr. Sage had read medicine with Dr. H. W. Curtis, and had seen some practice, answering calls for his tutor, which the latter was unable to personally attend. On October 8, 1858, Dr. Sage was married at Perrysburg, Ohio, to Miss Sarah M. Yant, who was born in Bethlehem, Ohio, December 12, 1835, a daughter of John and Dorothea (Usher) Yant, the former a hotel-keeper, whose death took place in Crawford county. Three children have been born to the Doctor and his wife, namely: Rose D., the wife of F. B. Hill, of Chicago Junction, Ohio; Eddie, who died when two years old; and Edward R., who is in the United States railway mail service (on January 20, 1896, he married Evelyn Wingar). At the time of his marriage Dr. Sage was a poor man, and for many years had a "hard row to hoe." His patients were also poor, as they were mostly people coming in and settling on new farms, who had little or no money for doctors' bills. He, however, was energetic and hopeful, and struggled on until times were better, and his practice became lucrative. Dr. Sage has thousands of dollars in fees that many physicians would have collected, but his kindness of heart would not allow him to insist upon payment from people he knew were unable to spare the money. In all his thirty-one years of practice, he has never refused to answer a call because his patient was poor. Dr. Sage is to-day one of the most successful practitioners in Wood county, is well known for miles around, and his many acts of benevolence and liberality have endeared him to the hearts of the people. No man ever doubts his word, and his patients have the most implicit confidence in his ability as a physician.

Politically Dr. Sage was formerly a Democrat and a Free-soiler, and voted for Gov. Wood, the Democratic candidate for that office. After the formation of the Republican party, however, he adopted its principles, and has ever since been one of its staunchest adherents. He served as clerk of Montgomery township for one term, and in 1875 was elected to the State Legislature, at the close of his term being re-elected. Socially he is a member of the Masonic order. Dr. Sage has 108 acres of excellent land near Prairie Depot, from which he derives a comfortable income. When the call on the Ohio National Guards was



*Edwin R. Sage*



made, Dr. Sage was a member of Company K, 144th regiment, Col. Miller commanding. At Berryville, Va., thirty-one of the company were taken prisoners, two killed, and two wounded, Dr. Sage being one of those taken prisoner. He was in the Lynchburg, Va., prison, and also in Libby, at Richmond, Va. He served as second lieutenant, and experienced some severe hardships, as he was on the march most of the time. No man stands higher in the community, or is entitled to higher respect from his fellow citizens than Dr. E. R. Sage.

JOHN MEILY HOFFA, editor of the *Wood County Tribune*, was born December 9, 1854, at Myerstown, Lebanon Co., Penn., a son of Levi and Susan (Meily) Hoffa. Mrs. Susan (Meily) Hoffa, mother of our subject, was born July 21, 1831, a daughter of Henry and Margaretha (Vogt) Meily, the latter of whom was born October 24, 1792, and died November 29, 1847. She was a daughter of Mathias Vogt, who was born February 24, 1756, and died March 2, 1839; his wife Sophia, was born December 12, 1767, and died October 9, 1855. This long-lived couple had three sons and two daughters, our subject's grandmother, Margaretha, being one of them. To Mr. and Mrs. Henry Meily were born children as follows: Two sons died in infancy; John married Kate Zinn, and died in Lebanon county, Penn.; Catherine, now deceased, was the second wife of Thomas Bassler, and had one child; Rebecca is the wife of Isaac Stoner, and they reside in Franklin county, Penn.; Mollie is the wife of Christian Strack, who resides near Myerstown, Penn.; Eliza is the widow of Jacob Bixler; Fanny is the deceased wife of Henry Glick; Mary is the wife of Henry Seltzer, and makes her home in Dauphin county, Penn.; Sallie is the wife of Samuel Noll, she resides in St. Joseph, Mo.; Susan, the mother of our subject, comes next; she has her home in Lebanon county, Pennsylvania.

Levi Hoffa was born at Myerstown, March 9, 1827, and was a son of Philip and Elizabeth (Blecher) Hoffa, also natives of Lebanon county, the former of whom was a tailor by trade, which occupation he followed up to the time of his death. To them were born children as follows: (1) Levi, father of our subject. (2) Cyrus Samuel, a graduate of Gettysburg College, Gettysburg, Penn., and who was a German Evangelical Lutheran minister; shortly after the breaking out of the Civil war, in 1861, he enlisted in the 90-days service, and after his term of enlistment had expired, re-enlisted, this time in Company F, 4th

Penn. Cav., was taken prisoner, and died in Andersonville. (3) Sarah, wife of Henry Wagner, resides at Lebanon, Lebanon Co., Penn. (4) Mary M. is deceased; (5) Catherine; (6) Melinda, born June 25, 1836, died May 27, 1857; by occupation she was a school teacher. (7) Leah Amelia, born February 6, 1839, married Henry Wise, and died March 27, 1860; she was also a school teacher. (8) Maurice J. (now deceased) was the youngest of this family. Levi died May 8, 1856, the father of two children: Mary Alice, born October 14, 1853, is now the wife of George W. Umberger, by whom she has one son, Herbert (they reside in Lebanon county, Penn.); and John M., our subject. There is also another son in the family, William Gurten Hoffa (a child of Mrs. Levi Hoffa by her second husband, Cyrus Samuel Hoffa), born August 24, 1864, and now a wholesale dealer in barbers' supplies at Philadelphia.

John Meily Hoffa, whose name introduces this sketch, received his education in Pennsylvania, in part at the district schools and an academy, in part at the "College Palatinate," at Myerstown, which institution had been organized out of the academy. On leaving college he, in 1872, commenced to learn the trade of a printer in a job office at Myerstown, and in 1874 opened a job office in the same town, which he carried on until 1876, in that year moving to Palmyra, Penn., where he continued in the same line of business until 1878, when, in connection therewith, he established the *Londonderry Weekly Gazette*. In the course of about a year he sold out, and in 1880 removed to La Rue, Marion Co., Ohio, and bought the *News* of that place, the publication of which he continued until 1882, when he disposed of his interest therein. In 1883 he moved to New Carlisle, Clark Co., Ohio, and bought the *Sun*, publishing the same until 1890, in which year he disposed of his property there took up his residence in Ottawa, Putnam Co., Ohio, and bought the *Ottawa Gazette*. In 1893 he sold this out, and purchased a one-fourth interest in the *Wood County Sentinel* (Daily and Weekly), at Bowling Green, which interest he still owns. In the fall of 1895 he also purchased stock in the *Daily and Weekly Tribune*, at the same place, consisting of 92½ shares, and in March, 1896, he assumed the editorial management of that paper, his present incumbency. Later he purchased more stock, and now owns nearly half of that plant. These papers are a success, having few, if any, equals.

In 1875, John M. Hoffa was married at Palmyra, Penn., to Miss Ida J. Zimmerman, who



was born January 3, 1859, at that town, a daughter of Abram and Maria (Kieffer) Zimmerman, the former of whom, a stonemason by trade, was born May 13, 1831, a son of John Peter, a farmer, and Sarah Zimmerman. The latter couple were the parents of children as follows: Henry; Abram; Daniel; Elizabeth, wife of Henry Miller of Annville, Lebanon Co., Penn. (they have three children—John, Joseph and Catherine); Sarah, wife of Mr. Farling, of Lebanon county, Penn.; and Kate. Mrs. Maria (Kieffer) Zimmerman was a daughter of John Kieffer, who was also born in Lebanon county, Penn., and who married Sarah Horstick, born August 10, 1817, and by her had two children, viz.: Maria (Mrs. Abram Zimmerman), born April 24, 1840; and Reuben, a coal dealer at Annville, Lebanon Co., Pennsylvania.

To Abram and Maria Zimmerman were born children as follows: Ida J. (Mrs. Hoffa), born January 3, 1859; Lizzie Loretta, born in 1861, married Joseph Horstick, and they reside at Palmyra, Lebanon Co., Penn., and have no children; and Anna Lenora, married Albert Detwiler, and they reside at Harrisburg, Penn. (have two children). The father of this family died November 2, 1886; the mother is now living at Hummelstown, Dauphin Co., Pennsylvania.

To our subject and wife have come four children, to wit: (1) Mary J., born May 6, 1876, married to Clarence W. Griswold, at Ottawa, Ohio, where he is agent for the Findlay, Ft. Wayne & Western railroad and the American and National Express companies; they have two children—Ella Meily and Linn. (2) Meily Valentine, born February 14, 1878, died of typhoid fever October 29, 1891, at Ottawa, Ohio; (3) Harry Levi Marcellus, born April 6, 1881; (4) Abram Zimmerman, born September 21, 1886, at Ottawa. Mr. and Mrs. John M. Hoffa are members of the Lutheran Evangelical Church. Socially he has been affiliated with the P. O. S. of A. since he was eighteen years of age, joining Camp No. 192 thereof at Palmyra, Penn.; he held the position of State master of forms and ceremonies, and for one year was State trustee in Ohio; also was district president at large. At La Rue, Ohio, he organized a camp of the P. O. S. of A. and also united with Day Lodge No. 28, I. O. O. F., at La Rue, and is a past noble grand, and still retains membership in that society. At Richland he joined the Encampment, there being none at La Rue. He became a member of La Rue Lodge No. 463, F. & A. M., and affiliated with New Carlisle Chapter No. 57 and New Carlisle Council No. 30, both at New

Carlisle. While residing at Ottawa, Ohio, being within the jurisdiction of Lima, he became a member of Shawnee Commandery No. 14, Knights Templar, and on moving to Bowling Green he associated with the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of the Valley of Toledo, being a member of Miami Lodge of Perfection, Fort Industry Chapter Rose Croix, at Toledo, and Northern Light Council, Princes of Jerusalem. He also belongs to Lake Erie Consistory, at Cleveland, Ohio, which includes the 32nd degree in Masonry. At Palmyra he became a member of Castle No. 7, Knights of the Mystic Chain; at New Carlisle he joined the Knights of Pythias Lodge; while at Ottawa he united with the K. O. T. M. and the National Union. A Republican in politics, Mr. Hoffa served as corporation clerk at New Carlisle, and on the board of health until he removed from that place. He was a member of the Building and Loan Association there, a director for two terms, also vice-president until he removed, and at the present time is vice-president of the Building and Loan Association at Bowling Green, which is a branch of the Cleveland Indemnity and Loan Association.

F. T. HEDGE, the senior member of the well-known firm of F. T. Hedge & Co., is at the head of the largest tile factory in Wood county, and is one of its most successful and enterprising business men. He is a native of Ohio, born in York township, Medina county, May 5, 1853, and is the second son and third child in the family of George B. and Kate (Crawfoot) Hedge. He was quite small when brought to Wood county, where he acquired his education in the district schools, and previous to his seventeenth year worked upon the home farm and in his father's mill. At that time Mr. Hedge began learning the saddler's trade with Andrew Emerine, at Fostoria, Ohio, where he worked for two years, when failing health caused him to abandon that trade for a time, though he later followed it for several years, in fact, until 1885. In the early "eighties" he began brick and tile making in Montgomery township with his brother G. W., buying an interest in the business of Russel Morgan. His father afterward became a partner in the enterprise, but later sold his share to another brother, H. W., and the firm assumed the present title, that of F. T. Hedge & Co. They are now extensively engaged in the manufacture of tile, having a large plant erected in 1892, the main building being 40 x 98 feet, four stories in height, with a wing 36 x 82 feet. Our subject thoroughly understands the business in all its

departments, the arrangement for drying being originated by him, and very economical.

At the home of Harlow Hill, in Montgomery township, on February 13, 1887, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Hedge and Miss Martha Caskie, who was born near Carey, Ohio, May 3, 1858, and is the daughter of James and Matilda (Smith) Caskie. They began housekeeping in Montgomery township, on Section 18, and in 1892 remodeled their residence, and now have a comfortable and pleasant dwelling. The home has been brightened by the birth of two children—Jay C., born January 19, 1889; and George B., born October 9, 1892. Mr. Hedge uses his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Democratic party, but takes no active part in political affairs; socially he is a worthy member of Petroleum Lodge No. 499, K. of P., of Prairie Depot; of Prairie Depot Lodge No. 646, I. O. O. F.; and Crystal Encampment No. 271. Like all of the members of the well-known Hedge family, of Montgomery township, he is prosperous and well-to-do, his success being mainly due to his own ability, enterprise and industry, and as the result of his efforts he has secured a comfortable competence, which is justly merited.

B. L. ABBOTT, a prominent attorney at law of Bowling Green, was born in Townsend township, Huron county, July 5, 1850. His grandfather Abbott came at an early date with his family to Huron county, from Trumansburg, Yates county, New York.

Our subject's father, James R. Abbott, was about seventeen years old at the time of this removal, and he at once devoted his energies to serving the best interests of the people among whom his lot was cast. He united with the Baptist Church before he had attained his majority, and supplying the deficiencies in his education by private study, he prepared for the ministry. His first charge was in Huron county, where he remained many years. He then preached at Reading, Mich., for seven years, after which he moved to Grand Rapids where his active usefulness was cut short by a stroke of paralysis, caused by overwork. The last twelve years of his life were spent in the home of our subject at Bowling Green. He was married in 1842 to Miss Caroline Smith, who was born in 1824, and is now residing with her son, Fred E. Abbott, at Bowling Green, the youngest of her five children. The others were Amanda (deceased), who married Daniel Howe, of Crawford county, Ohio; James R., a resident of Montcalm county, Mich.; B. L.,

our subject; and Ida, the wife of Frank S. Joels, of Fredonia, New York.

Our subject's early life was spent in Michigan, where he acquired a knowledge of vocal music which afterward served him well. In 1871 he came to Bowling Green and studied law with an uncle, Philander S. Abbott, a well-known lawyer. He had intended to take a course in literature and law at Michigan, but the illness of his father compelled him to become the "bread winner" for the family, and in the emergency he resorted to the teaching of vocal music. His professional studies were postponed for several years, but after his marriage, in 1876, to Miss Mary L. Marshall, he resumed them, and August 13, 1878, was admitted to the bar. His wife is a native of the Buckeye State, born September 20, 1854, and she is an admirable helpmeet, cultured and sympathetic. They have five children: Floyd L., Henry L., Emergene L., Lilah Belle, and Lorene.

Mr. Abbott began to practice law with a former preceptor, Edson Goit, and the partnership lasted until the death of Mr. Goit. He has a good civil practice, and has been unusually successful in the conduct of business entrusted to him. Recently he engaged in oil producing, has sunk three paying wells and has others under way. Politically he is a Republican, and he has held several important official positions. In 1886 he was elected mayor, and for more than thirteen consecutive years has been a justice of the peace. About two years ago his friends were surprised at a new departure, seemingly out of his line, when he announced his discovery of a cure for baldness, which he christened "Baldoline." His well-tryed integrity lent credit to his claims for the new remedy, however, and the test of experience has abundantly confirmed them in every case where the treatment has been properly given.

HON. ROBERT J. COLLIN, mayor of Tontogany, and a leading druggist of that town, was born July 21, 1849, in Medina, Ohio. His parents Ephraim and Matilda (Hall) Collin, were both born near Ely, Cambridgeshire, England, his father in 1825, and his mother in 1828. They were married there, and in 1848 came to the United States making their home near Medina, Ohio, until 1853, when they came to Wood county; but in the following year, owing to the breaking out of cholera in that section, they returned to Medina county, and bought a farm at Chatham Center. They sold this in the fall of 1860, and in the spring of 1861 they came to

Wood county, where they purchased wild land near Perrysburg, which they cleared and improved, converting it into a fine farm. Here they remained until the fall of 1874, at that time selling out their possessions in Wood county, and once more returning to Medina county, where they now reside. Mrs. Collin is a faithful adherent of the M. E. Church. Mr. Collin was an early Abolitionist, and one of the first in his locality to unite with the Republican party. They are the parents of four children: Robert J., our subject; Sophia, wife of Joseph Carpenter, of Perrysburg; Charles, a farmer in Medina county; and Wilson, deceased at the age of sixteen years.

Robert J. Collin, the subject proper of this sketch, received his education in part at the country district schools of Medina and Wood counties, three years at the high school of Perrysburg, and one year at Berea, graduating in 1875, at Valparaiso, where he had been studying two years. When he came to Wood county, in 1853, bears and wolves abounded, and around on his father's farms near Perrysburg, in 1861, deer were frequently seen in droves. He taught five terms in district schools and two years in Miami schools, and then began to read medicine in Perrysburg, in 1876, a year later coming to Tontogany, where he bought an interest in a drug store since carried on under the firm name of Davis & Collin. This is one of the most substantial business enterprises in the vicinity. In addition to his drug business he is interested in farm land, owning property in Washington township, also in Kansas.

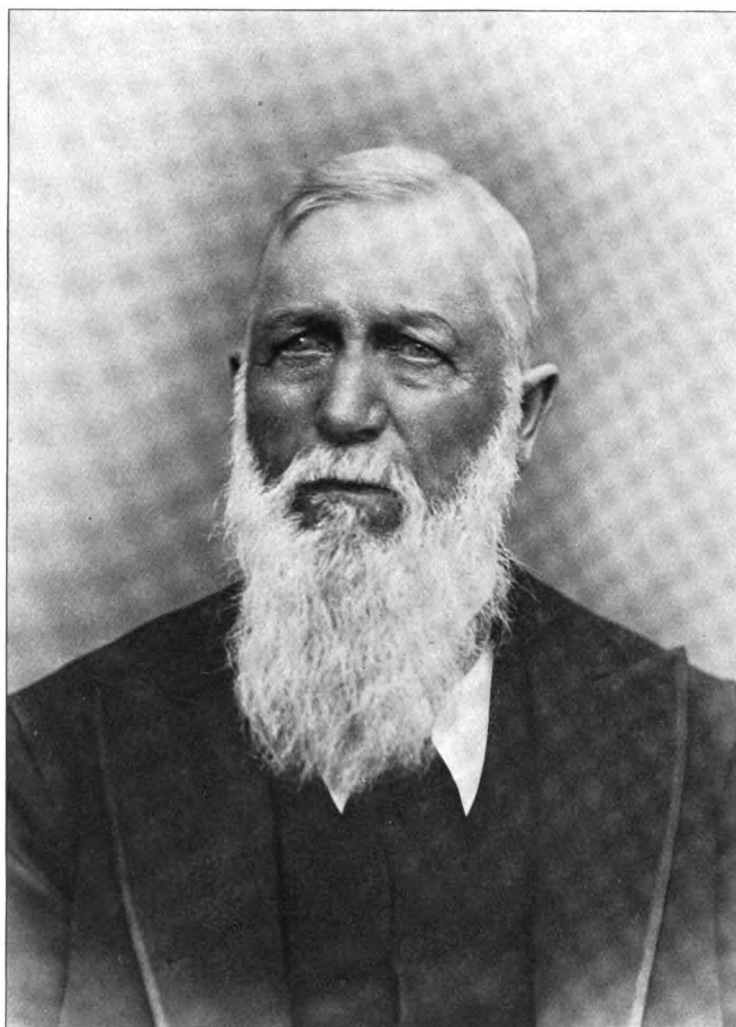
On June 24, 1879, Mr. Collin married Miss Alice Hannah, a native of Ottawa county, Ohio, born August 28, 1854, and they have two children: Arthur, born September 16, 1880, and Harry, born December 4, 1885, who have already given their allegiance to the church of their ancestors, the Methodist, of which Mr. Collin has been a prominent member for years. For the past eighteen years he has been superintendent of the M. E. Sunday-school. The same sterling characteristics which have led to Mr. Collin's success in other lines of effort, have made him a favorite candidate for official position, as he is now serving his third term as township clerk, and was in April, 1895, elected to the office of mayor of his town. Socially he is a member of the F. & A. M., Tontogany Lodge No. 451.

EDWARD R. SAGE, one of the most highly respected citizens of Montgomery township, is descended from an old New England family, and is

a representative of the seventh generation from David Sage, who was born in Wales, in 1639, and came to Middleton, Conn., in 1652. The grandfather of our subject, George Sage, was born in 1772, and his wife, Harriet, in 1774. The father of our subject, also named George, was born July 4, 1801, in Middleton, Conn., and was married in Chatham, Conn., June 26, 1821, to Miss Lucy Davis, also a native of Connecticut, born November 4, 1799.

The father of our subject was a manufacturer and dresser of cloth, and followed that business for a time in Connecticut. In 1838 he removed with his family to Washington county, Va., where he settled near Glade Springs. He rented a fulling-mill and carding-machine, which he operated some ten years. He then came to Ohio, traveling all the way in wagons, camping out most of the time at night, and occupying four weeks on the road. He settled in Vermilion township, Erie county, where he remained one winter, then going to Harts Grove, Ashtabula county, where he bought 160 acres of land in partnership with another man. On this farm was a fulling-mill and carding-machine, which was run by water-power, and they subsequently built a gristmill on the same stream. Mr. Sage's partner proved to be dishonest, and two years later the firm failed. Mr. Sage had nothing left but a team of horses and eighty acres of land in Cook county, Ill., which latter proved upon examination, by a person sent for that purpose, to be of so little value that it was not worth the taxes. Mr. Sage was obliged to return to Erie county, where he died of bilious fever, July 22, 1840. He was naturally a robust, hearty man, and his early death was a great blow to his wife who was left with nine children to care for. Mr. Sage had but a limited schooling, but was a man of much natural ability, honest and industrious, a member of the Episcopal Church, and an old-time Democrat. His wife was a Methodist. She lived to be seventy-five years of age, and died in Huron, Ohio, and both are buried at Berlin Heights.

The children of this worthy couple were as follows: William G., born in Windham, Conn., October 26, 1822, lives in Huron, Ohio; Edward R. and Edwin R. were born in Windham, Conn., January 18, 1825; Harriet M., born in Windham, February 10, 1827, is the wife of M. H. Parker, of Coldwater, Mich.; Orrin W., born in Washington county, Va., September 1, 1829, enlisted, in 1864, in Company K, 144th O. V. I., and was taken prisoner with his entire company (only nine of whom escaped) at Berryville, Va. (he died in the Rebel prison at Salisbury, N. C.); Elizabeth



*Edward R. Page*



J., born in Washington, Va., December 26, 1831, is the widow of Timothy Gould, of Prairie Depot; Louise, born in Washington county, Va., March 9, 1834, is the wife of Byron Case, of West Toledo, Ohio; Charles J. was born April 11, 1836, in Washington, Va.; James M., born in Hartsgrove, Ashtabula Co., Ohio, April 21, 1838, died in childhood.

Edward R. Sage, the subject of this sketch, had a limited education in the common schools of his day, whose curriculum seldom extended beyond the "three R's." His father's early death left the family dependent upon their own exertions for a livelihood, but they managed to keep together, the boys learning various trades and the mother working at weaving. When sixteen years old Edward began learning the shoemaker's trade under Isaac Fowler, who had a country shop between Vermilion and Huron. For four years the lad worked in this place at a salary of \$4 a month, out of which he kept himself and had money left to give his mother. After his uncle was elected sheriff of Erie county, Mr. Sage started a shop of his own, which he carried on for a time. In the meantime his twin brother, Edwin R., had come to Wood county and bargained for 108 acres of land, and the family decided to follow him and locate on the property. Accordingly, in 1847, the mother, with six of her children—Edward R., Orrin, Elizabeth, Lucy, Charles, and James—came by team and settled in Montgomery township, making their home temporarily near the land mentioned. About a month afterward they were given possession, and a log cabin was their first home. This property was school land, and was bought in the name of William, the eldest son, it being intended as a home for the family, and that all the sons should aid in paying for it. The mother lived there for a short time, and then returned to Erie county, where she died. The three brothers—William, Edward, and Edwin—worked the farm together until it was paid for; about 1860 our subject purchased the property from his brothers, and has lived there ever since. Since that time he has sold a portion of it for town lots, and has now about ninety-five acres remaining. Most of the improvements on the place have been made by him, he having, in 1858, built the house which he now occupies.

On October 2, 1851, Mr. Sage was married at Freeport, Ohio, to Miss Caroline Yant, who was born in Stark county, Ohio, June 30, 1828. Her parents were John and Dorothea (Usher) Yant, and her father was a hotel-keeper. Of this union five children have been born, namely: Roswell E., who died in childhood; Lucy D.,

now Mrs. Frank King, of Prairie Depot; John, residing with his parents; Charles, living at Prairie Depot; and William E., who is farming with his father. Mr. Sage, who is a self-made man, with the assistance of his good wife has prospered in the world, and is one of the substantial farmers of the township. He was in former days an Abolitionist, but has for many years been a staunch Republican. He has held a number of important local offices, being for eight years treasurer of the township, for six years justice of the peace, and also township assessor. He has served two terms as mayor of Prairie Depot, and has been a member of the city council. He and his wife are members of the Congregational Church. A man of genial disposition, who preserves the vigor and enterprise of youth, he is exceedingly popular with all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. No citizen stands higher in the community or is more deserving of the esteem and respect in which he is held.

H. A. LEASE, a well known and leading citizen of Bowling Green, was born in Seneca county, Ohio, July 16, 1835. His parents were Joseph and Delilah (Olmstead) Lease, the former of whom was born in Frederick county, Md., in 1806. He followed farming until coming to Bowling Green, when he took up gardening as an occupation. He was a man of unusual mental powers, a great student of the Bible, which he knew by heart, although a free-thinker in his religious views, and looked upon life through the eyes of a philosopher. In politics he was a Democrat. He was a Scotchman by descent, and was a thrifty and industrious man. His death took place in Bowling Green, November 12, 1884. His wife was born in Frederick county, Md., in 1812, and died April 28, 1891. Their two children were H. A., and Mary E., the wife of R. Gust, a capitalist of Fostoria, Ohio.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native county, where he attended college for seven months, afterward teaching school and reading law at the same time. In September, 1858, he went to California where he taught school and mined until 1860. In 1861 he was admitted to the bar in the Supreme Court of California; was appointed district attorney of Colusa county, by the county commissioners, and served in that incumbency one term; was made assistant sergeant-at-arms of the Legislature of that State, in 1861, and served as copying clerk for the same body in 1863-64. He then went to Eldorado county, where he was employed as clerk in the office of the Placerville route of the Pacific

railway until 1866, when he returned to his home in Ohio. In 1867 he was admitted to the bar in Ohio. In 1869 he located in Bowling Green, and in the winter of 1870 was made enrolling clerk of the Ohio Senate, which position he filled for two sessions of the Legislature (1872-73), being at the same time engaged in the practice of law. Owing to ill health Mr. Lease has been obliged to give up active work, and now devotes much of his time to literary pursuits, a most congenial occupation, as he is a man of remarkably bright intellect, keen observation, and retentive memory. Upon the organization of the Bowling Green & Toledo Railroad Co., Mr. Lease was elected attorney for the same, and continued an official of the company as either attorney, director, auditor or general manager until the road was sold to the C., H. & D. R. R. Co. In politics he is a Prohibitionist, and uses his influence in promoting the interests of that party, believing it to be the best means by which our country can be free from the curse of intemperance. He is an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and in all public enterprises does his part as a loyal citizen. He has been quite successful in business, owning considerable property in Bowling Green, among which is that known as the Lease Building. Mr. Lease is unmarried, "and for free silver."

REV. HENRY DOTY, one of the leading ministers of the United Brethren Church, now the pastor of the congregation at Bowling Green, has shown in the twelve years since his ordination a rare combination of practical business talent, with spiritual power as a preacher. Although well fitted to make his way to financial success in worldly lines, he abandoned a prosperous business in early manhood (the management of a mill belonging to his father-in-law), in order to devote his energies to the Church, and while his earnest exhortations and convincing logic have turned the thoughts of many to the truths of religion, some trace of the natural financier is to be found also in churches built or repaired, or old debts paid, in every place where he has been stationed.

Mr. Doty was born October 30, 1851, near Findlay, Ohio. His parents, John and Margaret (Walters) Doty, were both born in Fairfield county, Ohio, his father on October 20, 1816, and his mother in November, 1823. On the maternal side he is descended from an old Virginia family. His parents still occupy the same farm upon which they located fifty-two years ago, and attend the same Church with which they then united.

Their eight children are all living: (1) Margaret J., the wife of Thomas Cole, of Hancock county; (2) W. C., a resident of the same county; (3) Elijah, a lumber dealer at Leipsic, Ohio; (4) Henry, our subject; (5) Edward, a farmer in Hancock county; (6) John L., who lives at the old homestead; (7) H. Walter, a prominent young attorney at Findlay; and (8) Flora Emma, the wife of Rev. W. R. Arnold, the pastor of the U. B. Church at Bascom, Ohio. Our subject improved the educational opportunities afforded by the public schools of Hancock county, and then entered the Union Biblical Seminary at Dayton, graduating in 1888. He had previously been ordained at Helena, Ohio, September 21, 1883. His first charge was on Hoytville circuit, where during a two-years pastorate he had 175 accessions, and built a church. At North Baltimore he spent two years, received 195 new members, built one church at a cost of \$4,000, and repaired two others. He then came to Bowling Green, where he found the Church in a discouraging state; but with the help of the faithful and energetic women of the Society he raised between five and six hundred dollars, and purchased a bell and other needed supplies. During his one-year's stay at that time eighty-five new members were received. In the two years following, on Sycamore circuit, he received 200 new members, and built a brick church costing \$5,000, repaired two others and contracted for a parsonage. He then went to Dayton, where for three years he pursued a course of study in the Union Biblical Seminary, having charge during the last two years of his stay there of Miami Chapel (the old Mother Church of his denomination in Dayton), and taking into fellowship 200 new members. Here \$1,800 was raised for repairs, and sundry debts to former preachers and presiding elders were paid, among them some of ten years' standing. His next charge was at Chicago Junction, where some debts were settled, and a parsonage built and paid for and 175 new members enrolled. In September, 1891, he returned to Bowling Green, where he has well sustained his reputation as an earnest worker. About 350 members have been added, and the church has been repaired at a cost of \$4,000, all of which, except the amount raised by Bishop Cassel at the rededication, was solicited and collected by the pastor. On September 23, 1895, at the Sandusky Annual Conference, he was elected presiding elder of the Fostoria District, and is now serving his second term as P. E. of the same District.

In all his arduous efforts our subject has been ably seconded by his wife, who was formerly Miss

Sarah E. Bishop, a native of Hancock county, born January 27, 1856. They were married May 30, 1872, and have two children: Eva B., born January 13, 1874, who is a student in Otterbein (Ind.) University, and John D., born October 11, 1878, who is at home, and is now attending the high school. Our subject is independent in politics. Fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F. Lodge at Bowling Green.

EDWARD BEVERSTOCK, the junior member of the well-known law firm of James & Beverstock, Bowling Green, was born in Tontogany May 8, 1862. As one of the brightest of Wood county's sons, the people of this locality look upon his success in his chosen profession with pride, and regard his future as assured. Reared upon a farm, his educational advantages were limited to an attendance at the neighboring district school until January, 1883, when he entered Oberlin College, where he completed the classical course and graduated in 1889, with the degree of A. B. Having determined to enter the legal profession, he took the course offered by the Cincinnati Law School, defraying his expenses while there by acting as librarian of the School and secretary of the Faculty. The degree of LL. B. was conferred upon him May 27, 1891, and he was admitted to the bar a few days later.

In August of the same year Mr. Beverstock entered the office of Hon. Benjamin F. James, and in November they formed a partnership which still continues, with an office also at Toledo, Ohio. This firm has become better known, and acquired a larger practice, than any other has done in an equally short time in this county. Mr. Beverstock is a close student and is remarkable for his well-balanced abilities. With a clear insight into legal principles, and the power of ready application, he possesses also a high order of practical talent. In politics as well as in legal affairs his advice is valued, and he was chairman of the Wood County Republican Central Committee for the year 1894.

Mr. Beverstock was married July 7, 1891, to Miss Elizabeth Ferguson, who was born in Oakland county, Mich., February 1, 1866. They have two daughters, Mary V. and Helena I. Mr. Beverstock and his wife are prominent members of the Presbyterian Church.

A. M. RUSSELL, the deputy auditor of Wood county, and a prominent resident of Bowling Green, is an official whose worth has been proven in various positions of public trust. He comes of sturdy Scotch-Irish ancestry, and pos-

sesses many of the admirable traits of character which distinguished that race.

His father, James W. Russell, was born in Washington county, Penn., in 1784, and came to the Western Reserve in early life, locating upon a farm in what is now Mahoning (then a part of Trumbull) county, where he married Miss Jane A. Wolfcale, a native of Virginia, born near Harper's Ferry, in 1792. She died in 1847; her husband lived at his old farm to an advanced age, and died in 1870 at the home of a son in Paulding county. They reared a family of ten children, as follows: Nancy, born in 1812, married John Cushman, and lives in Michigan; John, born in 1814, died in Wood county in 1884; Robert, born in 1816, died in Bowling Green in 1860; Caroline, born in 1818, married Davis Randolph, and lives in Mahoning county; James M., born in 1821, died in Paulding county, in September, 1879; Jonathan W., born in 1824, died in Trumbull county in 1855; Betsey, born in 1826, married John Williams, of Trumbull county; Abraham W., born in 1829, lives at Ithaca, Mich.; Martha Jane, born in 1832, is the widow of John Moore of Mahoning county; and our subject, the youngest.

A. M. Russell was born March 7, 1835, and remained at home until the age of fifteen. He attended Antioch and Oberlin Colleges for some time, and later engaged in teaching and clerking in a dry-goods store. On the breaking out of the Civil war he enlisted at the first call to arms, and went to the front as first lieutenant of Company G, 14th O. V. I. At the end of his three-months' term of service he returned home, and being injured on the way, at Columbus, did not re-enlist until 1863, when he went as a private in Company C, 68th O. V. I., and served until the end of the war, receiving by well-earned promotion the rank of sergeant-major. His regiment was attached to the army of the West, and took part in the battles at Atlanta and Bentonville, besides many other lighter engagements. After being mustered out, July 10, 1866, he came to Bowling Green as deputy treasurer, and later clerked in a hardware store at Perrysburg until his appointment as county treasurer in September, 1868, to serve out an unexpired term. So well did he perform the duties of the office that he was elected on the Republican ticket for the succeeding term, serving until 1871. For the next four years he was in the drug business at Perrysburg, but sold out in 1875, and a year later began clerking in different offices in the county court house. In 1879 he was again elected county treasurer, and since his term ex-



pired, in 1881, he has served as deputy auditor under three administrations.

Mr. Russell has been twice married, first time in 1861, to Miss Rachel A. Carey of Paulding county, who died in less than a year afterward. His second wife was Miss Alta Sullivan, who was born in Defiance county, July 7, 1843. They have two children living: (1) Charles H., born June 21, 1867, is a druggist's clerk at Bowling Green (he is married to Miss Charlotte Morrison), (2) Maude, born September 23, 1875, a young lady of fine social gifts, lives at home. Mr. Russell is a member of the G. A. R., and of the Masonic fraternity.

HON. ELIJAH P. EMERSON, of Bloomdale, is one of the representative citizens of Wood county, a business man and farmer, having won a distinguished success in every line of effort which he has entered. He is a self-made man, who as a boy walked into Ohio, accompanying the slowly-moving wagons which conveyed his parents and their household goods to their new home on the frontier.

Mr. Emerson was born January 23, 1834, in Berkeley county, Va. (now W. Va.), which had been for many years the home of his father's family. His grandfather Emerson was a slaveholder, but his father, Noble Emerson, being opposed to this, in early manhood determined to seek a home in a free State. He had been employed in boyhood as a boatman on the Potomac, and as a steersman on the Chesapeake & Ohio canal, but later he learned the cooper's trade, which he followed throughout life. He married Miss Mary Keesecker, and had ten children, of whom three were born in Ohio. In 1833 the family removed to Beaver county, Penn., and in May, 1848, they came to Mexico, Wyandot Co., Ohio, traveling in a small two-horse wagon, our subject with others walking most of the way, a tedious journey for even a healthy lad of fourteen. One day his feet became sore, and mounting one of the horses he rode for a few miles; becoming weary, he fell asleep, tumbled off the horse without waking up, and narrowly escaped being run over. The father had but limited means, and on reaching Mexico found employment at his trade, later buying the shop, the trade in potash and in pork barrels furnishing him a good business. In 1859 he moved to Sycamore, where our subject's mother died December 7, 1862. The father survived her thirty years, dying September 10, 1892, at the age of eighty-three, and their remains now rest in the cemetery at Sycamore. Two years after

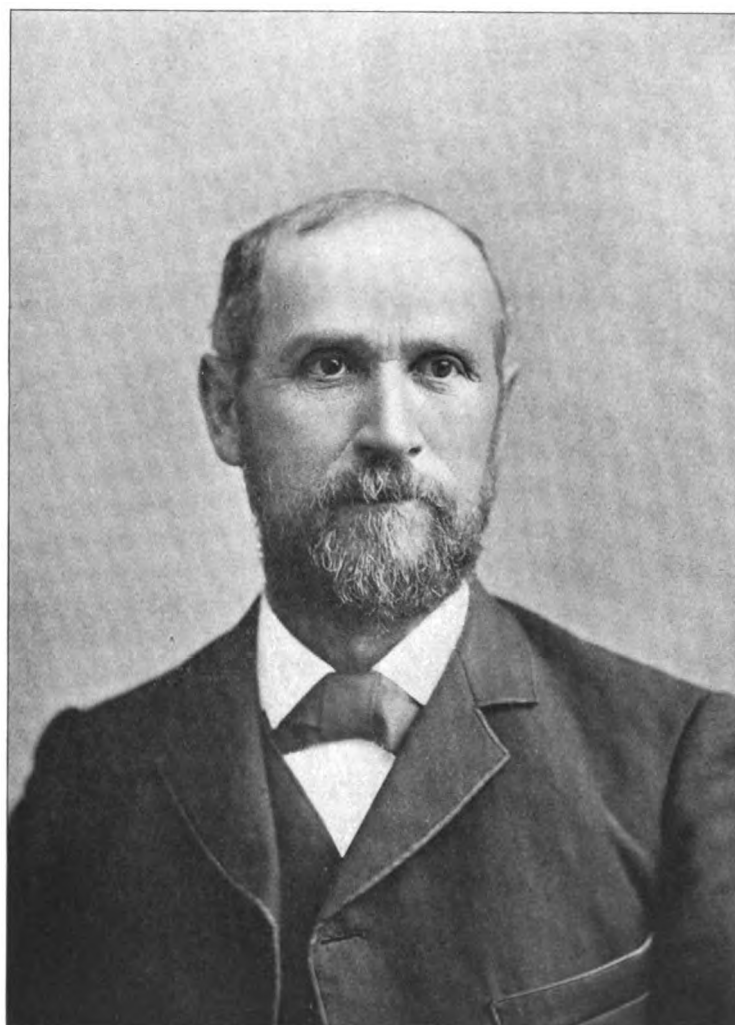
his wife's death he moved to Pike county, Mo., and bought a farm, which he sold later. He worked at his trade for some time, and in 1871 came to Eagleville to live in the home of our subject. He was a man of industrious habits, was over six feet two inches tall, and was spare in flesh. While he was no politician he took an intelligent interest in all the questions of his time and was a regular voter, being a Whig in his early years and later a Republican.

Our subject is one of six surviving children of the following family: Samuel B. died in Ohio, a wealthy man, after many years spent in the practice of medicine at Eagleville; Elijah P. comes next; John M. enlisted in Company G, 123d O. V. I., and it is believed is one of the many who perished in Andersonville prison; Rachel A. died in Virginia; William W. lives in Bloomdale; Enoch died in Virginia; Mary J. is the wife of Rufus W. Lundy, a hardware merchant of Myrtle Point, Ore.; Milton L. is a prosperous resident of Sycamore, Ohio, a blacksmith by occupation; Frank N. lives in San Francisco; Rufus A. is a merchant at Bloomdale.

Elijah P. Emerson attended the subscription schools of his time until he was fourteen years old, and after coming to Ohio availed himself of the privileges afforded by the district schools. Later he studied for three terms at Heidelberg College, Tiffin, and one term in the Seneca County Academy. At the age of twenty he began teaching, and was very successful; he taught thirteen terms in Wyandot and Seneca counties, and spent his vacations making shingles, owning a complete outfit, shaving-horse, drawknife, froe and brake. He received twenty-five cents per hundred when the timber was prepared, and \$3.75 per thousand when the wood was taken from the stump, white and red oak being used principally. In March, 1865, he went to Pike county, Mo., and taught there for a short time. On April 17, 1866, he was married at Crawfordsville, Ohio, to Miss Catherine Smalley, and they began housekeeping at Eagleville, where Mr. Emerson previously fitted up a home. His brother, Dr. Emerson, who was then practicing there, had pointed out an opening for a mercantile business, and, as our subject had several hundred dollars saved, he made the venture. The cost of goods was high after the war, and his stock was small, but trade increased year by year, bringing him prosperity.

In 1874, when Bloomdale was only a cross-road, he built a store there, which was conducted by his brother R. A., and in April, 1877, he sold it to him and another brother. In the spring of





*E. P. Emerson*



*Kate Emerson*



1878 he sold his Eagleville store. In 1882 he opened a dry-goods store in Bloomdale, but sold it after a few months; in 1889 he bought a hardware store in Bloomdale for a son, but subsequently sold it. He has been engaged in farming since 1876. He was then the owner of eighty acres in Bloom township, but had not given much attention to it, and one day, at a sale of the "French farm" of 232 acres, he made a bid merely to enliven the proceedings, and the farm was "knocked down" to him. The business was new to Mr. Emerson, but that could be said of all his other enterprises, and, despite the predictions that his uniform good fortune would desert him if he tried farming, he ventured, and succeeded. He now owns 352 acres in Bloom township, and fifty-eight and one-half acres in Hancock county, which he works in a thoroughly systematic and progressive manner.

Politically Mr. Emerson has been identified with the Republican party nearly all his life. He cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont, and continued to vote regularly with that party until 1890, when, feeling fully convinced that nothing would be done by the Republican party to seriously interfere with the whiskey traffic, he began to enter his protest to the manufacture and sale of intoxicants by voting with the only party that makes public declaration of its intention, if clothed with power, to close the saloon by stopping the manufacture and removing the national sanction of partnership in the business, viz.: the Prohibition party. He has never aspired to office, but has been chosen to different positions. At one time he was clerk of Bloom township, declining a second term; from January 1, 1867, to 1875, he was postmaster at Bloom (now Ted), and when the office was transferred to Bloomdale he became the first postmaster there, serving until 1877. In 1883 he was elected to the Legislature as Wood county's representative, and filled the place four years.

He served four months in the Civil war, enlisting April 22, 1861, in Company G, 15th O. V. I., with Capt. Tyler, in the 100-days' service, being sent to West Virginia. On his return home he prepared to go again, helped to raise a company for the 123rd Regiment, and was one of the three men whose activity in recruiting was to be rewarded by positions of honor in the company. Mr. Emerson was elected by the men to the office of second lieutenant, but through some manipulation of the County Central Committee he was not appointed.

A prominent feature of Mr. Emerson's

charming home is his library, filled with well-selected books which he finds pleasure in perusing. He and his wife are leading members of the Church of Christ, in which he has been an elder, and for many years he was superintendent of the Sunday-school. He contributes also to the support of other Churches in the locality. Their nine children were as follows: John J. died in infancy; Scott S. is a farmer in Bloom township; Olive L. married Benton Leathers, of Bloom township; Horace W. is at home; Dow P. died in infancy; Howard H. is at home; Elijah P., Jr., died in childhood; Lola E. and Florence E. are at home. Socially, Mr. Emerson was for some years a member of the I. O. O. F., but on moving to a distance from a lodge he "dropped out," and for the same reason he has withdrawn from active membership in Urie Post No. 110, G. A. R., of Bloomdale.

Mrs. Kate (Smalley) Emerson was born August 20, 1844, near Rowsburg, Ashland Co., Ohio. She was the sixth child born to Isaac and Elizabeth (Smith) Smalley, whose family was subsequently augmented to the number of seventeen—eleven sons and six daughters—of which number but seven grew to manhood and womanhood. At the age of nine years Mrs. Emerson was brought by her parents to Wyandot county, Ohio, and settled on a farm adjoining the village of Crawfordsville, near the site of the memorable spot where Col. Crawford was burned by the Indians. Her father was classed among the progressive farmers of his day. He was strongly imbued with the belief that a well-raised child—one to whom the parents had faithfully discharged their duty—should be sent out to combat the realities of life, fully panoplied in head, heart and hands for whatever position fate held in store or whatever condition circumstances might develop. Hence Mrs. Emerson was early sent to the district school, and during the intervals between terms was schooled by the mother in the duties pertaining to housekeeping. Not infrequently she was also found in the field with her father, dropping corn—at which she was an adept—digging potatoes, and aiding in gathering corn and storing fruit, etc. Early in her 'teens she commenced teaching in the district schools, at which time she assumed all charges for clothing, and also managed by economy to pay her expenses at a select school in Carey for three terms. Mrs. Emerson was during the war of the Rebellion an active sympathizer in the cause of the Union, and spent much time in soliciting and forwarding supplies for the sanitary and commissary departments of the army. She is nat-

urally inclined to faith in the teachings of Christianity, and early in life united with the Methodist Church, of Carey, Ohio. When she removed to Wood county with her husband, not finding near her home a Church of her first connection, she united with the membership of the Church of Christ, at Eagleville, and has remained a consistent Christian and constant attendant at the various services, and a helper in the many labors of the Church up to the present. She served as superintendent of the Sunday-school several years, and in the Church diligently labored to unite the congregation with the missionary wing of the Church.

During the period of her teaching she met Mr. Emerson—her subsequent husband—at a teachers' examination. An attachment—mutual—was formed, that afterward culminated in their union for life, which was sealed April 17, 1866. Together their life barque has floated down the stream of time for over thirty years. Of the nine children born to Mrs. Emerson, six remain to bless her life—three having passed to the silent beyond. Like nearly all mothers she is devotedly attached to her children, and no sacrifice of time or labor is withheld when duty calls. Her father and mother are dead. Her brothers and sisters have all been married, and are living in their own homes. The elder brother, Allen, is known as Judge Smalley, and M. A. has recently been appointed and confirmed as U. S. marshal of northern Ohio. The distinguishing characteristics of Mrs. Emerson's life are patient industry, devotion to home, family, kindred and friends, and a conscientious regard for the rights and feelings of others.

FRANK A. BALDWIN, a leading attorney of Bowling Green, whose abilities and attainments won for him at an early age a high standing among the legal fraternity, was born near Geneva, N. Y., July 30, 1854.

His parents, Sanford and Juliette (Smith) Baldwin, were also born in New York State, the father December 7, 1825, at Saratoga Springs, and the mother October 12, 1827, at Seneca Falls. Soon after their marriage they came west, in 1846 settling at Perrysburg, Wood county, where Mr. Baldwin soon became a prominent and influential worker in municipal affairs, holding various official positions during his residence there. In 1860 he moved to Weston and opened a hotel, which he conducted some twelve years. He then transferred the active management to other hands, and he and his wife settled down in Weston to spend their declining years

free from business cares; there he died August 1, 1895. They had twelve children, five of whom grew to maturity: Mary, the wife of W. R. Worth, who manages the hotel at Weston; Hattie, the wife of Judge Young, of Bowling Green; Frank A., our subject; Nellie, the widow of Dr. G. W. Pennington, of Weston; and Lulu, a book-keeper for J. W. Long & Co., of Weston, who lives at home with her parents.

Our subject attended the public schools at his home during his boyhood, and later studied in the high school at Toledo, and the Eastman Business College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Under the direction of J. R. Tyler, of Perrysburg, and McCauley & Pennington, of Tiffin, he prepared for the bar, and was admitted April 12, 1877. In June of the same year he began the practice of his profession at Weston, and a few months later he received an extraordinary evidence of the esteem of his fellow citizens in an election to the responsible office of prosecuting attorney of Wood county; as he was the Democratic candidate this is the more remarkable, Wood county having been a Republican stronghold ever since the Civil war. Retiring from this office at the end of two years, he engaged in practice at Bowling Green. An able advocate, his professional efforts have been attended with uniform success, and at the present there are but few cases of importance in which he is not retained on one side or the other, this being especially true of those which involve questions of criminal law. Mr. Baldwin is at present a member of the building committee for the Wood county court house. In 1879 he was married to Miss Clara Foote, who was born April 22, 1855, in Washington township, where her father, Joel Foote, was a prominent resident for many years. He died February 22, 1896.

D. H. HILL, the deputy recorder of Wood county, and one of the most able and hard-working officials in the service of the county, was born in Milton Center, June 30, 1841.

His father, William Hill, was born in eastern Ohio, and in 1836 came to Wood county, locating in Milton Center upon wild land which he cleared and cultivated. He was prominent among the pioneers of his neighborhood, and was a Whig in politics. He raised a family of twelve children—two girls and ten boys—the subject of this sketch being the youngest. Only three of the twelve are now living, viz.: Mrs. Eliza Stewart, wife of Robert Stewart, of Bowling Green, Ohio; Joseph B. Hill, of Piqua, Ohio; and the subject of this sketch.

Our subject attended the district school in boyhood, and afterward learned the carpenter's trade. In May, 1862, he enlisted for three months in Company K, 84th O. V. I., and went to the front. He returned home October 1, of that year, and three weeks later joined Company G, 10th O. V. Cav. for three years; was appointed sergeant January 18, 1863, and first sergeant in September, 1864. His regiment was assigned to the army of the West, and did gallant service under Kilpatrick. In May, 1865, our subject was promoted to the rank of second lieutenant of Company C, but was wounded during a skirmish at Ringgold, Ga., was sent to the hospital, and was mustered out with his company, July 24, 1865. After his return he followed farming at Milton Center, and for some years was postmaster there. Since September 2, 1895, he has held the office of deputy recorder, giving faithful and efficient service. In 1889 he was married to Miss Susan Masks, a native of Wood-county, and they have one child—E. A. Hill, of Custar, Ohio. Politically our subject is a Republican; socially he is a member of the G. A. R.

G. W. HELFRICH, the efficient manager and secretary of the Wood County Tribune Company, was born in Tiffin, Ohio, February 14, 1854. His grandparents, John and Barbara Helfrich, came from Germany to America in 1832, and died in Pennsylvania at an advanced age.

His father, Adam Helfrich, was a native of Darmstadt, Germany, born May 4, 1828, and when four years old came with his parents to Franklin county, Penn. In early manhood, in company with some other young men, he walked to Tiffin, Ohio, where he secured work in a grist-mill at ten dollars a month. He was married there to Miss Margaret Ruch, and not long after he bought eighty acres of school land near McComb, Ohio, to which he removed. Not being a skilled chopper of trees, and lacking money to hire help, he was obliged to resort to primitive methods of preparing logs for his new dwelling, burning them into proper lengths, after "pacing them off" for want of a better way of measuring them. However, he built the house. After a year he sold that property and bought twenty acres in the same county, six miles east, lived there ten years, then bought 116 acres within one-half mile of the first eighty acres, where he made his permanent home. During the Civil war he enlisted in Company G, 21st O. V. I., assigned to Gen. Rosecrans army, 14th Army Corps, commanded by Gen. Thomas, 2d Divis-

ion, commanded by Gen. James S. Neegly, 2d Brigade, Col. John F. Miller. At the battle of Murfreesboro he was captured and taken to Libby prison; but was released on parole eleven days after, having had nothing to eat in the meantime but some "hard tack." Taken to Annapolis he there contracted the smallpox, and lay for seven weeks in the hospital. Returning home, with his health ruined, he never received a pension because, having never been ill for a day before entering the army, he had no "family physician" who could certify to his physical condition previous to that time, as required by the pension office. Politically, he was a Jacksonian Democrat, and in religious faith was a member of the U. B. Church. His death occurred September 29, 1892. His wife who was born in Canton, Stark county, Ohio, September 2, 1831, died December 11, 1895, at her home at Deweyville, Ohio. Our subject is the eldest of their nine children; the others being B. F., a butcher and stock buyer at North Baltimore, Ohio; Mary L., the widow of E. L. Ward, Findlay, Ohio; Jacob R., who is engaged in the real-estate business at Eldon, Mo.; Amanda Cordelia, who died when sixteen months old; Permilla J., the wife of E. O. Dexter, of Chicago, Ill.; Calista A., who married John Arnold, of Findlay, Ohio; Charlotte Elizabeth, the wife of M. Brooks, of Shawtown, Ohio; and Caroline May, the wife of Byron Powell, of Benton, Ohio.

G. W. Helfrich was educated in the district schools near McComb, also in the high school at Findlay, and at the age of eighteen began to teach. After two terms he secured employment in a drug-store, and shortly afterward bought a half-interest in a harness shop, investing his entire capital, thirty-five dollars. This concern was closed by the sheriff two weeks later for old debts contracted prior to his entering the business. With most men this would have ended the matter, but a certain indomitable perseverance which is characteristic of our subject revealed itself, and he determined to go on, with no money, no tools, no stock, no custom, and no knowledge of the business. He borrowed a few tools, and as he was opening the shop a tanner called to collect an old bill for leather. After discussing the situation Mr. Helfrich obtained credit for forty-eight pounds of leather, which he brought on his back from the tannery, ten miles distant. He had never watched any one make a set of harness, but he was not to be daunted by a trifle like that, and he proceeded to manufacture one according to his own ideas. As trade came in he gradually learned the business, being assisted



usually by the well-meant advice of his customers. This proved vexatious at times, and wishing to perfect himself in the trade, he went to Ottawa, Ohio, where he worked under special instruction for seventeen months, and then returned to his old shop, from which time it was distinctly understood that the proprietor would accept no suggestions as to his methods of work. He established a fine trade, and in 1882 sold a half-interest to his brother, who took charge of the shop, while our subject opened a store for the sale of agricultural implements. Nine months later a fire destroyed everything he owned except a small dwelling house, he having no insurance, and was \$2,000 in debt. He then went "on the road" as a salesman for different firms, and in a short time paid every cent he owed, besides \$800 security for others. With the exception of a short interval in the grocery business, and, later, in a real-estate and life insurance enterprise at Bowling Green, he continued to travel until January 1, 1894—in all ten years—when he assumed the duties of his present position, of which he is making a great success. Previous to that time the liabilities of the *Tribune* were \$4,000 more than the assets; in less than two and a half years the *Tribune* was out of debt under his management, and a steady increase in circulation and advertising patronage promises rich rewards in the future.

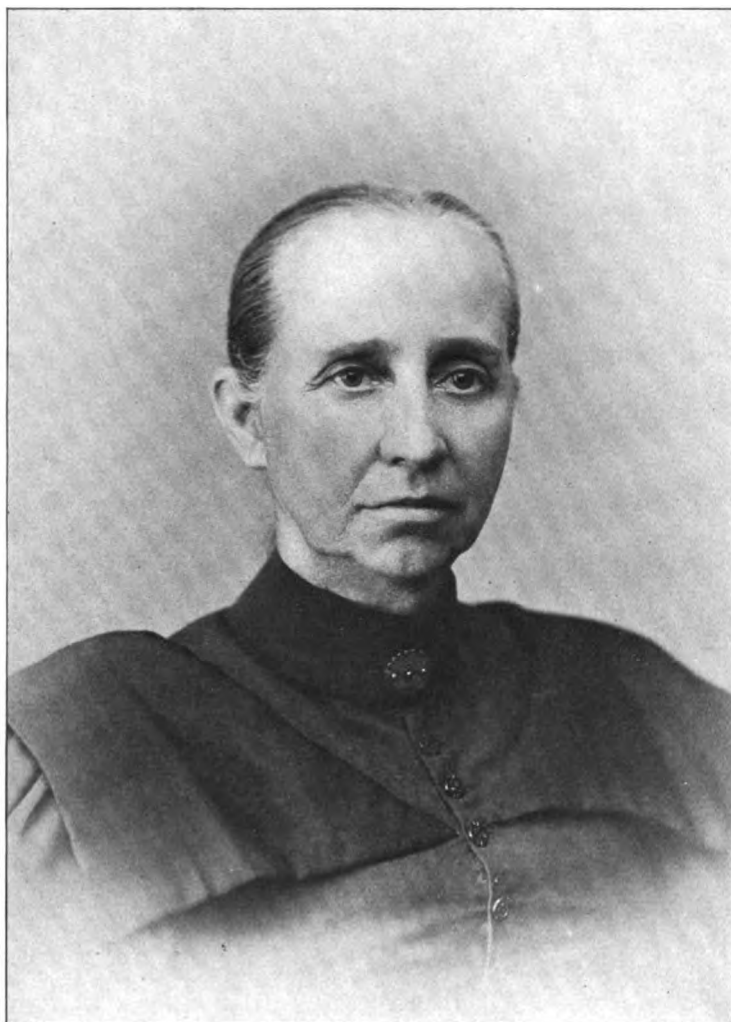
Mr. Helfrich was married, in 1875, to Miss Mary M. Hardy, who was born in McComb, March 27, 1856. They have had three children: Myrtle Pearl, born February 15, 1876; Edward Earl, born June 27, 1878; and Hazel Lurain, born February 21, 1891. Our subject and his wife and children are members of the Presbyterian Church, and actively interested in its work. In politics he is a Republican, and he is a member of the K. of P., the I. O. O. F. and T. T. M. A. of Toledo, in all of which he is an enthusiastic worker. In and out of the Lodge rooms, no society or business is lowered any by having Mr. Helfrich as one of their number, but are bettered, morally, socially and financially.

LEWIS W. MCCRORY. There is in the character of this gentleman some of the qualities of the Scotch-Irish ancestry from which he is descended—the thoroughness and unfaltering purpose of the former, and the adaptability to circumstances of the latter. His fellow-townsmen recognize him as a gentleman of sterling worth; for his life has ever been an honorable one. He was born in the town of Wooster, Wayne Co., Ohio, November 5, 1835, and is a son of Samuel

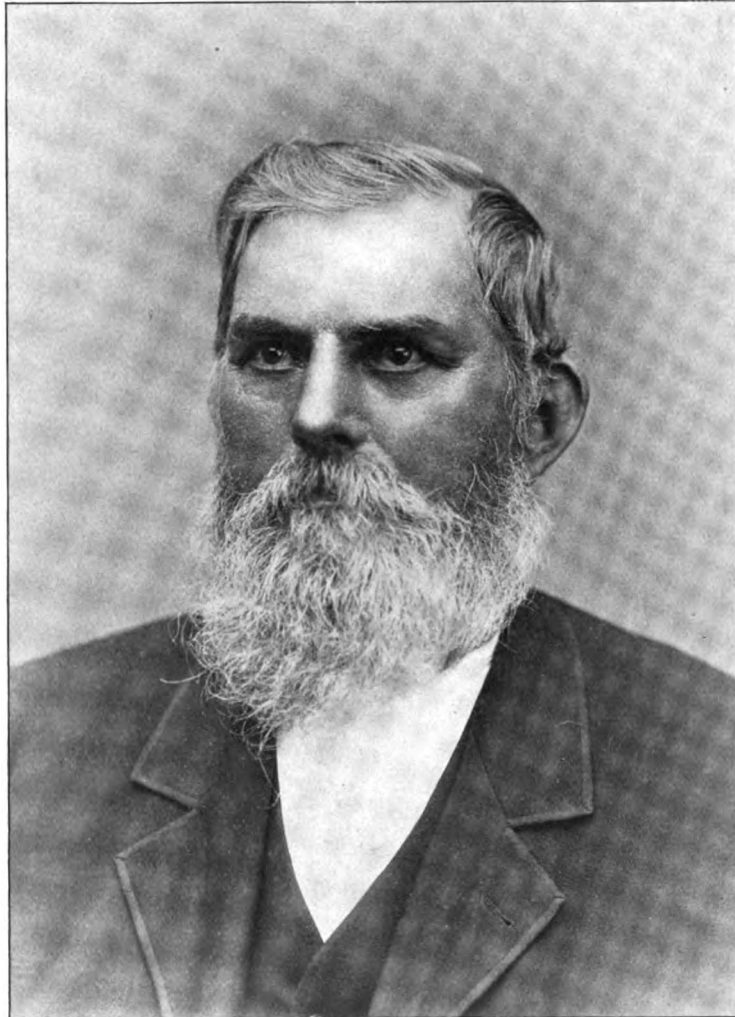
and Hannah (Pennypacker) McCrory. His father was born in Mifflin county, Penn., May 7, 1795, and was reared as a farmer boy. Subsequently he removed to Wayne county, Ohio, locating on a farm near Wooster, where he resided for twelve years. On October 6, 1836, he came to Wood county, and purchased eighty acres of wild land in Henry township, on which he erected a small log house. His death occurred in 1866, that of his wife on July 3, 1845. Their children were: John, who was born November 20, 1819, served as a soldier in Company H, 21st O. V. I., and died February 6, 1873; Mary, who was born March 19, 1820, became the wife of Reason Whitacre, and died in Bloom township; James, born March 13, 1823, died in Liberty township; Elizabeth, born May 15, 1825, became the wife of Isaac Whitacre, and died in Bloom township; Jacob, born March 14, 1827, died at the age of four years; Hannah, born March 7, 1829, married John Otterbach, and died in Liberty; Samuel, born April 12, 1831, died on the old homestead in Henry township; Daniel, born February 17, 1833; Lewis W., our subject, comes next; and Liddy Ann, born December 26, 1837, became the wife of Jefferson Shinebarger, and died in Liberty township. The mother of this family having passed away, the father married Eliza Shaffer, and they had four children: Eliza Jane, born January 13, 1847, died in Henry township; Philander, born November 20, 1848, a merchant of East Toledo, Ohio; Lucinda, born July 19, 1853, died in girlhood; Nancy, born in 1850, now the wife of Frederick Sheron, of Portage township. The mother of these died December 28, 1859.

Lewis W. McCrory was only a year old when his parents removed to Wood county. He was educated in the district schools near his home, and in the usual manner of farmer lads was reared to manhood. He was married in Portage township, February 10, 1856, to Caroline Lucy Gorton, a native of Bloom township, whose parents came from Rhode Island to Wood county at an early day. They began their domestic life on a farm of twenty acres of wild land in Liberty township, and Mr. McCrory continued its cultivation until June 9, 1862, when he enlisted at Portage in Company A, 100th O. V. I. Soon after the regiment went to the front, and was assigned to the army of the Cumberland. He participated in the important battles of the campaign of that year, and September 8, 1863, at the battle of Limestone Station, was captured by the enemy and conveyed to Lynchburg, whence he was afterward first taken to Libby prison,





*Mrs. L. W. McGarry*



*L. W. McCrory*



then to Belle Isle, lastly to Castle Thunder; he was at the last two on two different occasions, and March 13, 1864, was conveyed to Andersonville, where he remained until March 27, 1865; until April 24, he was at Vicksburg, and on April 27, he was put on board the "Sultana." When the vessel was within seven miles of Memphis the boilers exploded, and 1,700 men lost their lives. Mr. McCrory clung to the wreck for hours, but it finally took fire and he was obliged to let go his hold. He was also in the water nine hours before he reached the shore, and narrowly escaped drowning. At length he was taken to Memphis in a boat, from there to Cairo, Ill., on the steamer "Silver Spring," and was discharged at Columbus, Ohio, May 21, 1865.

In the meantime the news of the terrible disaster had spread northward, and Mrs. McCrory was told that her husband was dead. When he appeared before her alive and well, the shock was too great for her, and caused her death seven days later. Their children were, Melissa, born December 10, 1856, now the wife of George Gorton, of Providence, R. I.; Silas Augustus, who was born October 13, 1858, and resides in Portage; Frances Imogene, born September 6, 1860, wife of William George, of Liberty township; and Lewis La Fayette, born August 5, 1862, now in North Baltimore, Ohio. Mr. McCrory was again married, this time on March 11, 1866, to Julia A. Taylor, who was born November 7, 1840, in Ashland county, Ohio, a daughter of David and Eliza (Myers) Taylor. They have always lived on their present farm, Mr. McCrory having in the fall of 1865 sold his first purchase and bought eighty acres in Section 25, Liberty township. They have four children: Florence May, born January 20, 1867, wife of E. C. Marvin, of Liberty township; Mary Gertrude, born September 30, 1868, died November 10, 1883; Tryphena, born December 25, 1870, died January 27, 1874; Delia May, born February 4, 1874, now the wife of Albert Roberts, of Liberty township.

In his business interests, Mr. McCrory has prospered, and is known as a man of unquestioned integrity and honorable dealing, his success being well merited. He has greatly improved his place, and has recently erected upon it a handsome residence, wherein hospitality reigns supreme. In politics he is a stanch Prohibitionist, and in religious faith he is an active member of the Disciples Church, in which he is serving as deacon. Since the fall of 1874 he has also been a member of Whitney Lodge No. 589, I. O. O. F., of Portage.

JAMES HUGHES, one of the oldest and most highly respected residents of Bowling Green, known to young and old as "Uncle Jimmey," was born in the County of Sussex England, July 26, 1819. His father, James Hughes, was also a native of Sussex, born in 1799, and previous to his emigration to America, in 1857, he was a farm laborer. His wife, whose maiden name was Sarah Bachelor, was born in the same county, in 1801, and both spent their last years on a farm near Tontogany, Wood county, where Mr. Hughes, Sr., died in 1876, Mrs. Hughes surviving him until 1890. While living in England they were members of the Established Church, and, in this country, of the Episcopal Church. The subject of this sketch is the eldest of their four children, the others being Charlotte, who died in youth; Harriet, the widow of James Ellis, of Wood county; and Ann, who married James Challen, of Tontogany.

Our subject was married in England, December 31, 1844, to Miss Ann Evans, who was born November 8, 1829, the groom being twenty-five years of age, the bride a little over fifteen. The father of Mrs. Hughes, James Evans, was a farm laborer at Malsey, Sussex county, and several generations of her family had been tenants of the same house in which she was born. He was a man of regular habits, and a devoted adherent of the Church of England, often walking ten miles to hear a favorite preacher. He married Jane Greenfield, also a native of Malsey. He had no brothers or sisters, and his wife was the only one of four children to live to maturity. Fifteen children were born of this union: Maria, who married William Challen, and came to Wood county, Ohio, in 1857, had also fifteen children; James came to America, and died after his return to England; William and the twins, Hannah and Samuel, all died in England; Elizabeth (deceased), married A. Mead, and lived near the old home; Jane, now Mrs. Phillips, lives in England; Ann became Mrs. Hughes; Sarah is the widow of Luke Marsh, and the mother of twelve children; Ellen (Mrs. White), lives in England; Alfred is a resident of Sussex, England; two whose names are not known; Susan, and Mary Cornwell. The youngest child was born when her mother was fifty-two years old. She married, and has a son who came to this country and now lives in Bowling Green. Mrs. Hughes' father died at the age of eighty, her mother when seventy-two.

After their marriage our subject and his wife lived near the old home for ten years. In 1854, they came to America on the sailing vessel "Southampton," which was five weeks and three

days on the voyage. For over two years they lived in Erie county, and then settled upon a farm in Plain township, Wood county, which he still owns. Of their eighteen children twelve grew to maturity, and eleven are still living: James lives in Bowling Green; he married B. McMillen, and has three children—Mina, Rollo and Bertha. Harriet is the wife of Todd Brown, of Plain township, and has five children—Carrie, Jesse, Howard, Blanche and Ethel. Rose married Albert Avery, of Wood county, and has three sons—Harley, Homer and Allen. Hugh, who lives in Bowling Green, married Kate McCaulley, and has one son—Harry. Henry is a merchant in Bowling Green. John married Racy Bowerman, and is a resident of Bowling Green. Orlando married L. English, and also lives in that city; they have four children—Viola, Arthur, Gertrude and Flossie. Frank married Bertha Mearing, and lives in Plain township; has one daughter—Helen. Adonna married Albert Huffman, and has two children—Harrison and Aleta. Emma married Henry Ostrander, of Chicago, Ill., and has one son—Harry. Burton married Chloe Rader, and lives in Bowling Green; they have two children—Florence and Floyd. Sarah Ann married Henry Newton, of Perrysburg, and died leaving three children—Adonna, Willard and Coy—of whom, Adonna married George Haskill, of Columbus, Ohio, and has one child—Gladys; Willard married Gertie Hartman, and lives in Toledo; Coy is married and lives in Toledo. Mrs. Hughes passed away January 26, 1896.

Mr. and Mrs. Hughes visited England in 1866, and again in 1882. The last time the trip out was made in eight and one-half days, a striking contrast to their first voyage; but coming back the ship struck a sand-bar near Sandy Hook, and they were detained for three days just outside of New York harbor. Mr. Hughes has not united with any Church since coming to this country. In politics he is a Republican.

EDWARD ROE (deceased), who at the time of his death was a wealthy retired farmer of Bowling Green, was one of the fortunate men whose fertile acres have of late years given up their long-concealed treasures, and enriched their owners by copious supplies of oil. He was born May 12, 1838, in Monroe county, Mich., where his father, Dominick Roe, was also born, in the year 1784.

The family is of French-Canadian descent, and are counted among the early settlers of Michigan. Dominick Roe was a typical pioneer, robust and powerful, and possessed of perfect

health, never knowing a day's illness until death came to him in 1861. His first wife was a lady of French-Canadian stock, Miss Lucy Bumean. For some years they lived in Michigan, but in 1847 they came with their family to Liberty township, and settled in the swampy woods among the muskrats, deer and bears. Here, in time, a large farm was cleared and a comfortable home made. Eleven children were born of the first marriage, of whom the following lived to maturity: Dominick and John (now deceased); Lucy, living near Detroit; Olive (now deceased); Stephen, living in Lucas county, Ohio; Victoria, the wife of Peter Malask; Jane (now deceased); Justus, now living in Michigan; and Edward, our subject. Three others died in childhood. Our subject's father was married, second, to Miss Viana Leveret, by whom he had three children: Margaret (now Mrs. L. Garro); Mary, the wife of David De Sadler; and Eliza (the wife of Frank Ducat).

Edward Roe was about nine years old when he came to Wood county. He grew to manhood upon the old farm which he helped to clear, and November 14, 1860, he married Miss Margaret Ducat, a lady of French descent, born in Michigan December 30, 1841. Her father, Anthony Ducat, was born April 20, 1815, in the same State. He died May 8, 1892, in Wood county, where he had located fifty years before. His wife, Margaret Renerdo, died in early womanhood. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Roe lived upon a farm in Liberty township, removing some years later to another in Portage township. Ten children were born to them: Caleb, August 26, 1861, married Myrtle Gaghan; Robert, August 20, 1863, married Miss Addie Elder and had two daughters—Emily and Cora; Eliza, January 29, 1865, died at the age of fourteen months; Sherman, January 22, 1867, a farmer in Portage township, married Miss Bertie Creps, a native of Wood county, born October 15, 1871, and has two children—Burtzell and Floyd; Hiram, September 5, 1870, married Miss Myrtie Miller, and has two children—Loren and Harry, the younger of whom died in infancy; Alfred and Albert (twins), died at the same time and were buried in the same coffin; Louis, December 18, 1875; Lucetta, September 28, 1878; and Guy, April 7, 1880, are all at home.

After many years spent in farming his 280 acres, Mr. Roe began testing for oil with encouraging results, and he owned ten wells at the time of death. A few years ago he and his wife came to Bowling Green to secure for their younger children advantages of education and society denied

the dwellers in rural districts. During the Civil war Mr. Roe served for eleven months in Company A, 182d O. V. I., and took part in the engagement at Nashville. In politics he was a Republican. He passed from earth August 22, 1896.

ALBERT FRONEY, senior member of the leading dry-goods firm of A. Froney & Co., Bowling Green, has been a resident of that city since the commencement of its progressive period. He is a distinctively self-made man, one who took the tide of fortune at its flood, and carried himself to one of the highest places attainable in the commercial circle of Wood county.

Born in the kingdom of Hanover, Germany, September 23, 1842, he was, in 1847, brought by his parents, Augustus and Caroline (Gyer) Froney, to America, landing at New York on the first day of July that year. For a time the family lived at Buffalo, N. Y., then removed to Elmore, Ohio, at that time a mere village in the wilderness, where the parents both died in 1873, within a few days of each other, the father at the age of seventy, the mother when sixty-four. They had a family of five children as follows: Henry, now a resident of Bay City, Mich.; Rachel, wife of George Gossman, of Elmore; George, a farmer at Kewaunee, Wis.; Albert, subject of sketch; and Sophia, wife of Daniel Eckert, of Elmore.

Albert Froney received his education at the public schools of Elmore, and at the age of sixteen, in 1859, commenced his business career as clerk in a dry-goods store at Pemberville, Wood county, his salary at first being sixty dollars per annum. In this connection, with the exception of a four-months' experience in the army during the war of the Rebellion, he remained until December 1, 1865. So valuable were his services in the store that before the end of the first year his salary was raised, and five years later he became a partner in the concern. On May 2, 1864, he enlisted in Company C, 144th O. V. I., was appointed first sergeant the same day, and served until the muster-out of the command August 31 following, after a short but useful campaign in Maryland and the Virginias.

In December, 1865, Mr. Froney embarked in business, and soon won not only popularity but also success in the village where he first entered on his life's mission. He was one of the petitioners for the incorporation of Pemberville of 1876, treasurer of the town in 1877, and a watchful guardian of the public interests of the ambitious village of Pemberville. Elected treas-

urer of Wood county, he came to Bowling Green in 1886, took possession of the office and served one term, refusing point-blank to accept a second election on the grounds that the salary attached to the office did not warrant the financial risk carried by the incumbent. This political diversion was based on business principles, without any sentiment attached, and the experience of one term was quite sufficient to show him that mercantile life suited him better than official life. In 1889, selling out his business in Pemberville, he set out on a four-months' trip to Europe, visiting his birthplace and other points of interest. Returning to Wood county, he established in Bowling Green his present business, along with Mr. Boughton, under the firm name of Froney & Boughton, and with the exception of a four-months' trip through the Western States, his family accompanying him, the business thus established has claimed almost all his working hours, down to the present time. In 1892 he built a business block on South Main street, and in 1895 he erected his present three-story store building, 42 x 125, the first and second floors of which are occupied as the store proper, the third floor being utilized as a store-room. The store is equipped with all the latest improvements and accessories to be found in a first-class establishment of its kind, and filled with a large and well-selected stock of dry goods, carpets, etc., to the value of over \$50,000, employment being given to some dozen clerks. Mr. Froney's sole partners now are his son, B. J., and son-in-law, Mr. Moore, each of whom, like the senior member himself, holds an important place in the commercial and municipal economy of Bowling Green.

Politically Mr. Froney has been an ardent Republican since the formation of the party, and has well served his adopted county and city in various capacities, being a man of great public spirit, and taking a generous interest in every measure tending to benefit the community at large. In 1891 he was elected a member of the common council of Bowling Green, and in 1892 was a member of the City Hall building committee. A reference to the chapter on Plain township, to the political chapter of the general history of the county, and to the sections of the chapter on Bowling Green, dealing with municipal affairs, will disclose the fact that once in a while Mr. Froney is drawn into public affairs, perhaps not infrequently against his inclination. With the leading institutions of Bowling Green he is closely identified, and he was one of the organizers of the First National Bank, of which he is a director. In addition to the business



blocks, etc., already mentioned, he built a hotel and some private residences at Pemberville, also two stores, besides his residence in Bowling Green, two of the finest in the city.

On October 24, 1863, Mr. Froney was married to Miss Sarah J. Pember, who was born at Pemberville, July 8, 1842, a daughter of James Pember, the founder of that village, and one of foremost pioneers of the county; he never ran for office, but he possessed great influence in political circles, and took an active interest in the movements which resulted in the formation of the Republican party. He lived to the age of seventy-five years. To Mr. and Mrs. Froney were born four children, as follows: Augusta, who died of diphtheria at the age of thirteen; B. J., a partner with his father; Florence, at home; and Stella, wife of Fred Moore, also a member of the firm of A. Froney & Co. The family attend the Presbyterian Church, and are held in the highest respect. Mr. Froney is broad-minded and liberal in his ideas, is charitable to the poor and needy, and in his unusually successful business career has developed the industry, sound judgment and frugality so characteristic of the German-American.

WILLIAM W. HILL, M. D., one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Weston, is a native of Ohio, born in the township where he now resides, September 6, 1845, and is the eldest in a family of ten children born to John and Hester (Crom) Hill. The birth of the father occurred September 9, 1822, in Stark county, Ohio, where he lived until 1831, when with his father, William Hill, he came to Wood county, locating in Milton township, where his father purchased some government land, and with the help of his sons began the arduous task of clearing and cultivating the same. William Hill came to this country from England after the Revolutionary war.

John Hill remained upon the farm of his parents for several years, but after his marriage to Hester Crom he removed to Weston township, where he purchased a farm and immediately set about making the necessary improvements. In early life he was a member of the United Brethren Church; but after his removal to Milton township, Wood county, where there was no Church of that denomination, he united with the Christian Church. At the end of an exemplary Christian life he passed peacefully away August 10, 1887, at the age of sixty-four years.

The mother of our subject was also a native of this State, born in Harrison county, January 5, 1821, and with her parents moved to Woodcount-

ty, in 1831, locating in Washington township, where she lived until her marriage. Her father was an early pioneer preacher, who traveled through this country when it was inhabited mostly by Indians and wild beasts of all kinds. Like her husband she was first a member of the United Brethren Church, and afterward joined the Christian Church. Her death occurred November 9, 1894, when she was seventy-three years of age.

At the early age of ten years our subject started out in life for himself. As his father was in limited circumstances, and the family large, it became necessary that the older children should do all in their power to assist in maintaining the others. Although young, William was strong and willing to work, and soon found employment on a neighboring farm, where he was hired by the month. When a little past fifteen years of age he enlisted in Company G, 10th O. V. C., with which he served for three years. On May 13, 1864, he was slightly wounded in the left hip by a piece of shell at the battle of Resaca, Ga., but as the wound was not serious he did not go to hospital; again, at the battle of Kenesaw Mountain he received a slight flesh wound in the right leg while supporting a battery. On August 20, 1864, he was again wounded, this time at the battle of Jonesboro, Ga., the ball striking him in the left leg about half way between the ankle and the knee, shattering both bones very badly. He was sent to Kingston field hospital, where he contracted gangrene in the wound, which proved very serious. Being granted a furlough in October, 1864, the Doctor returned home and remained at Perrysburg, Wood county, under the care of Drs. Peck and Hamilton for three months. When able to walk on crutches, he was ordered to report to David's Island, in New York harbor, where he remained until the close of the war, being honorably discharged, June 12, 1865. After his return home, he did not recover from the effects of his wound. For seventeen years he was a constant sufferer, being at times compelled to walk on crutches, and in 1886 his life was despaired of. As a last resort his leg was amputated, since which time he has enjoyed good health.

After his return from the war Dr. Hill attended the Weston schools for a time, there receiving a fair education, after which he was engaged in teaching. Later he became clerk in a store, but after a short time decided to adopt the medical profession as a life work, and in 1874 he began reading medicine. In 1880 he entered the Western Reserve University at Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1883 entered Toledo Medical College, from which he was graduated. July 11,



*William W. Hill M.D.*



1883, the Doctor began practice in Weston, where he was reared from childhood, and from the start met with success. His practice is now large and rapidly increasing in the town and throughout the country, and he is known as one of the leading physicians and surgeons of Wood county.

On August 25, 1869, Dr. Hill was married to Miss Elvira A. Hathaway, and by this union there are two sons: (1) Charles E., born March 10, 1872, is a prominent young business man of Toledo, Ohio, where he is working for the large firm of Armstrong & Co.; he was married November 20, 1895, to Helen Gibson Canary, and they now make their home in that city. (2) Fred M., the younger son, was born March 31, 1874, and is also a thorough business man, having charge of the telephone business of Bowling Green, Ohio, where he now makes his home. On April 11, 1894, he wedded Florence E. Holbrook. The family are members of the M. E. Church.

Dr. Hill is a member of the Wood County Medical Association, the Northwestern Medical Society and the Ohio State Medical Association. Having started out in the world with nothing, and at the same time being a cripple, the prominence to which he has attained is due to his own individual efforts and perseverance. In all matters pertaining to his profession he is interested, and in addition to his duties as a general practitioner he does a large amount of surgical work.

In politics the Doctor is an ardent Republican, believing in the principles of true government, free schools, free speech and above all the right of franchise to all, irrespective of race or color. He has never actively entered into political affairs, but has filled the offices of mayor, clerk and member of the board of health. He is an earnest supporter of the temperance cause, as he himself never smokes or chews tobacco, or drinks anything stronger than tea or coffee. He gives his aid to anything that will build up the town or advance the interests of the community. The Doctor has been a Mason twenty-eight years, being a member of the Grand Rapids Lodge No. 289 and Crystal Chapter No. 157, Bowling Green. He is also a member of Neibling Post No. 20, G. A. R., of Weston; of Kenilworth Lodge No. 340, K. of P., of Weston; and also of Anthony Wayne Tent No. 140, K. O. T. M., of Weston, in all of which he has been active, especially in the Masonic Order, having filled most of the Chairs in the Blue Lodge.

Mrs. Hill is the youngest in the family of

eleven children born to Elihu and Anita (Mallory) Hathaway, both of whom were natives of Queensbury, Warren Co., N. Y., the former born November 18, 1797, and the latter on July 1, 1804. They were married February 23, 1820, at Westfield, Medina Co., Ohio, and the father was a pioneer farmer in Lorain county, where the mother died October 31, 1865. The father subsequently came to Wood county, where he passed away March 12, 1876. She was a member of the M. E. Church, he of the Baptist; in politics he was a Democrat of the Jacksonian type. Daniel Mallory, Mrs. Hathaway's father, was a merchant in New York State; he was murdered while on his way to enlist in the war of 1812.

GILES C. ROCKWOOD, a prosperous farmer and oil producer of Plain township, was born in Jefferson county, N. Y., August 19, 1819. The paternal grandfather of our subject lived for many years in the State of New York, and there died. Three of his sons were: Asa, who lived and died in Pittsfield, Lorain Co., Ohio; Roswell, who spent the most of his life in Champion, N. Y.; and David, the father of Giles C.

David Rockwood was born in 1777 in New Hampshire, and was reared to farm life. When a young man he came with some of his older half-brothers to Cherry Valley, N. Y., and, as they kept "bachelor's hall," he was their cook. In later years their parents came to New York State, also locating in Cherry Valley, and David and his half-brother William moved into Jefferson county, N. Y., and bought land. David was united in marriage in that county with Miss Ruby Rounds, a native of Westchester county, N. Y., and while living in that State they became the parents of six sons and one daughter, namely: Henry, a resident of Elyria; Benjamin S., who went west many years ago and has never since been heard from; Emeline, widow of David Gott; F. W., a prominent farmer of Lorain county, Ohio; Giles C., the subject of this sketch; David P., of La Grange Centre, Ohio; and Almon A., residing in California. Another child, Pauline, now the widow of Hiram Buswell, was born in Lorain county, Ohio. Mr. Rockwood was a well-to-do farmer in New York, and traded his farm there for 600 acres in La Grange township, Lorain Co., Ohio, for which place he set out in June, 1826, driving a team of horses.

Five sons and the daughter came with the parents, the other son traveling by the water route with the household goods. Asa Rockwood, a brother of David, came at the same time. The journey to New York occupied ten days, and

they came by Cleveland, where at that time there was no bridge across the Cuyahoga river, and where Mr. Rockwood was offered land, now the site of the public square, at four dollars an acre, or land on the west side of the city at twenty shillings an acre. However, they pushed on to Elyria and thence to La Porte, where the family remained while the father went out to look over the land he had bargained for at La-Grange. Upon seeing this he was so disappointed that he concluded to return to Cleveland and invest in land there, but was dissuaded from this by Belden, Ingersol and Mennels, three of the leading men in Grafton township, who induced him to remain in La Grange in order to more thoroughly settle up the country. He remained on the 600-acre farm, a portion of which he traded to Nathan Clark for a like amount in Lot No. 49, and built thereon a rude house of logs, covered with elm bark, into which he moved. This was shortly after supplanted by a better one.

Mrs. Rockwood died and was buried in La-Grange township, and Mr. Rockwood married for his second wife Miss Polly Graves, who bore him five children, all of whom died young. He was always a farmer, and after moving on his farm in the northwest corner of La Grange township sold some of it, giving it out for work on other parts of the tract. He was stirring, energetic and active up to the age of sixty-five, when he retired from business. His death, which occurred in 1877, when he was 100 years and one month old, was the result of old age. In politics he was originally a Whig and later a Democrat, and in religious connection he was a member of the Christian Church.

G. C. Rockwood, subject of this sketch, came to Lorain county with his parents when he was about eight years old. His boyhood days were spent in a manner common to the lads of those pioneer days in the West, but of which the present generation can know but little. His services were required at an early age to help chop the timber, clear away the underbrush, and prepare the primitive soil for cultivation. School houses were few and far between, and such as they were were built of logs, the chinks daubed with mud, the floor, generally the bare earth, and the seats and desks of slabs. In these, school was held during the winter months, when out-door work was almost impossible, and happy the boy who could attend even for that limited season and get a smattering of "three R's." Yet from these rude temples of learning have come some of our brightest and most powerful intellects, men who

have made their mark in the history of our country.

When old enough Mr. Rockwood learned the trade of cabinetmaker and also of a house-builder, which occupations he followed for a number of years. In 1852 he went to California, where he remained eleven months, going and coming via the Panama route, after this making his home in Lorain county until 1864, when he removed to Wood county and located on his present farm of ninety-one acres. On this place he has five oil wells, some of which have been running for two years. He also has the lease of some oil producing land, and has, at this writing, just drilled a fifteen-barrel well. His operations so far in this line have been very successful and bring him in a handsome income.

Mr. Rockwood was married May 30, 1845, to Miss Laura A. Wack, who was born in Dorset, Vt., February 19, 1819, and who is still living. Three children have been born to them, namely: Emma V., who is the wife of Judge Guy C. Nearring, of Bowling Green, Ohio, and has one child, Charles; Hoyt O., married Miss Lucia Miehle, July 4, 1872, and died when about twenty-seven years old, his wife also dying soon afterward, leaving two children; Frank died when an infant. Mr. Rockwood took charge after his son's death of the two orphan children and reared them as his own. The elder of these, William P., was a bright, studious, ambitious young man and his death, which occurred July 3, 1892, when he was twenty years old, was a sad blow to his grandparents. The other child, Ernest, makes his home with his grandfather. Mr. Rockwood is a man of strong character and of high principles, and is worthy of the esteem in which he is held. For many years he was an infidel, but later accepted the belief of the Spiritualists and finds much comfort in their doctrines. He was at first a Republican in his political affiliation, and for a time was with the Greenback party, but afterward joined the Democratic ranks.

ALLAN W. RUDULPH, a leading real-estate dealer of Bowling Green, was born in Center township, Columbiana county, Ohio, September 19, 1853, and is the son of Joab and Mary A. (Wheatley) Rudolph.

The father of our subject was born in Scott county, Ky., June 26, 1820, and the mother in Wheeling, W. Va., July 4, 1824. They were married at New Lisbon, Ohio, and lived at that place, and in the vicinity, until 1855, when they came to Wood county and settled on a farm in Middleton township. They made this their home

until 1867, when they took up their residence in Bowling Green, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Rudolph was a merchant, and was engaged in business until 1890, when he retired from active life, his death occurring two years later, in October, 1892. He was a prominent man in his community and helped to organize the Republican party in his State. He held various township and city offices and was a leading member of the Swedenborgian Church. To this worthy couple twelve children were born, of whom the following record is given: William H., deceased, formerly deputy sheriff of Wood county; Emma A., deceased, was the wife of Frank C. Culley; George W., Sarah, Harriet and Adelbert died in infancy; Alice I. became the wife of J. D. Dolles, a druggist of Bowling Green, and died in 1874; Ernest E. married Addie F. Close and died in 1871; Allan W., our subject; James W., a physician, died in Bowling Green in 1881; Herman J. resides in Bowling Green; Mary May, the wife of R. B. Moore, a lawyer of Bowling Green, died in February, 1896.

Titan K. Rudolph, the paternal grandfather of our subject, resided at different times in Columbiana and Carroll counties. He moved temporarily to Kentucky and while there left home on horse back, intending to go to Atlanta Ga., but as he was never heard from, it is supposed that he was murdered in the mountains. The name Rudolph is of German origin, but the family has been known in America since an early day. Our subject's great-uncle, Michael Rudolph, went from this country to France, and is supposed to be identical with Marshal Ney, who played such a prominent part in the history of that nation.

Mr. Rudolph's maternal grandfather, Charles Wheatley, was born and reared in Maryland, going thence to Wheeling, W. Va., where he engaged in buying and selling stock, driving cattle over the mountains to the New York and Baltimore markets. He also met an untimely death, being murdered for his money while on one of his trips, and his wife dying soon after their children were left to the care of strangers. At the time of her parents' death Mrs. Rudolph was a mere child and she and our subject's father were married at a very early age, he being nineteen and she fifteen years of age. Allan W. Rudolph was only eighteen months old when his family came to Wood county, and thirteen years of age when they settled in Bowling Green. He attended the public schools of that city for one year, when he left home and went to Michigan where he learned the trade of printer with F. C. Culley, at Eaton Rap-

ids. He early developed the instincts of a newspaper man, and at the early age of nineteen years was both editor and proprietor of *The Sentinel*, published at Bowling Green, which he conducted for twenty years, a part of the time in connection with C. W. Evers and M. P. Brewer. During this time, however, he had for a short period disposed of his interest in the paper, and was engaged in the drug business, and in 1887 was appointed clerk of the court to straighten out the affairs of the previous occupant of the office, who had proved a defaulter. Mr. Rudolph finally retired from the newspaper business September 15, 1893, since which time he has been dealing in real estate, and is one of the most active and enterprising men in Wood county.

Our subject was married February 25, 1875, to Libbie A. Kitchen, who was born in Center township, Wood county, February 15, 1856. Two children have been born to them, Gerald Kitchen and Katie Wheatley. Mr. Rudolph is one of the organizers and a member of the board of directors of the Equitable Building & Loan Co., and is also secretary of the Water Works Co. He belongs to the I. O. O. F., Encampment and Subordinate. In politics he is a Republican, and takes an active interest in all public enterprises.

WILLIAM WEDDELL, deceased. The subject of this sketch was one among the foremost of the able and enterprising men who have redeemed Wood county from its original state and established modern ways of life throughout its borders. He was born at Perrysburg March 20, 1839—his father, William Weddell, a Scotchman by birth, having settled there in 1832. He married Miss Margaret Dunipace, who was also born and educated in Scotland, and had three children: George, deceased, formerly the clerk of Wood county; William, our subject, and Margaret, deceased. The father of our subject was a contractor and builder by occupation. In politics he was a Republican, and he was a staunch and consistent adherent of the United Presbyterian faith. His sterling character speedily gained for him the confidence of the people, and his death, which occurred in 1840, was felt as a loss by all who knew him.

Our subject received his early education in the common schools of Webster township, and worked on the homestead until he was twenty-six years of age. He was married on Thursday, December 29, 1864, to Miss Isabell Zimmerman, who was born July 22, 1846, a daughter of William and Isabella (Householder) Zimmerman, a well-known resident of Webster township. Five

children were born of this union, whose names are as follows: (1) Minnie, who was educated in the Pemberville High School, the Normal at Ada, Ohio, and Valparaiso, Ind., is now a successful teacher in Wood county; (2) Margaret is also a school teacher; (3) Sarah J. married J. G. Hurr, a telegraph operator at Bellevue, Ohio, and has had three children—Max, George (deceased), and an infant daughter; (4) William L., and (5) Isabell. On August 26, 1861, Mr. Weddell enlisted in Company K, 21st O. V. I., under Capt. Canfield, but was discharged January 9, 1862, on surgeon's certificate. He was a member of the Ohio Militia, being commissioned lieutenant of Company G, 1st Regiment.

Previous to his marriage he bought 160 acres of land in Webster township, near Pemberville, and built a handsome brick residence costing \$3,000—one of the finest in the township. He was a good financier and was highly respected, not only for his ability, but for his integrity and manliness. He was a Republican in politics, and was justice of the peace and supervisor for a number of years, and school director from 1864 to the time of his death, which occurred July 11, 1895. He was a prominent member of the United Presbyterian Church at Scotch Ridge, as are also his wife and daughters, Minnie and Margaret, and a generous supporter of every good cause. He belonged to Benedict Post, G. A. R., No. 26, of Pemberville, in which he held for a number of years the office of Commander.

THOMAS W. KNIGHT, M. D., who is successfully engaged in the practice of medicine, in Portage, was born in Taunton, England, January 8, 1855, and is a son of Thomas W. and Eliza (Warren) Knight.

The father of our subject was a native of Somersetshire, England, born April 7, 1821, a son of Richard and Ann (Warren) Knight, the former, of whom was a well-to-do farmer, owning 1,053 acres of land whereon his death occurred in 1828; his wife survived until 1855. They had a numerous family, no less than twenty-two children, including the following named: Amy; Ann; Richard, a wealthy wool-grower, who died in Australia; William and Anna, who died in England; Samuel, who died in London; John, who died in England in early manhood; Elizabeth, who passed away in the same country; and Thomas W. The parents of our subject had a family of nine children: (1) Sophia, born March 3, 1851, is the wife of Henry Lucal, of Sandusky City, Ohio. (2) John, born September 1, 1852, married Appelinda

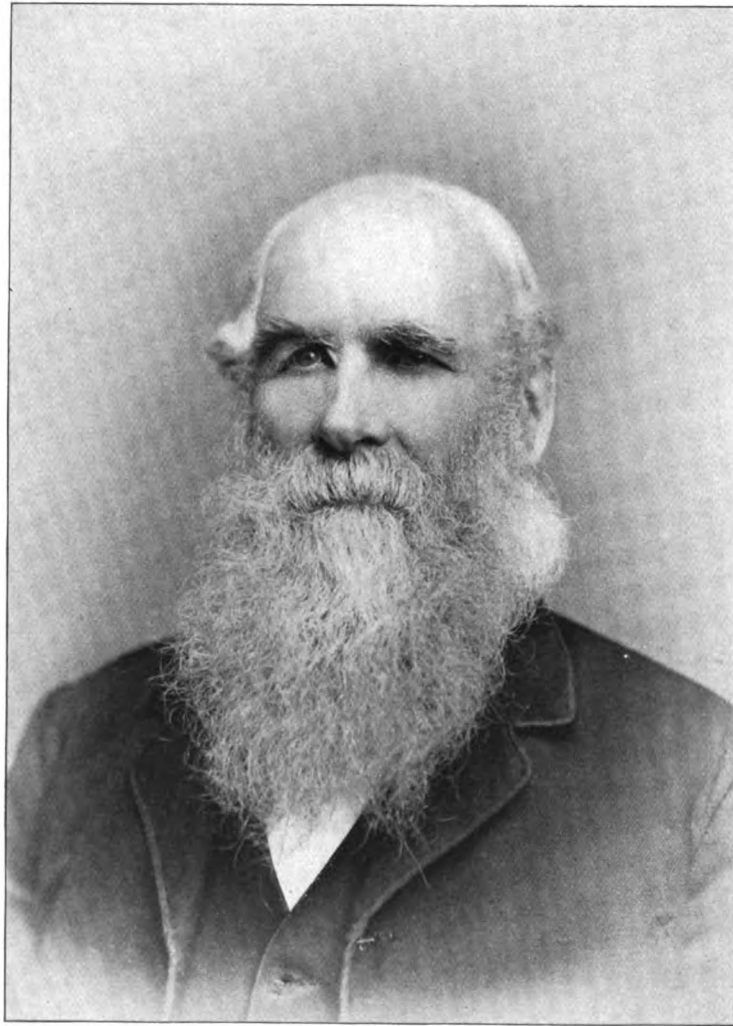
Mercer, widow of Samuel Whitaker; he now resides in Wood county. (3) Our subject comes next. (4) Fred, born September 25, 1856, died at the age of twenty-five years. (5) Samuel, born July 10, 1858, married Ella Hostetter, and is living in North Baltimore. (6) Eliza Jane, born January 14, 1860, married John Robertson, and after his death wedded Manning Goddington; they are now living in New Jersey. (7) Amy, born January 31, 1862, is the wife of John Groh, of Wood county. (8) Ellen, born December 27, 1864, is the wife of Jacob Sommers, of Wood county. (9) William Henry, born January 5, 1867, died at the age of nine months. (The three youngest children were born in America).

The parents of this family were married May 22, 1850, in Plymouth, Devonshire, Eng., where Mrs. Knight was born March 23, 1825. Prior to his marriage, Mr. Knight worked in a grocery store for seven years. He afterward embarked in merchandising on his own account in Taunton, but disposed of his business in 1856, and with his family removed to the Isle of Guernsey. There he rented a farm and remained until 1861, when he came to America, sailing from Southampton, England, September 29, 1861, and after a voyage of fifteen days landing at New York. For eighteen months Mr. Knight and his family resided in Sandusky City, and then went to Ottawa county, Ohio, where he engaged in farming and grape-growing. After three years he returned to Sandusky City, locating on a farm near there, which he operated for seven and a half years, when he disposed of that place, and removed to another farm where he engaged in fruit culture. In March, 1876, he came to Wood county, and purchased the Mungen farm, which was his place of abode until the spring of 1884, when he sold, and has since lived with the Doctor. His wife died June, 1873, and lies buried in Clyde cemetery. The father was a staunch Republican in politics, served as trustee of Portage township for three years, and is honored and esteemed by all who know him.

Our subject, as will be seen, was an infant when his parents removed to the Isle of Guernsey, and attending a French school there he learned to speak that language very fluently. He also continued his literary education in the public schools of Sandusky City, Ohio, and afterward taught school for a number of years in Wood county. The study of medicine he took up under the direction of his mother, who for many years was engaged in practice, and in 1890, he entered upon a four-years' course in







*Thomas W. Knight, Sr.*



*Yours Respt  
Thos. W. Knight M.D.*



Hahnemann Medical College, Chicago. On his graduation he came to Portage, where he has since successfully been engaged in practice, and now has a large and lucrative clientele. In addition, he owns twenty acres of land and four dwelling houses in Mungen, one house and three lots in Portage, and a quarter interest in eighty acres in Liberty township, a quarter interest in the one-sixth royalty of thirteen oil wells in Liberty township, and oil wells in Portage township.

On December 14, 1884, Dr. T. W. Knight was married to Christina Sommers, who died March 9, 1889, leaving one son, Walter A., born June 24, 1886. Our subject was afterward married, April 4, 1893, to Miss Maud Book, who was born June 27, 1871. They have one son, Roy, born November 28, 1895. The Doctor and his wife are well known in their locality, and have many warm friends who esteem them highly. In politics he is a Republican, and a strong advocate of temperance. He has served his township as clerk for one year, and for nine months was township trustee, filling out an unexpired term caused by a removal.

JOHN E. CARSON, deceased. The honored pioneer agriculturist of Grand Rapids township, whose life forms the theme of this biography, was born in Pennsylvania in 1826, the son of John E. and Jane Carson, both of whom were natives of the same State. He was the eldest of their six children, the others being Elisha, James M., Margaret, Oliver and Elija.

The family came to Wood county in 1835, locating on Beaver creek, in what is now Grand Rapids township, and here John E. Carson received his education. He supplemented his district-school course by private reading and study, and fitted himself for teaching; for several winters he taught in this county, working in the intervals upon the homestead, of which he took entire charge after the death of his father, caring for his widowed mother. He was married March 30, 1854, to Miss Sarah McCabe, a lady of Scotch descent, born April 17, 1836, and the seventh daughter in the family of twelve children of James McCabe, a well-known farmer of Lucas county, Ohio, who was born in Pennsylvania, and married there to Miss Sarah Uhler, who was also a native of the Keystone State, of German parentage. Mrs. Carson's father died at his home in Lucas county, August 20, 1878, and her mother survived him ten years, passing away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Rebecca Mower, October 6, 1881, aged seventy-seven years.

A year after his marriage Mr. Carson bought 160 acres of land near Grand Rapids, to which he removed, having built a log cabin and made other improvements. He cleared 140 acres and continued to cultivate it until his death, which occurred March 13, 1878. Fourteen children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Carson, ten of whom were twins. (1) Emma, born April 21, 1855, married John Stephens, of Grand Rapids. (2 and 3) Jennie and James (twins) were born June 21, 1857; the former married Albert Whitney Weston; the latter died in childhood. (4 and 5) Luther E. and Lucy W. (twins) were born March 18, 1861, and the former now manages the homestead for his mother; he married Miss Lula Gestice and has three children; Lucy W. died in infancy. (6) John J., born October 8, 1862, is a farmer in Weston township; he married Miss Mary Judson. (7) Harriet E., born June 11, 1865, married L. D. Judson, of Grand Rapids. (8) Addie, born August 20, 1868, died at nineteen years of age. (9 and 10) Dora and Leonard (twins) were born October 12, 1870; the former married Harris Heath, of Portage, and the latter died in childhood. (11 and 12) Nellie and Florence (twins) were born February 21, 1873; the former married John Ducat, of Sugar Ridge, and the latter died when nine months old. (13 and 14), also twins, died in infancy.

Mr. Carson was for a time a soldier in the late war, enlisting in the one hundred days' service in 1861, in the 144th O. V. I. But ill-health compelled him to return home where he sustained the cause of the Union to the best of his ability, giving liberally to secure troops, and hiring a substitute, John D. Gestice, whose daughter Lula is now the wife of Luther Carson. [To him he gave ten dollars a month in addition to the pay allowed by the government.] Mr. Carson was a man of unusual ability and influence, standing high in the esteem of his neighbors. A kind husband and father; his death was a sad loss to the home circle, but in his wider sphere of usefulness he was sincerely mourned. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, in which Mrs. Carson has also been a leading worker for many years, especially in the Home Missionary Society. He was a Republican in politics, and was supervisor for two terms, and also served as school director, and was at all times ready to help forward any measure tending to benefit the community. After his death Mrs. Carson conducted the estate, displaying marked executive ability, and adding many improvements, including a tasteful and commodious dwelling

house. Of late years, however, she has delegated the care of the estate largely to her son.

JOHN W. BROWNSBERGER, the well-known furniture dealer and undertaker of Weston, was born in Perrysburg, Ohio, March 24, 1843. His parents were both natives of Lancaster and Cumberland counties, Penn., the father, John Brownsberger, born March 27, 1800, in Lancaster county, and the mother, Barbara (Failor) born August 30, 1804, in Cumberland county. They were married November 18, 1824, and in 1833 they came to Wood county, locating on a farm four miles east of Perrysburg. John Brownsberger was a weaver, having been bound out in childhood, after the death of his father, as an apprentice to that trade. He made much of the linen and woolen cloth, used by his family, from flax and wool grown on his own farm, for some years, and also filled occasional orders from outside parties. For twenty years he kept the toll-gate on the Maumee and Western Reserve pike. After the death of his wife on March 18, 1878, he moved to East Toledo, where he died June 2, 1885. He was a Democrat before the war, then becoming a Republican, and he and his wife were both members of the Evangelical Church. They had nine children, eight of whom grew to maturity: Joseph, born August 20, 1825, was killed by accident at Toledo October 3, 1879; William, born September 6, 1827, was a shoe dealer at Maumee and Toledo, and died at the latter place December 23, 1892; Ann E., born February 24, 1829, married Benj. F. Myers, (since deceased) and now resides in Toledo; Mary, born February 28, 1833, married Henry Girkins, of West Toledo; Andrew J., born January 28, 1835, was a soldier in Company A, 100th O. V. I., and was fatally wounded at Limestone Station, Tenn., September 8, 1863. (His brother, John, our subject, carried him off the field, and he died in the hospital September 26, following, at Knoxville, Tenn.); Caroline, born January 28, 1839, married John Farley, of Toledo; John W., our subject; Sidney, born September 20, 1845, lives near Sheboygan, Michigan.

John W., whose name opens this sketch, obtained his education in the district school near his home, in the high school at Perrysburg, and the high school at Maumee, where he completed the business course. He clerked in a grocery store at Maumee until August, 1862, when he enlisted in Company A, 100th O. V. I. His regiment was assigned to the army of the Ohio, served in Kentucky and Tennessee, until after the Atlanta campaign then participated in the

battle of Nashville, Tenn., after which they went to Wilmington, N. C., and fought to Goldsboro, N. C., where they joined Gen. Sherman's forces, then returning from the sea. Mr. Brownsberger was taken prisoner on the same day that his brother was wounded, and spent the next six months and a half at Libby prison, Belle Isle, and Castle Thunder. He was company clerk throughout his service, and at Franklin, Tenn., was promoted for gallant conduct to the rank of corporal. June 20, 1865, he was mustered out at Greensboro, N. C., and after the disbanding of his regiment at Cleveland a few weeks later he returned home. During the following winter he took a business course at Toledo, and in March, 1866, opened a store in Weston, dealing in groceries, boots and shoes and other commodities. An attack of small-pox interfered with his plans, and he disposed of the business and for some time clerked in the largest store in Toledo. He then went to work for Earl W. Merry in the recorder's office, where he made out a set of geographical abstract books for all the land of the county. He afterward worked in the county clerk's office, and during the latter part of C. W. Evers' term as sheriff, he served as deputy so acceptably that in October, 1868, he was himself elected sheriff. After serving two terms of two years each, he returned to Weston, and built a planing mill which he sold a year later. For ten months he was record keeper for the county probate court at Bowling Green, and for six years following was deputy county clerk. From 1882 to 1895 he was engaged in various enterprises, in the undertaking business at Toledo, and with the Clover Leaf railroad as conductor, and later as express agent and baggage master. In May, 1892, he opened his present establishment in Weston, where, if energy and integrity count for anything in business life, he should make a success.

He was married February 24, 1869, to Miss Lucy J. Bonney, who was born in Penn Yan, N. Y., February 19, 1850. Their only son, John L., was born June 2, 1870, and died October 30, 1873. They have two daughters, of whom the elder, Bessie May, born August 1, 1872, was educated at Bowling Green and in the high school at Toledo, where she graduated in 1891; she taught for one and a half years with unusual success, but left the profession to become the wife of C. K. Merrill, of Toledo. Mabel Bonney, the younger daughter, born February 1, 1879, is attending school at Toledo.

Mrs. Brownsberger is of English descent. Her parents, Lester and Caroline (Merritt) Bon-

ney, were natives of New York State, the father born in 1813 in Yates county, the mother in 1826 in Hammondsport, N. Y. They were married in New York in 1842, and had a family of six children: William A.; Sarah L. (Mrs. John E. Clark, of Weston); Lucy J. (Mrs. Brownsberger); Jethro, who was killed on the railroad when twenty-six years old; Merritt H., residing in Weston; and James F., who died in infancy. In 1863 the Bonneys came to Ohio, where the father engaged in agricultural pursuits. He died in Weston in 1883; the mother is still living. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church, to which he also belonged. In politics he was a Democrat.

Mr. Brownsberger is a man of high spirit. His friendship is steadfast and his enmity impetuous. During his service as sheriff of Wood county he was known as a man who was absolutely fearless in the discharge of the duties of the office, and his ability and trustworthiness in that capacity are still spoken of by his fellow citizens. In the first year of his term, on July 3, 1869, a murder was committed at Bowling Green, and the mob attempted to lynch the murderer, the notorious Dave Phillips; Mr. Brownsberger was at Perrysburg, which was the county seat, but he reached Bowling Green on horseback within an hour, and rescued the man, although the rope was already around his neck. On various other occasions he displayed rare courage and coolness, and his official record is indeed one of which he may be proud. Mr. Brownsberger is an influential worker in the Republican party. Socially he is a member of the G. A. R., the U. V. U., and the F. & A. M. In religious connection he and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and take great interest in Church work.

SAMUEL E. VAIL, editor of the *Sentinel*, of Bowling Green, was born May 3, 1863, at Findlay, Ohio, the youngest born of the three children of Samuel B. and Eliza Vail. The other two are Frank B. (unmarried), born October 3, 1861, at present a compositor on the *Chicago Record*; and Cora M., born February 28, 1862, married to C. C. Potter, of Bowling Green, by whom she has one son—Rolland—and two daughters—Myrtle and June.

Samuel B. Vail, father of our subject, during the Civil war, enlisted February 2, 1864, as a member of Company A, 49th O. V. I., and was ordered to Chattanooga, Tenn. On May 27, same year, during the preliminary movement of Sherman's march to the sea, Mr. Vail was killed

at the battle of Pickett's Mills, and was buried by the Confederates, who were left in charge of the field. He was twenty-eight years old at the time. After the close of the war the widowed mother, with her three children, removed to Bowling Green.

On the paternal side, Samuel E. Vail is of Scotch origin; on the maternal side his ancestors were of Pennsylvania-Dutch stock. Edwin Vail, paternal grandfather of our subject, came in an early day from Connecticut to Ohio, locating first in Cleveland, but soon thereafter removing to Hudson, Ohio, where he married Hannah Post, also a native of Connecticut (she was one of a family of thirteen children). To Edwin Vail and his wife were born five sons—Cyrus, Alfred, George W., Samuel B. and Charles—and two daughters—Harriet and Mary. Some time during the "forties" the family moved to Findlay. Cyrus died in 1895, at Arlington, Ohio, where he had lived many years; Samuel B. was killed in battle as above related; Harriet (Brower) died, in 1896, at Hudson, whither she had removed from Bowling Green fifteen years previously; Mary (Mungen) died at Findlay in 1894. Of the sons now living, Alfred still resides in Bowling Green; George W., is a physician at Port Angeles, Wash., and Charles has his home in Findlay, Ohio. The father of this family died at Findlay in 1868; the mother passing away at Hudson in 1883.

Enos P. Lease, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania; Catherine Oswald, the grandmother, was born in Girard, Trumbull Co., Ohio. The father of Enos P. was a soldier in the war of 1812. During the "forties" the family removed to Hancock county, locating in the vicinity of Arlington, soon after which the father died; the mother survived until 1874. The children who grew to adult age were: sons—Henry, Nelson, Ferris, George and Enos Lease; daughters—Clara (Reel), Eliza (Vail), Rebecca (Fabun), Lucy (Holmes), and Mary (Long). Nelson died in 1890, at Warren; George in 1886; Enos in 1878; Clara in 1861. Rebecca, Lucy and Mary still reside at Arlington, while Eliza, who is now sixty-one years old, makes her home in Bowling Green.

To return now to the life history of the subject proper of these lines, Samuel E. Vail. In 1870 he was admitted to the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' home, where he remained until 1876, at which time he entered the Bowling Green schools, attending same two years, in 1878 commencing the printing trade in the office of the *Wood County Sentinel*. Five years later,

at the age of twenty, he went to Lawrenceburg, Ind., where, associated with others, he conducted a daily newspaper; soon afterward he located at Toledo, and until 1886 "worked at the case" on various daily newspapers of that city. In the fall of that year he accepted a proposition from Brewer & Co., and became manager of the *Sentinel*, of Bowling Green; four years later bought an interest in the firm (Brewer & Rudolph), the new firm becoming Brewer, Rudolph & Vail. Upon Mr. Rudolph's retirement in 1893 the firm became Brewer, Vail & Hoffa, and by a change in the present year (1896) is now known as Brewer, Vail & Co. Mr. Vail's connection with the *Sentinel* has been for an almost uninterrupted period of eighteen years.

On September 8, 1884, Mr. Vail was married to Miss Elsie D. Long, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob F. Long, who in 1867 had removed from Sandusky county to Center township, Wood county, and to Bowling Green in 1871; they were the parents of three children: Frank M., at present engaged in the dry-goods business at Bowling Green; Elsie D. (Mrs. Vail); and Nettie, wife of R. P. Hankey, of Bowling Green. To Mr. and Mrs. Vail was born December 19, 1885, one son named Merl De Witt. Seven years ago Mr. Vail built himself a pleasant home on the corner of West Wooster and Maple streets, Bowling Green, where he still resides.

BENJAMIN F. KERR is descended from a family who were pioneers in the country east of the Alleghanies, and married into one of the families who were forerunners of civilization in the beautiful Valley of the Maumee. Inheriting and imbibing, by such connection, that desire for an independence which made him self-reliant, industrious and economical, and which led to the success in life he has attained, a rank among the foremost business men and men of means in Wood county, and among the leading merchants of Grand Rapids.

The ancestors of Mr. Kerr were of Scotch origin. His great-great-grandfather, James Kerr, accompanied by his wife, came from Scotland to this country with their family in 1765, settling in the State of New Jersey, and near the city of Philadelphia, Penn. A son of these pioneers, Joseph Kerr, was married in New Jersey, and soon afterward, in 1782, in company with several other families, moved to Western Pennsylvania, settling in Beaver county. Here he and his neighbors, among whom were Adam and Andrew Poe, whose names have gone down in history, had many thrilling adventures, and many narrow

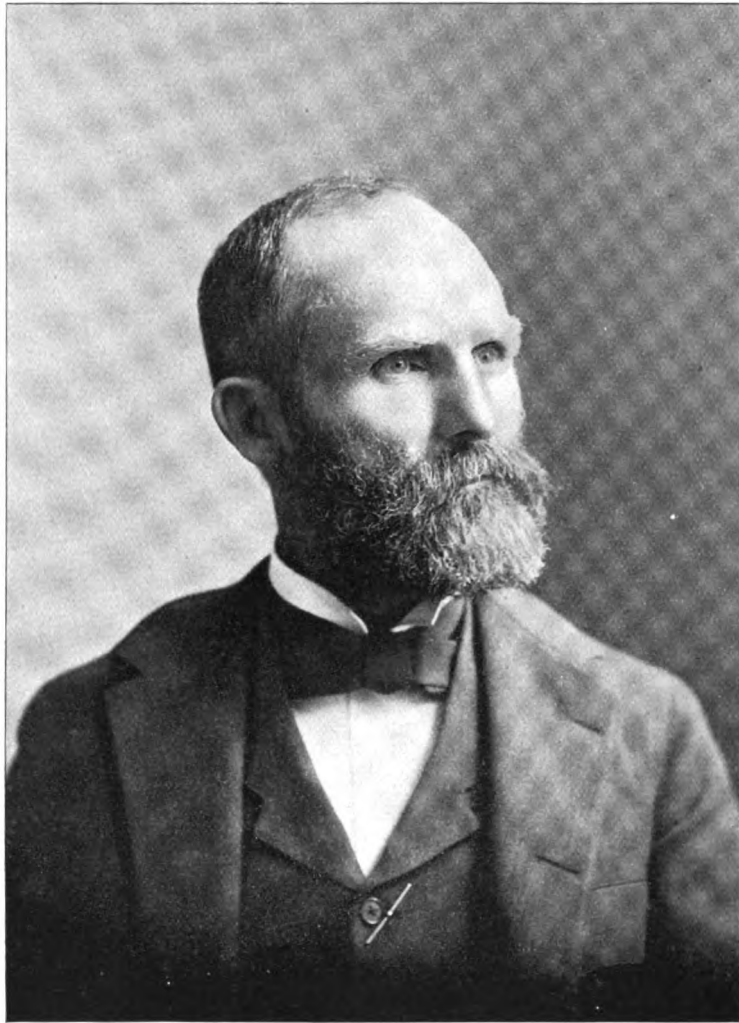
escapes, while fighting the Indians, who were troublesome and treacherous in those times. At this place, in 1785, a son, David, was born to Joseph and his wife, grew to maturity, and in 1824 with his family moved to Richland county, Ohio.

Jesse, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Beaver county, Penn., March 4, 1817, and at the age of six years came to Ohio with his parents. He grew up in the country, assisting his father to clear up a farm, received a good common-school education, and when a young man taught school during the winters. On September 14, 1837, he was married to Miss Eliza Evans, and in 1848 they moved to Lucas county, Ohio, where Jesse Kerr bought land and cleared up a farm. In politics he was a Whig, later a Republican. His death occurred July 2, 1862.

Eliza (Evans) Kerr was a descendant of Thomas Evans, who came to this country with his family from Wales in 1796, making his home for a time in Philadelphia. Subsequently he removed to Cumberland county, Penn., where his death occurred. David, a son of Thomas Evans, was married in the State of Pennsylvania, and with his wife and children moved to Ohio in 1824, settling in Richland county. Eliza, the mother of our subject, was a native of Cumberland county, Penn., born May 24, 1818; her death occurred in 1892.

To the marriage of Jesse and Eliza (Evans) Kerr were born ten children, four of whom died in infancy, the others being: John W., a resident of Lucas county; Benjamin F.; Nancy Ann, the wife of Jeremiah Walter; Thomas B., a resident of Zanesville, Ohio; William E., a merchant of Grand Rapids; and Charles F., who is in the United States postal service in Texas.

Benjamin F. Kerr was born in Richland county, this State, February 7, 1843, and was five years old when the family settled in Lucas county. He received a good common-school education at Maumee, and, on the breaking out of the Civil war, was among the first to offer his services to his country, enlisting in August, 1861, when eighteen years of age, in Company I, 14th O. V. I., commanded by Col. James B. Steadman. During the winter of 1861-62 this regiment was in service through Kentucky, and, owing to the exposure and hardships to which the men were subjected, the command sustained a great loss of men, and Mr. Kerr was discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability, August 22, 1862. In February, 1864, he returned to the army, accepting a clerkship with Capt. S. H.



*D. F. Henry*





Lunt, a disbursing quartermaster, then at Knoxville, Tenn. Mr. Kerr remained with the army in this capacity until November, 1865, serving in the Atlanta campaign. After hostilities had ceased he assisted in removing the dead from the battlefields of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge to the National Cemetery at Chattanooga, this work being in charge of the Quartermaster's department. He had saved some money, and on leaving the service, in November, 1865, he purchased an interest in a general store at Chattanooga. Here he remained in business until in April, 1866, when he disposed of his interests and returned home.

On October 24, 1867, Mr. Kerr was married to Miss Ann S. Pratt, the youngest daughter of Jonas and Susan (Reed-Griffith) Pratt. Jonas Pratt was a son of William and Bertha (Brown) Pratt, natives of Massachusetts, who came to Ohio in June, 1818, and settled near Perrysburg, in what subsequently became Wood county.

William Pratt was born and raised in Boston, Mass., and was the son of Amos Pratt, a native of Wales, and a ship-builder by trade. William Pratt learned the ship carpenter's trade, and worked with his father in Boston. At the beginning of the war of 1812 he had a ship-yard in Canada, and employed a number of men. To avoid being impressed into the British army and compelled to fight against his native land, he fled from Canada to the United States, leaving a vessel on the stocks and all his property (which was afterward confiscated by the British Government). On arriving at his former home in the United States, he recruited a company of cavalry and entered the service of the United States as a captain of cavalry, and remained in the service until the close of the war.

Mr. Pratt then built a small sailing vessel on Rundecroix creek, near Rochester, N. Y. When completed, he loaded into this vessel his household goods, a supply of provisions, his family and a crew, sailed down the creek into the Genesee river, then into Lake Ontario, up the Niagara as far as they could go and then took the vessel out of the Niagara river and transported it around the Falls with oxen. Launching the boat in the river again, above Niagara Falls, they came through Lake Erie to Orleans (now Perrysburg), Wood Co., Ohio, arriving there in June, 1818. This boat was afterward used in the trade between Orleans and Buffalo for a good many years.

Jonas Pratt owned a farm near Perrysburg, and for a time he served as sheriff of the county. In 1836 he sold his farm and moved on a quarter section of land he had bought in Henry county,

two miles up the river from Grand Rapids, on which Mrs. Kerr was born June 13, 1846. Here Jonas Pratt died in 1852. Susan (Reed-Griffith) Pratt was born near Utica, N. Y. (later moving to Rochester, N. Y.), and was a daughter of Amos and Mary (Smith) Reed, natives of Connecticut, the former of whom, who was a well-educated man, and a graduate of Yale college, died in Rochester, N. Y., in 1810, leaving a widow and several small children to fight life's battles alone. The widow and children (except the eldest son, Amos, Jr.) came to the Maumee river in 1815. Susan Reed was first married to William Griffith, of the firm of Gibbs & Griffith, who carried on a general store on the Perrysburg side of the river. Mr. Griffith died in 1828, and in 1831 the widow was married to Jonas Pratt. A short time after the death of Mr. Pratt his widow and the children moved to Gilead (now Grand Rapids), where the widow resided the rest of her life, dying at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Kerr, September 19, 1893, aged ninety years, eight months and one day.

In September, 1866, our subject succeeded Messrs. Laskey & Bro. in a general merchandise and grain business at Gilead. Their predecessors were Laskey & Co., who in 1851 were the successors to Frank Hinsdale, who in 1838 succeeded Nicholas Gee, who established the business in what is now Grand Rapids in opening the first store in the village in 1833. Mr. Kerr is therefore in direct line of succession from the first business opened up at that point. He will soon have rounded up a thirty-years' career of business here—almost a third of a century—a period covering nearly that of all his predecessors combined, quite a span of years of devotion to active business; but the reward has come, for although he has not made any rapid stride on the road to wealth, he has by close application to business, careful management, and by industrious and economical habits, accumulated quite an estate. He has built one of the finest residences in this section of the country, a building modern and complete that would be a credit to any city. Crowning a beautiful hill, it commands a grand view overlooking the river and charming Maumee Valley. He possesses several fine farms in the vicinity. Verily he is the architect of his own fortune.

To Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Kerr have been born seven children, two of whom died in infancy, the others being: Carrie, who married J. K. Williams, of Delphos, and has a son, Clifton F., born January 9, 1896; Clifton C., a student at Oberlin; and Jessie May, Frank E. and Glen B.,

all three yet at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Kerr are identified with the Presbyterian Church, and every progressive and helpful movement in the community finds in them generous support. Mr. Kerr is a member of the G. A. R., was one of the charter members of Bond Post No. 24, of Grand Rapids, and in all respects is a thoroughly representative American.

COLONEL A. B. PROBERT, of Bloomdale, one of Wood county's most prominent citizens, has been for many years a leader in military circles in the State.

He is of English descent, and his grandfather Probert was a gentleman of wealth and culture, but reverses came, and our subject's father, James Probert, who was born in England November 16, 1802, was obliged to make his own way from the early age of eight years. He was married in his native land in 1829 to Miss Sarah Davies, and in 1831 came to America with his wife's brother, David Davies, and his own family, which then included two children. They had but little money when they landed in New York, and the wife and little ones were left there while the two men made their way by river, canal and lake to Cleveland, Ohio, having twenty-five cents left on their arrival. They found work and soon sent for Mrs. Probert and the children. In January, 1835, they moved to Pittsfield, Lorain county, then a pioneer section, a roadless wilderness, where a home was made on wild land after great labor with unsatisfactory tools. The mother on one occasion walked, carrying the son George, from their home in the wilderness to Cleveland, a distance of thirty-eight miles, to obtain urgent necessities for the family. Land advanced in price and a competence was gained and retained. His farm of 200 acres was in one square tract, a beautiful property. In 1852-53 he visited England, and was loud in the praises of his adopted country, "the land of the free." The questions as to the thousands of slaves here, always cut him deeply, and he replied with a sense of shame. He was a Democrat at that time but the attitude of his party on this question caused him to vote for Fremont, and he was from that time a Republican. When taunting remarks were made by his former associates, his answer was, "I have not left the old party; they have left me. I stand yet on the one time Democratic platform." Although a regular voter and earnest student of public affairs he was not an aspirant for office. He was a man of fine mental ability and was well-informed although he had had practically no schooling. His later

years were passed in Oberlin, where he died May 5, 1876, at the age of seventy-four years. While he was of light build he was active and wiry, and bid fair to live twenty years longer, but an acute attack of pneumonia brought his life to a sudden close. His wife survived until December 17, 1892, when she died at the age of ninety-one years and six months, and the remains of both are at rest in Pittsfield cemetery. (Our subject's grandfather on the mother's side, and grandmother on the father's side, each lived to be upward of a hundred years.) Of their seven children our subject is the youngest. Eliza married Calvin C. Freeman, of Russia township, Lorain county; John was a farmer and later a merchant in Oberlin, where he died about 1891; George now owns and conducts the old home farm; James died at home in 1865; David G. resides in Oberlin; and Sarah V. married John Watkins, of Pittsfield.

A. B. Probert was born at the old homestead, October 15, 1844, and was reared as a farmer boy, attending the neighboring district schools. In 1861 he did his first independent work, hiring out to a farmer in the vicinity. The following year he entered the preparatory school at Oberlin, but the urgent calls for recruits for the army appealed to his patriotism, and his studies were given up. October 6, 1863, he enlisted in Company F, 12th Regiment O. Cav., but on account of a disturbance on Johnson's Island, near Sandusky, where 3,500 rebels were imprisoned, his regiment was divided and he with others cheerfully accepted the assignment to infantry duties there. While there he had an attack of measles, from the effects of which he has never fully recovered. They remained until February, 1864, and then rejoined the cavalry troops, leaving Camp Dennison in May, 1864, and taking up the work of fighting bushwhackers on the border between Kentucky and Ohio. Gen. Sherman, having seen this regiment, telegraphed Secretary Stanton asking that it be assigned to him, which was impossible under the circumstances, and the refusal caused deep regret on the part of the regiment. Their first actual battle was at Mt. Sterling, although they were continuously engaged in light skirmishes. Three months after Mr. Probert's enlistment he was promoted over eight corporals to the rank of sergeant, having displayed rare military ability and skill in the saddle, although but a boy in years. He was not wounded, though he was always on duty up to the time of his discharge on June 8, 1865, save a time when on leave of absence on account of illness. He resumed farm work on his return home, and in

the fall of 1866 entered Oberlin College, but failing health compelled him to again relinquish his studies; however, he has always been a great reader, and is thoroughly posted on the topics of the day.

Mr. Probert was married, December 24, 1869, to Miss Chastina M. Worcester, a native of Pittsfield, daughter of Joseph W. Worcester, who was born in Vermont in 1812 and was for years a citizen of Oberlin; he is now deceased. Three children were born of this union: Merton A., an expert stenographer, who is serving temporarily in the superintendent's office of the Adams Express Co. at Columbus, and is taking a medical course in Starling Medical College, of that city; Jessie, who died aged two years, and Oliver M., now at home.

After his marriage and two years of farming, our subject engaged in teaming in Oberlin for several years. Later he worked fourteen months as baggage agent at Oberlin for the L. S. & M. S. railroad, and was also for some time a brakeman. He then went into the grocery business with his brother John, under the firm name of Probert Bros., and carried it on profitably for five years. Selling out in 1881, he came to Bloomdale, where he has since resided. He bought eighty acres of timberland in Perry township which he cleared and now owns, and later he bought an interest in a drug store, disposing of that to buy a hardware and grocery business which he conducted for seven years under the firm name of A. B. Probert & Co.; in 1889 he retired from mercantile business. He is an active and influential Republican, and was the first mayor of Bloomdale, an honor conferred for his efforts as agent of the citizens in securing the corporation charter, and he has served in other positions of trust. In 1894 he was elected to his present office of justice of the peace.

Col. Probert has a natural talent for military work and organization, and was captain of the first known mounted torchlight company, so strong at Oberlin in the Garfield campaign. During the Blaine campaign he organized a torchlight company at Bloomdale, which created much enthusiasm and led to the formation in 1885 of Company H, 2d O. N. G., with Col. Probert as captain, he having been the leader in the organization. This was a fine body of soldiers, ranking among the foremost in the State and embracing men of wealth, influence and position, and its appearance overcame Asst.-Adgt.-Gen. Dill's objections to its acceptance as a part of the State militia. In 1886 Capt. Probert was promoted to the position of lieutenant-colonel of

the 2d Regiment, which he held five years. He is a leader in G. A. R. circles, and at the National Encampment in Columbus in 1889, when fourteen G. A. R. posts of Wood county appeared in the parade as a regiment, he was chosen colonel of the organization, and was re-elected the next year. During the great parade the Wood county batallion was one of the few to remain intact from the start to the disbandment. Later our subject was elected brigade commander of the Fourth District, G. A. R., of Ohio. He was also chosen to represent one district of five counties of Northwestern Ohio, at the National G. A. R. Encampment in Boston. He is now serving his fourth term as commander of Urie Post No. 110, of Bloomdale. He was admitted to practice as a pension attorney in 1892, and has met with great success. In the Masonic Fraternity, which he joined in 1867 at Oberlin, he has held several official positions.

H. L. BYINGTON, M. D., the oldest practicing physician of Risingsun, and one of the most successful men of his profession in the county, is a notable example of a self-made man. He is of English descent.

His grandfather, Nathaniel Byington, was a farmer in Vermont, during the greater part of his life, and was a hard-working man, often earning his slender income by shoe-making; but never accumulated a competence. The old homestead was near Weybridge, where his son, Edmund H. Byington, the Doctor's father, was born, the youngest of a family of four sons and one daughter. He married Miss Helen M. Langdon, a native of New Haven, Vt., and the daughter of Ward Langdon, who was at one time a member of the Vermont legislature. This family was also of English origin. The young man had but limited means, yet he and his bride started for the new lands in the West, as the frontier lines in Franklin county, N. Y., was then called, and locating upon a small tract of land in the woods they toiled on through all difficulties until prosperity dawned upon them. Their success was not won by self denial, but by industry and good management; they now own two farms containing more than 250 acres of valuable land. They have fortunately both been spared to enjoy the fruits of their labors, and are among the most highly respected citizens of their vicinity. Mr. Byington is one of the staunch supporters of the Democratic party, has always been prominent in public affairs, and has served creditably in numerous township offices. The last years of his father, who lived to be over eighty years old,

were made comfortable in his home, and four children were reared to maturity: Alice (Mrs. Jason J. Carpenter), of North Yakima, Wash.; Harlan L., our subject; Emerson, a farmer in Franklin county, N. Y.; and Jennie (Mrs. Theodore Fitch), of the same county.

Dr. Byington was born on a farm in East Constable township, Franklin Co., N. Y., April 22, 1851, and passed through the usual experiences of a farmer's son, attending the district schools and helping at home with the "chores" and on the farm. Later he studied at Franklin Academy, and at eighteen began to teach, following the profession successfully some four winters. He then pursued more advanced studies at Malone, N. Y., and, as he always had a desire to follow the medical profession, took especial interest in anatomy and hygiene while there. He was too proud to ask his father for money to continue his studies in this direction, and, shortly after attaining his majority, he started for Omaha, Neb. He had only ten dollars in his pocket when he left home, as his father was a believer that a little hardship would be good for him, and this sum was soon exhausted. He stopped, while *en route*, in Erie county, Ohio, where an uncle lived, and found employment as a locomotive fireman on the Sandusky division of the B. & O. R. R., and later fired on the construction train on the main line of the same road, which was then being laid west from Chicago Junction, the completed portion at that time reaching Attica, Ohio. He then began teaching in Perkins township, Erie county, and determining to study medicine he took a preliminary course with Dr. Knestrick, of Bloomingville. During the summer he studied in the mornings, and worked on a farm in the afternoons in order to pay his expenses. In the fall of 1874 he entered the Physio-Medical College at Cincinnati, and was graduated in February, 1876, standing third in the class. His professional career was begun in Fostoria in the fall of 1876, against a formidable array of old practitioners. As a total stranger he experienced the usual trials of a young physician, but he succeeded in establishing a good practice. In the fall of 1880 he removed to Risingsun where speedy recognition of his abilities brought him a large and lucrative practice. The Doctor successfully removed eight pieces of skull-bone from the left temple of George Jonas which had been thrust into his head two inches by the kick of a horse, and covered the opening with a silver plate, which he prepared from a coin he took from his purse, it being nearly as large as a silver dollar. He also performed several

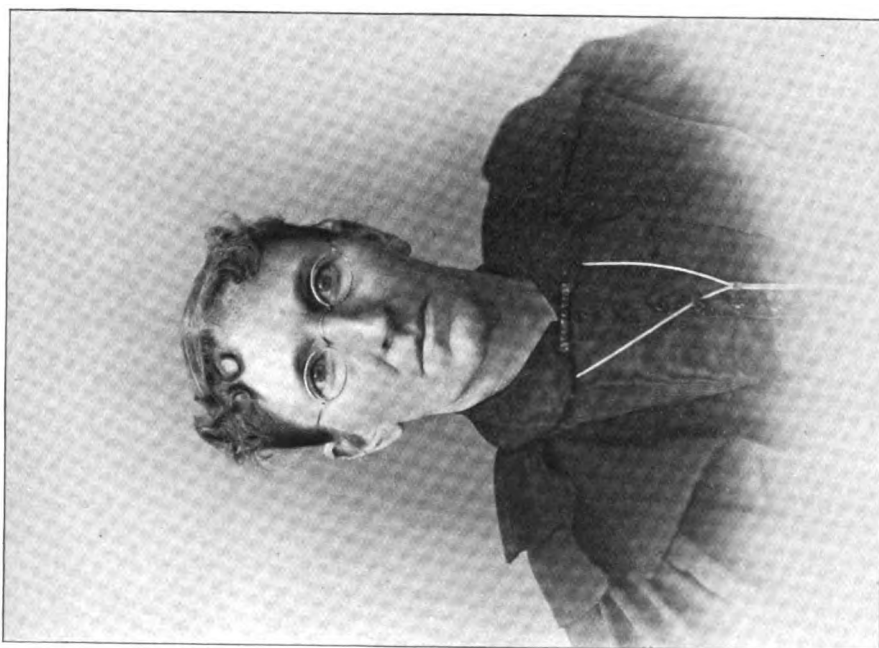
successful delicate and difficult perineal operations, and others of a general nature, by which he gained an enviable reputation as a surgeon.

On September 6, 1882, Dr. Byington was married in Fostoria to Miss Emma E. Shaw, a native of Hancock county, Ohio, and a daughter of Thomas and Eliza Shaw. She is a lady of fine mentality, was well educated in the schools of Findlay, Ohio, and taught successfully in Fostoria. The Doctor has a pleasant home and office, built by himself. Of their three sons the second died in infancy; the others are Warren S., born June 17, 1885; and Ralph, born September 26, 1895.

The Doctor contributes liberally toward the Churches of his locality, although not a member of any, and he is always ready to encourage and assist movements for the benefit of the thriving little city where he has made his home. As a citizen, not as a politician, he served six years as a member of the Risingsun council, but he has frequently declined nominations to political positions. In August, 1893, he was appointed a member of the Board of Pension Examiners, and still holds that office. In principle he is a Democrat, but occasionally supports men of other parties. A man of practical ideas in business as well as in professional life, he has acquired a fine competence, and is regarded as one of the substantial men of the place, owning extensive interests in oil holdings, and engaging largely in loaning money, and buying and selling notes. Despite his varied lines of work, he is fond of travel, recreation and hunting; has been in sixteen different States, Canada and old Mexico, and several seasons have found him in the game haunts of the West and South. Socially he was a charter member and first chancellor commander of Lodge 329, K. of P., at Risingsun.

WILLIAM ECKERT, one of the intelligent, progressive agriculturists of Portage township, was born April 20, 1847, at Buffalo, N. Y., son of Martin Eckert, a native of the "Fatherland," who was born February 2, 1808.

Martin Eckert came to the United States when a young man, lived for a time in Eastern Pennsylvania, and made his first permanent location in Buffalo, N. Y. Here he married Margaret Zimmerman, who was born in Alsace, Germany, and came to the United States, where her parents also passed their remaining days. Mr. Eckert had learned shoemaking in Germany, and he followed his trade in Buffalo, also engaging in market gardening, in which he continued for a number of years. They lived near Cold



Mrs Wm Eckert



Wm. Eckert



Springs, a suburb of Buffalo, and their produce was taken to Washington Street Market. In the panic of 1857, however, Mr. Eckert lost much of his property, and in the fall of 1861 he came west to Ohio, living in Scott township, Sandusky county, where he rented land. He was a large active man in his younger days, and after coming to Ohio he engaged in farming, but from 1867 until their deaths he and his wife made their home with our subject. He died at the latter's home in Portage township in February, 1891, his wife preceding him to the grave in April, 1882, and both are buried in Bradner cemetery. They reared a large family, all of whom were born in Buffalo, as follows: Jacob, who is a farmer of Portage township; Ellen (Mrs. John V. Hall), of Buffalo, N. Y.; George, a carpenter, who died in Boston, Mass.; Martin, Jr., of Montgomery township, Wood county; Sarah (Mrs. William Wilson), who lives in Buffalo; Charles, who died of cholera in Buffalo; Louise (Mrs. Jacob Bowers), of Scott township, Sandusky Co., Ohio; and William. Mr. Eckert was originally a Whig in politics, but on the formation of the party he became a Republican, and was an ardent supporter of its principles.

William Eckert received all his education in the schools of his boyhood home, and was thoroughly trained to farming, remaining at home, with one month's exception, until his enlistment in the Union army, on March 26, 1864, at Rollersville, Ohio. He became a member of Company I, 72nd O. V. I., the regiment at that time being home on veteran furlough, and returned with them to the field, seeing his first active service at Paducah, Ky. He participated in the battles of Brice's Cross Roads (or Guntown), Tishomingo, Tupelo, Oldtown Creek, Abbeville, Little Harpeth, Nashville, Spanish Fort, and Mobile, the command marching from that city to Montgomery. *En route* they learned of Lee's surrender, and soon after of Lincoln's assassination. They remained in the service, doing guard duty and repairing railroads, until September 11, 1865, when they were mustered out at Vicksburg, and received the final discharge at Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Eckert is now a member of Randall Post No. 53, G. A. R., at Freeport. During his service our subject was never absent from duty on account of injuries or sickness, but he was separated from his regiment a short time after the battle of Brice's Cross Roads, in which they were defeated; he and many others worked their way through the woods to Memphis, and during the journey it was, naturally, difficult for them to keep together.

In the spring of 1866, Mr. Eckert began to do farm work for others, and after six months rented a farm in Montgomery township, Wood county, from Conrad Shefler, which he worked for two years, and after that rented more land, until he bought his present farm in Portage township. At the time of his marriage he had \$200, besides a limited supply of farming implements, and he lived on different places in Wood and Sandusky counties until April 20, 1878, at which time he settled on his place of eighty acres in Section 15, Portage township, which he had bought four years previously, and which he had improved to some extent after it came into his possession, it being new land when he bought it. He now owns 160 acres, ninety of which are under cultivation, and which he has taken from its primitive condition. He has improved the land with buildings, and has placed over 1,200 rods of drain tile in the land, which has increased its fertility considerably. He is known as a most thorough, systematic farmer, and has the respect of all who know him for his industry and integrity. He is a thoroughly self-made man, having commenced life with no capital but his own energy and ambition, and he is now in prosperous circumstances, and able to support his family in comfort. In 1892 he built a fine barn, 40 x 72 feet in dimensions, and all the other improvements on the place are in keeping.

On November 30, 1871, Mr. Eckert was married, in Scott township, Sandusky county, to Miss Lenora Sheseley, a native of that township, who was born March 30, 1850, daughter of John Sheseley, who came hither from Pennsylvania. Children have been born to this union as follows: Clarence R., September 9, 1872, who is a teacher; Adda, January 26, 1874; Mabel, November 20, 1875 (died in August, 1879); Laura, April 28, 1877; Wilmer, August 18, 1878; Rolland W., July 23, 1883; Ralph E., January 26, 1885; Florence M., January 20, 1889; Floyd H., August 12, 1890; and Benjamin F., February 9, 1893. Mr. and Mrs. Eckert are members of the Methodist Protestant Church, in which he holds the office of trustee. He is a Republican in politics, and never fails to cast his ballot; but aside from that takes no active part in politics or public affairs, although he has served as school director in District No. 9. Socially he is a member of I. O. O. F., Prairie Depot Lodge, No. 646.

EXEA DUCAT, one of the most prominent of the retired agriculturists who have made their home in the pleasant city of Bowling Green, was born of French-Canadian parentage, on the



Ohio and Michigan line, near Toledo, February, 18, 1828.

His parents, Joseph and Victoria (Jacob) Ducat, were born in Detroit, Mich., the former in April, 1805. Eleven children were born to them, our subject being the second. Joseph, the eldest, is now living in East Toledo, at the age of sixty-eight. The third, Alexander, born in 1830, died June 27, 1874. Julius, born March 10, 1834, died September 12, 1895. John is a resident of Rudolph, Wood county; Gilbert, of Bowling Green; Theodore, of Toledo; Marshall, of Bowling Green; Frank, of Ducat, Wood county; and the two youngest, Frederick and Victoria, died in childhood. Mr. Ducat's parents moved to Liberty township, Wood county, in 1851, and settled upon a large tract of land which is now very valuable. His mother died in Ottawa county in 1864, his father at the homestead in Liberty township, in May, 1871.

Our subject enjoyed the usual experiences of a healthy country boy during his youth, and became in time one of the most successful farmers in the locality, cultivating a tract of 200 acres of land which he still owns, although of late years he has left the active work to other hands. He was married May 6, 1851, to Miss Elizabeth Momee, of Toledo, who was born February 8, 1836. They have had nine children, as follows: Elizabeth, born June 1, 1852, died August 27, 1858; the second, born June 1, 1853, died the same day; Mary V. born April 15, 1854, was married December 4, 1873, to Paul McCrory, and died November 8, 1874; Peter Exea, born June 8, 1856, married Josephine Mantal, and has one son—Clarence; Thomas Jefferson, born March 12, 1859, married Emma Gano, and has four children living; Charles Henry, born October 14, 1863, died aged fifteen; Matilda Jane, born November 26, 1864, married Quincy Mercer, of Wood county; Lucy Ann, born June 7, 1871, died a year later; Fulton Daniel, born May 4, 1874, married Alta V. Bordner, and has one daughter. Mr. Ducat is a highly esteemed citizen, and uses his influence in quiet but effective ways to forward every measure which has for its object the good of the community. He is a leading member of the Christian Church, and in his political preferences of late years has been an ardent Prohibitionist.

NATHANIEL L. HANSON. New Hampshire was first visited by Europeans in 1614, the first settlements being made at Cochecho (Dover) and Portsmouth, in 1623. Thomas Hanson, senior, was among the early settlers and lived at Coche-

cho (Dover), was taxed 1654-55, received from the Crown, or Protector, a grant of one hundred acres of land near Salmon Falls, N. H., dated November 11, 1658, was admitted a freeman, April 5, 1661, died 1666, and his will was approved June 27, 1666. His widow was taxed 1666-1672, and killed by Indians, June 28, 1689. These people were English. Their children were Tobias, Thomas (2), Isaac, Timothy and two daughters. Of the last four no record is left. Tobias was killed by the Indians May 10, 1693, his wife having been made captive June, 1689, at the time his mother was killed.

Thomas Hanson (2), second son of Thomas, Sr., was born 1643, first taxed 1664 to 1677, at Cochecho (Dover), and his will bears date February 10, 1710. His children, of whom any record is left, were Thomas (3) and John (1). Thomas (3) was born in 1680, built a house at "Knox Marsh" near Dover in 1700 (still occupied—1883—by William Twombly). His children were (by Margaret Maul) Thomas (4), Robert, Timothy (2) (see "Timothy hay," Standard dictionary), Maul, Jonathan and Samuel; (by Hannah Newell) Solomon, Ebenezer and Abigail. He died 1728, his will bearing date September 18, 1728, and it shows the ownership of slaves in New Hampshire at that date.

John (1), brother of Thomas (3), married Elizabeth Meador, May 23, 1703, and lived at "Knox Marsh." His children were Hannah, Sarah, Elizabeth, John (2), Isaac (2), Daniel, Ebenezer (2), Caleb, Mercy and Abigail. On June 27, 1724, their home was attacked by Indians; John (2), Isaac and the father being in the field, and Hannah, being at church—all escaped harm. Ebenezer and Caleb (youngest of the boys) were dashed against a stone and killed. Sarah, Elizabeth, Daniel, Mercy (fourteen days old), the mother and the nurse were all taken captive, and, by forced marches for hundreds of miles through the then unbroken wilderness and swamps of the wildest section of our land, were taken into Canada. Pursuit proved fruitless. Without doubt the boys were killed because too young to make the march, and too large to carry, while the mother was spared for the larger ransom expected. Though still feeble, she was compelled to carry her fourteen-day-old babe, but was treated with some barbaric tenderness, sharing the chief's food, and by night his tent, and allowed to prepare nourishment for her babe when no longer able to nourish it herself. The following year the husband and father proceeded to Canada, and ransomed his wife and three of the children. He returned to Canada again in 1727

to redeem the remaining child, Sarah, and perished at Crown Point, N. Y., on his return. Mercy Hanson, the fourteen-day-old captive, born to John (1) June 13, 1724, was among these ransomed children, and lived to marry one Nathaniel Hanson (1), and became the mother of seven children, viz.: Paul, John (3), Nathaniel (2), Ebenezer (2), Caleb (2), and two daughters. Of these children, Ebenezer Hanson (2) was born April 12, 1759, married Abigail Caverno September, 1789, lived in Strafford, N. H., and died May 26, 1826. The children of Ebenezer (2) and Abigail Hanson were Caverno, Paul, John (4), Ebenezer (3), Hannah, Judith, Nathaniel (3), Caleb (3), Abigail, Sarah and Jeremiah. All these lived to an advanced age.

Nathaniel Hanson (3), father of our subject, was born in Strafford, N. H., May 11, 1807, married Marjorie Evans, of the same place, dwelt at Barnstead and died October 5, 1891, his wife having preceded him on March 9, of the same year—both having lived more than four-score years. The old home stands in shadow; the sunshine falls less sweetly among the many reminders—the reverently folded garments, the hat, the cane, and the old family Bible that lay on the stand. The immediate family of Nathaniel (3) and Marjorie E. Hanson, consisted of eight sons and one daughter, viz.: John (5), Caleb W., Levi H., Nathaniel L., Ebenezer, Lewis F., Joseph B., George and Jennie B.

Nathaniel L. Hanson, fourth of the above named brothers, submits this genealogy by request, interesting chiefly in the fact that it covers a period of nearly three hundred years, embracing eight generations inclusive of his own family, and in that it shows something of the trials of the earliest settlers of our land. The names of those constituting the collateral branches of the family in the different generations, as gathered by him from court and other records, are here omitted.

The names of his own children are George Murray, Myra Hamilton, Elizabeth Murray, Fred Green (died in 1876), Raymond Evans, Luther N. and Ralph Trowbridge.

Our subject, Nathaniel L. Hanson, was reared in New Hampshire, quit the farm at fifteen years of age, and the shop at eighteen, was privileged to attend the public schools but twenty-five months in all this time, and one or two terms at the "select" school. In 1857 he entered the academy at New Hampton, N. H., taking the Latin and Greek course, having made a good start in the former in the shop, without an instructor. He graduated from this academy in June, 1860, second in a class of thirteen

gentlemen, all but two of whom entered college. In the fall of the same year, with just funds enough in hand to meet the expenses of the first term, and obliged to rely absolutely upon his own resources, he entered upon a four-years' course at Dartmouth College, Hanover, N. H., having been admitted on examination prior to graduation at the academy, taking the 25th position in a class of eighty-one members; which by later accessions enrolled an even hundred. Divers causes, chiefly the Civil war which broke out the following spring, left but fifty of this class to answer roll-call on graduation day, four years later, Mr. Hanson being among them. He had already been elected principal of the Grammar schools at Troy, Ohio, and came west soon after graduating in 1864. The following summer he was elected superintendent of schools at Sidney, Ohio, which position he filled for three years. In 1868 he was elected principal of the State street schools, Columbus, Ohio, succeeding T. C. Mendenhall, now president of Worcester (Mass.) Polytechnic Institute, and formerly at the head of the U. S. geodetic coast survey. At the holidays of this year Mr. Hanson received what he regards as two flattering propositions, viz.: An addition of \$500 in salary (\$1,700 per annum), to take the principalship of the Ludlow street schools, Dayton, Ohio; and the hand of Miss Lida McC. Murray, of Sidney, Ohio, in marriage; both of which he accepted, retaining the latter to this day (1896), and the former until the fall of 1871, three years, when a coveted opportunity to go into business presented itself, and he came to Perrysburg, Ohio, to accept a subordinate position in the Exchange Bank, then just starting under the auspices of Dr. E. D. Peck, as president, and F. R. Miller as cashier. He continued with this firm until the spring of 1879, when, Dr. Peck having deceased, the firm retired from banking, and Mr. Hanson established the Citizens Bank, continuing the business under that title until the spring of 1892, when it was re-organized as a State Bank and incorporated as the Citizens Banking Company, with a subscribed capital stock of \$50,000.00; he became the cashier and responsible manager, and continues such to the present time.

In politics he is a Republican, and in religious belief is a member of the Presbyterian Church. He is a member of the Greek letter fraternity, Delta Kappa Epsilon, is a member of the board of education, is serving his second term as a member of the city council, and is, and has been for ten years, a member and the

secretary of the board of managers of the Way Public Library. Mr. Hanson is a citizen of high standing, and a leading man in his community, and although rather reserved in disposition, is found on nearer acquaintance to be a most genial and companionable man. He is very domestic in his tastes, and although giving much time and attention to the details of his business, and to matters concerning the public welfare, he finds his greatest happiness when surrounded by his books and family in his pleasant home.

GEORGE W. WILKINSON, one of the self-made men of Ohio, a prominent editor of Wood county, and a worthy representative citizen of North Baltimore, is a native of the State, having been born March 15, 1859, in Logan county.

At an early age he was left an orphan, his father having died when he was an infant, succumbing to exposure experienced at the battle of Pittsburg Landing, in 1862; after which, until he was eighteen years old, young George made his home with his grandfather, John G. Wilkinson, during which period he acquired a common-school education. Fully realizing he was not yet properly equipped in an educational point of view, for suitable life work, our subject, on leaving the home of his grandfather, went to Sidney, Ohio, where for three years he attended the public schools, at the end of which time he took up the profession of teaching, which he followed several years. For one year he had charge of the grammar department of public-school work at Deshler, and for two years he served as superintendent of schools of that place. During the year 1885-86 he leased and conducted the Deshler *Flag*, and then purchased the *Beacon*, of North Baltimore, which, under his able management, has become one of the leading journals of Wood county.

Politically, Mr. Wilkinson is a Republican, and a representative in his party. For several years he has been a member of the County Central Committee, of which he has been chairman and secretary. He has also been several times a member of the executive committee, serving now in that capacity; is also serving as member of the County Election Board, by appointment from the Secretary of State, and is chairman of that board. Mr. Wilkinson has served four terms as trustee of the North Baltimore Gas Co., during which time he was its secretary. At this writing he is president of the board of examiners of teachers, for the city of North Baltimore. He is also serving his second term as secretary of the Buckeye Press Association, of Ohio, an organization

of printers and editors, consisting of about two hundred members, he being one of the originators of the association. He is a practical, artistic printer, and has one of the finest and best equipped offices in the State.

In 1885, Mr. Wilkinson was united in marriage with Miss Ella M. Thomas, daughter of Rev. A. C. Thomas, of North Baltimore, born April 21, 1868, and educated in the common schools of Ohio. Mrs. Wilkinson is a valuable assistant to her husband, being in perfect sympathy with his work, and taking editorial charge during his temporary absence. To their union have come two children, namely: Gerald T., born in 1889, and Claire W., born in 1892. Mrs. Wilkinson is a member of the M. E. Church, at North Baltimore, and she and her husband enjoy the highest regard of the best citizens of the community in which they live.

GILBERT DUCAT, a wealthy retired agriculturist of Bowling Green, and a descendant of a well-known French-Canadian family, was born in Michigan, near the Ohio line, July 10, 1839.

His father, Joseph Ducat, was born in Detroit, Mich., in 1805, and on arriving at manhood he married a native of the same city, Miss Victoria Jacob. He was a farmer by occupation, and some years after his marriage came with his family to Ohio, locating first in Wood county, later removing to Ottawa county, where Mrs. Ducat died in 1864. The family soon after returned to Wood county settling in Liberty township, and here, in 1871, the father died. Both parents were devout adherents of the Roman Catholic Church. Eleven children were born to them: Joseph, a resident of East Toledo; Enea, of Bowling Green; Alexander, deceased; Julius, deceased; John, of Rudolph, Wood county; Gilbert, our subject; Theodore, residing in Toledo, Ohio; Marshall, in Bowling Green; Frank, in Ducat, Wood county (named in honor of this family); and Frederick and Victoria, who both died in infancy.

Gilbert Ducat, our subject, spent his early life chiefly in Wood county. The conditions of pioneer life were not favorable to education, and he received no schooling; but good natural abilities enabled him to overcome in a measure this lack of opportunity for learning. On November 25, 1865, he was married to Miss Amelia Ganger, a lady of French-Canadian descent, who was born March 31, 1844, in Michigan, the daughter of Lewis and Olive (Roe) Ganger. At the age of thirteen she came with her parents to Rudolph, Wood county, where her father still lives at the



*Geo. W. Wilkinson*



age of seventy-seven. Her mother, who was born in 1818, died in 1890. Mrs. Ducat was the second of their eleven children. The eldest, Victoria, now deceased, was the wife of Julius Ducat. The third, Harriet, is the wife of Paul Groneau; Mary married Victor Puye; Matilda married Fred Crostalker, of Bowling Green; Ellen is the wife of Lewis Sanglier; George lives in North Baltimore, Wood county; Daniel, in Liberty township; Cyril, near Rudolph; and Napoleon; the youngest child died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Ducat settled upon a farm in Liberty township after their marriage, where four children were born to them, none of whom lived to maturity except the third, Napoleon, who was born August 21, 1868, and is now at home. The names of the others with the dates of birth and death are as follows: Henry, born January 30, 1867, died February 9, 1868; Louis Franklin, born November 6, 1873, died in May, 1875; Abraham, born in 1869, died in 1882. Fortunately for our subject his farm lies within the "oil belt," and some years ago four wells were sunk upon it from which he has since derived a good income. In 1889 he retired from active business and removed to Bowling Green. He and his wife are faithful members of the Roman Catholic Church, as all their ancestors have been, and their wealth enables them to take an active part in many worthy enterprises. In politics Mr. Ducat is a Democrat.

ABNER CUMMINGS (deceased) was a prominent and representative citizen of Wood county, highly esteemed by all who knew him. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, April 23, 1829, and acquired his education in the public schools of that city. He afterward removed to Tontogany, Ohio, where he learned the carpenter's trade, and later entered eighty acres of land from the government in Washington township, and bought an additional eighty acres. This he operated and improved for a time, and then sold eighty acres and purchased the Crum farm of eighty acres. On selling this property, he removed to Haskins, where he purchased a farm of similar size, which is now the abode of his widow.

In 1855 Mr. Cummings was united in marriage with Christina Cameron, who was born in Caledonia, N. Y., a daughter of James and Maria (Davis) Cameron, of Scotch and English descent. Our subject and his wife became the parents of six children: Helen, born June 29, 1858, now the wife of G. A. Repass; Lillie, born December 19, 1861, now the wife of Edward Conture, a railroad man, Toledo, Ohio; Lucy, born April 9, 1864;

Annette, born August 28, 1866; Fred, born March 12, 1870, and in 1892 married Jennie Jenson, by whom he has two children, the eldest, Lenore, born April 30, 1893, and Delos Abner, born August 28, 1896; and Mary, who was born December, 1867, and died in 1869.

During the Civil war, Mr. Cummings enlisted in Company B, 144th O. V. I., under Capt. Black, and participated in a number of engagements. In politics he was a Republican, served as trustee and supervisor of Weston township, and for a number of years was school director at Tontogany. He was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was superintendent of the Sunday-school, and his many excellent qualities gained him high regard. He died in 1878, respected by all who knew him. His widow still resides on the old homestead, and the family is one of prominence in the community. Mrs. Cummings is a member of the Methodist Church at Tontogany; her daughters are members of the Baptist Church, and their circle of friends is limited only by the circle of their acquaintances.

AMOS DEWESE, a well-known resident of Weston township, was born August 18, 1823, in Paris township, Stark county, Ohio. The first ancestor of the family of whom a record is given was Carl, the great-grandfather of our subject, who lived in Berks county, Penn., and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. He had seven children—John, William, Elizabeth, Samuel, Powell, Thomas and David. His son Samuel became a captain in the Revolutionary army, and also served in the war of 1812, a biography of his life being published previous to his death.

Thomas Dewese, who was the grandfather of our subject, was born in Berks county, Penn., May 4, 1770. He was a school teacher in early life, and later became a farmer. He was married to Miss Catherine Bessey, who was born May 18, 1767, and they emigrated to Stark county, Ohio, in 1808, where they both died at advanced ages. Their children were as follows: (1) Lutice, was married July 7, 1808, to Jasper Daniels, who was a preacher in the Disciples Church. They emigrated to the West, and he died in Illinois; (2) Samuel, the father of our subject; (3) Elizabeth was married July 18, 1815, to John Wickerd (he died in Hancock county, Ohio, and she in Michigan); (4) Catherine became the wife of Thomas Ebe September 7, 1817, and both died in Wayne county, Ohio; (5) Sarah was married March 19, 1820, to Andrew Livingstone, and both died in Wayne county; (6) Martha W. married Christian Shiveley October 30, 1821, and both died in

Wayne county; (7) Uriah married Mary Snyder February 22, 1824, and died in Stark county; (8) Rebecca married Isaac Kelley August 23, 1827, and she was accidentally burned to death (her husband removed to the West); (9) Thomas was married October 6, 1830, to Sarah Watkins. Thomas Dewese and two other families were the first pioneers who settled in Paris township, Stark county, Ohio.

Samuel Dewese, father of our subject, was born in Bucks county, Penn., March 5, 1793, and emigrated with his father's family in 1808 to Stark county, Ohio. On May 13, 1814, at the age of twenty, Mr. Dewese enlisted at the village of Canton, under Capt. James Drennan, for the war of 1812, and served under Gen. Harrison until the expiration of his term of service. He was discharged at Detroit, Mich., May 14, 1814. When first enlisted he went to Cleveland, Ohio, and from there to Fort Stephenson, now Fremont, arriving there the day after the battle, when the fort was so gallantly and successfully defended by Major Croghan. From this place his regiment was sent to Fort Ball, and from there to the mouth of the Portage river; there the command took flat boats and crossed over the lake to Detroit. While at Detroit in the winter of 1814, Mr. Dewese was sent by order of Gen. Harrison as a scout to the Thames river. The mission was a difficult and dangerous one, but the young man accomplished his object. After his discharge Mr. Dewese returned home and labored on a farm. On May 16, 1815, he married Miss Sarah Boyer, who was born in Stark county February 19, 1798, and died August 6, 1824. They had six children, as follows: Margaret, born February 20, 1817, married Asa Hutchinson, and was the mother of thirteen children, and died in Wood county; Thomas, July 26, 1818, died in Canton, Ohio, July 20, 1892; Caroline, May 10, 1820, was postmistress in Fork Top, Mecosta county, Mich., and was the oldest incumbent of that office in the State, when she lost the position in 1894; Amy, December 26, 1821, married James Hutchinson, and died in Bowling Green March 14, 1891; Amos, the subject of this sketch; the sixth child died in infancy. Mr. Dewese was married, a second time, November 16, 1828, taking for his wife Miss Annie Switzer, of Stark county, who died after the birth of twelve children, and was buried at Weston, Ohio. The children of the second marriage are as follows: Jesse died in Wood county, and left a family; Dennis died when a boy; Franklin died in childhood; Mary Ann married John Wade, and died in Wood county; Noah died in childhood; Samuel

was a soldier in the Civil war, and resides in Michigan; Uriah, a farmer of Weston township, was also a soldier in the Civil war; Parmilla married W. Wade, and lives in Iowa; Gurselda is the wife of Charles Bassett, and lives in Weston; Chauncey died while a prisoner at Danville, Va., November 6, 1864, during the Civil war. The other two children died in infancy.

Amos Dewese, the subject of this sketch, received but meager school advantages before coming to Wood county, and of his first experiences in this wilderness let the following article, written by him, for the *Weston Herald*, and published in 1883, speak for itself:

DEWESE CORNERS, February 17, 1883.

"*Ed. Herald:* As this day is my fortieth anniversary in Wood county, I will, with your permission, give your many readers a brief sketch of my first year of pioneer life in the county. I came here February 17, 1843. The snow was eighteen inches deep when I started from Hancock county without one cent of money, but a few clothes, and a dry chunk of bread constituting my pack; my shoes out at the toes; and carrying a few books. In the evening I crossed the line and saw a hunter riding an old horse, to the tail of which was tied a large deer. I followed a trail and came to a Mr. Robbins', of Bloom township, where I stayed all night. Early next morning I started for Mr. Frankfanter's, at Bloom Centre, found my old friend Joseph Shelia, and made my home with him, and went to chopping to get me a pair of boots. Mr. S. and I rode through the woods to Risden and Rome (now Fostoria), for an axe. We found a few, but as they wouldn't trust either of us, we had to return without it. Then I went back to Hancock county, got my axe, and was rich. I took a job of a Mr. Buissey to chop seven acres, for which he gave me a rifle and some second-hand clothing. I finished the job on March 24, when the mercury was twenty degrees below zero, that winter being still known as the 'hard winter.'

"I began work for Mr. Solether April 1; snow and ice on the ground, and sleighing. He gave me a watch. While working there a Mr. Jonathan Stull came into the clearing. He had a bag on his shoulder with a peck of ears of corn that he had got from a Mr. Daniel Milbourn. Mr. Stull was much depressed and discouraged on account of the terrible hard winter. We talked of Adventism, as the Millerites said the end of the world was at hand. Mr. Stull said he prayed for it every day, as he had seen all the trouble he had wanted to see. He said he had

eight head of horses, and all had died; twenty-eight head of cattle and two hundred and sixty head of hogs, and all were dead. I had to pass Mr. Stull's cabin often. He told me that he had been married twelve years, and they had ten children, all of whom were almost nude. Not one had a full suit of clothes. They hadn't a bed nor a window in the house. He was the owner of a three-quarter section of good land. 'There,' said Mr. Stull, 'I have one peck of ears of corn in this sack, and when I take it home and grind it in the hand-mill, and mix it with water, bake and eat it with my wife and ten children, God knows where the next will come from. They must starve.' He wept like a child. [Mr. Stull was the founder of Jerry City.]

"During my stay with Mr. Buissey I had to go to and from Mr. Shelia's. I had to pass a number of cabins, forsaken and uninhabited. They looked gloomy enough, surrounded by ice and water and the dismal swamp. A number of wild hogs had taken possession of a new one which had belonged to a Mr. John Ford. They had piled in on top of each other, and there perished from cold and hunger. When out hunting for coons and minks, whenever we found hogs they were invariably dead. I next worked for Mr. Whitaker two weeks, and received \$3.25 in June. Then I went to Milton Center, and cleared five acres for James Hutchinson for a pair of two-year-old steers. In July I went to James Bloom's, worked for Bloom and Henderson Carothers, helped cut forty-five acres of wheat, and cut and haul a hundred tons of tame prairie hay, for which I received one pair of boots and fifty cents in money—a sum total in money for the year, \$3.75. In the beginning of the winter of the year 1843 I went to Ralph Keeler's to work for my board and go to school in the old log school-house in Weston. Mr. Keeler took sick, and as I had to take care of him and his stock, I lost the benefit of the school. I worked for him three months for twenty-five dollars, to take my pay out of the store.

"I will attempt to describe the old Taylor school house. It was located in the back part of the lot now owned by Mr. Henry, on Main street. It was true pioneer in style, with puncheon floor, benches and desks made of the same. Round logs cut off, with ribs and weigh-poles to hold down the clapboards; windows, one row of glass, each eight by ten; writing desk, puncheon laid on pins driven in the wall. The teacher, Mr. Jesse Osborne, of New York State, received twenty-five cents a day, or five dollars a month. The scholars were Miss Mary Taylor, George,

Lewis, Thomas and William Taylor; Samuel McAtee, who lived with Andrew Moorhouse; Olmsted, Amelia and Melicent Keeler. The teacher was paid by the parents, there being no school fund at that time. Mr. Taylor lost about forty-five head of cattle; Mr. Keeler seventy-five head, while the Sargents, Elsworth, Saulsbury and Green lost about the same proportion during that terrible winter, never to be forgotten by the old settlers. Many had to move out of the Black Swamp before spring. So ended my first year as a PIONEER."

The vicissitudes of Mr. Dewese's early life were relieved by the sports of the hour, and he often engaged in the hunt and the chase when heavy game was abundant in the Black Swamp. He was not content, however, and yearned to cast his fate with the possibilities of the "Far West." He had all the preparations made to take a Western trip, when his father came to Wood county, entered land, and prevailed upon our subject to do the same and remain with him. True to a strong impulse of family unity that has been handed down to the latest generation of the Dewese family, he allowed the parents' advice to prevail, and on March 1, 1851, he entered the land which forms a portion of his present magnificent estate. On this he built a log house and commenced to make general improvements, and for two years kept "bachelor's hall." On November 3, 1853, Mr. Dewese was united in marriage to Miss Sarah Green, who was born August 17, 1829, in Liverpool, England, and came to this country with her parents in 1834.

Of this marriage three sons were born, of whom the following record is given: (1) William, born March 21, 1856, was married January 25, 1887, to Miss Caroline Elizabeth Sautter, who was born in Huron county, August 17, 1866. They have two children, Donald R., born September 17, 1891; and Floyd M., born May 4, 1893. (2) George J., born April 30, 1858, was married November 29, 1881, to Miss Lucy Lee, whose birth took place January 7, 1864. They have one child, Sarah E., born January 20, 1887. When twenty-three years of age George J. entered the mercantile business in Weston under the firm name of Oswald & Dewese, they being the successors of A. J. Munn. Two years later he sold out his interest and went to farming, which he carried on until June, 1885, when he was appointed postal clerk, his run being between Toledo and Cincinnati. He held this position for about fifteen months when he returned to agricultural pursuits, in which he finds



his most congenial occupation, and now resides in a pleasant home on a portion of the Dewese estate, close to the suburbs of Weston. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at the latter place. (3) Amos R., the youngest son of our subject, was born August 24, 1865. He is unmarried, and assists his father in the management of his estate.

Of the many pioneer couples whose names link the present advanced state of affairs in Wood county with its most primitive conditions, none have taken a more active part in the progress made than Mr. and Mrs. Dewese, and but few have been spared to such a ripe and healthful old age as this worthy pair, who still retain all their faculties and evince that eager interest in passing events which they manifested in the vigor of life. The following account of their silver wedding is taken from a Toledo paper:

"At an early hour last evening, November 7, 1878, the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Dewese began to gather at their elegant residence, about two miles north of Weston, until about from seventy to ninety guests had assembled to participate in the festivities of the occasion, and to congratulate the happy couple upon the joyful return of the twenty-fifth anniversary of their wedding day. We must say that a more pleasant company it was never our good fortune to witness. Every one seemed to catch and imbibe some of the happiness of the bride and groom. As we wandered through the elegant home of our hosts, and noticed the gentlemanly deportment and manly bearing of their sons, and the marks of comfort and luxury on every hand, and thought that twenty-five years ago the then young bride and groom, in what was then almost a wilderness, with no other fortune than brave, honest and willing hands, with no other wealth but industry, integrity and economy, had grappled as pioneers with poverty and nature's unbroken soil, we could not refrain from admiring the work of a quarter of a century, and almost envied the wedded pair their joy as they looked back over the twenty-five years of their happy union. After an hour and a half spent in social greetings, friendly congratulations and kindly expressed wishes of future happiness for the bride and groom, the company assembled in the parlors, and the Rev. M. L. Donahey invoked upon the happy couple the blessing of God, and in a neat and appropriate speech, in behalf of the donors, presented to them the many beautiful gifts of their friends, to which Mr. Dewese, with his wife leaning upon his arm (with as much of happiness and less of doubt than twenty-five years before), re-

sponded with a grateful acknowledgement. After some good music and singing, the company gathered around the bountifully spread tables and partook of a repast, which they all seemed to enjoy. Then, after a little more chatting, a little more visiting, a little more singing, and (alas in some instances, we are informed) a little more flirting, the guests scattered to their respective homes, each one saying, 'What a pleasant time we have had;' 'How nicely everything passed off.'"

Honorable citizenship with financial independence has been the ambition of Mr. Dewese, and that this has been more than satisfied is easily learned in Wood county. There is no name in the county better known than his, nor is there a home more abundantly filled with the choicest products of the earth. The hospitality of the Dewese family is known far and near, and as agriculturists they are accepted authorities for miles around. Two of the sons live with their parents on the old homestead, which is a palatial residence erected in 1877. The harmony that exists in the family is remarkable; the interest of one is the interest of all, and although each of the sons has an individual property of his own, the main estate is held in common. The sons of Mr. Dewese received only a common-school education, as did their father, but the breadth and scope of their reading, and their original manner of thinking, make them among the best informed people of Wood county. As samples of physical manhood, these men have certainly no equal in any one family in the county, the father having the frame of a giant, and the smallest of the three sons weighing one hundred and ninety pounds.

Mr. Dewese was formerly a Republican, but he says he watched the evils of protection as they gradually gained a hold upon the country to the detriment of the agricultural masses, he asserted his right to think for himself, disavowed allegiance to the Republican party, and became a Democrat. Party organizations have tried to whip him back into the Republican ranks, but in vain, as he is firm in his belief that he is on the right side of the question.

B. L. PETERS, a prominent pioneer of North Baltimore, and an active business man and property owner, was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, July 13, 1830, and was the son of Abraham and Edith (Runyan) Peters.

Abraham Peters, the great-grandfather, came with his wife from Germany in Colonial days, and located in Rockingham county, Va., where he took up 900 acres of land under what was



*D. E. Peters*



*Tillie Peters*



*Fanny Peters*



*B. L. Peters*



known in the English law as "Tomahawk Right." The land followed up the narrow strip along one stream a great distance, and down another. The old people died there, and the estate passed into the hands of our subject's great uncle. The grandfather, also named Abraham, was raised in Rockingham county, Va., where he married a Miss Catherine Zircle, and, after remaining in Virginia for a while, they came to Guernsey county, Ohio. They had the following children: Abraham, Isaac, Solomon, Reuben and Daniel. They all settled in Guernsey county before Ohio became a State, and the old people died there.

Abraham Peters, father of our subject, grew to manhood in Guernsey county, and after his marriage remained there until 1834, when he moved to Richland county, bought a farm, and lived there until the fall of 1847, at which time he came to Henry township, Wood county. He bought land one mile and a half north of what is now North Baltimore, made his home and reared his family there. He died in February, 1879. His wife was born in Berks county, Penn., September 8, 1808, and died in Henry township February 1, 1895. They were the parents of nine children, as follows: B. L., our subject; William; Sarah, who married D. Hough, and died in Michigan; Mary E., deceased; John C., who lives in Henry township; Angeline, married to Jacob Ackerman; Franklin living in Henry township; Edith A. and Emily J., twins (Edith married Joseph Grove, and they live in Michigan; Emily is unmarried).

John Brown, the maternal grandfather, was born in New Jersey, of English parents, and was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. All of our subject's ancestors were longlived. His grandmother was 112 years old at the time of her death, and his paternal grandfather was 103.

B. L. Peters was about eighteen years old when he came to Wood county. He attended school until sufficiently qualified to obtain a teacher's certificate, which he secured, and then began teaching. Most of his learning was obtained at home by diligent study, which he carried on at night with the aid of a blazing log and hickory bark, in an old-fashioned fireplace; but he was ambitious to learn, and succeeded, even under all the existing difficulties. He had a special talent for mathematics. For about seven years he alternated between teaching and working on a farm, in the meantime being married March 24, 1853, to Miss Fanny Ackerman. Their children were as follows: William L., deceased when two and one half years old; David

E., whose sketch appears elsewhere; Sarah C., who married Joel Rogers, by whom she had two children—Arthur and Louis (after her husband's death she married J. B. Todd, of Bowling Green, and two children were born to them—Lee and Fanny); Bassett H., a merchant in North Baltimore, who married Florence McLaren, daughter of Dr. McLaren; Fannie J., who died when eight years old; Lydia, now the wife of J. C. Solether, one of the county school examiners, and superintendent of Jerry City High School; Hallie; Loren; Pliny; Harry; and McClellan, who is employed in a store in North Baltimore (he married Miss Ollie Genter, and they have two children—Don and Lenora).

Mr. Peters settled on a farm in Henry township until the fall of 1873, when he assisted in laying out the town of North Baltimore. He started the first store, and owned and edited the first newspaper in the place, the *North Baltimore Enterprise*, which he subsequently moved to Bowling Green, where it is known as the *Bowling Green Democrat*. After disposing of the paper, Mr. Peters devoted his time to the development of North Baltimore. His work in that direction was most important, and it is largely due to his efforts that the town is in its present flourishing and prosperous condition. He owned a great part of the land on which the town is now situated, helped to organize the First National Bank, was interested in the first sawmill, owned the first store, was the first agent on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, and was a heavy dealer in grain; he is now engaged in the real-estate and insurance business. He upholds the principles of the Democratic party; is a member of the United Brethren Church, and is strictly temperate in his habits, although he never took the pledge. For thirty years he has been a notary public and justice of the peace. Mr. Peters' importance to North Baltimore cannot be estimated, and he is justly considered the pioneer father of the town. He has served as mayor of the city four years, and has held one or another of the township offices of trust ever since he was twenty-three years old.

Mrs. Fanny (Ackerman) Peters was born October 7, 1832, in Lancaster county, Penn., near Harrisburg, the eldest daughter of David and Catherine Ackerman, who moved to Wood county, Ohio, in May, 1838, settling on wild land. Here Mr. Ackerman cleared up a new farm, and became one of the most prominent men in the community. He served as township trustee for many years, and held other offices of trust. His wife was one of the most industrious and perse-

vering of women, ever ready to give a helping hand in time of need or sickness, and her daughter Fanny seems to have inherited her mother's good qualities. While quite young she was beloved and respected by all who made her acquaintance. In 1859, she and her husband identified themselves with the United Brethren Church, and she has been a prominent member of that society ever since. Having purchased a portion of the old homestead, on which oil was afterward discovered, she has become worth several thousand dollars in her own right. She is one of the pioneer women of Wood county, and has done much to make North Baltimore the prosperous town it is. Always cheerful and contented, not easily discouraged, ever ready to assist the poor and needy, Mrs. Fanny Peters is held in great respect by those who know her best.

D. E. PETERS, assistant cashier and director of the First National Bank of North Baltimore, was born in Henry township, Wood county, October 16, 1855.

Our subject's early years were spent on a farm, and in attending the public schools. He then worked in his father's store, and, when the newspaper then known as the North Baltimore *Enterprise* (now the Wood County *Democrat* at Bowling Green) was organized, without previous experience or preparation, demonstrated his natural abilities in that line by taking charge of it. The paper, which was a thoroughly popular Democratic weekly, was moved to Bowling Green, our subject retaining the management of it, and remaining with it until it was sold, when he returned to North Baltimore. He soon afterward formed a partnership with Jeff. Richcreek as retail carriage dealers, and after continuing in this business two years closed out and clerked for one year in a dry-goods store in North Baltimore. In 1885 Mr. Peters moved to Charlotte, Mich., and engaged in the wholesale and retail grocery business. Two years later he returned to North Baltimore, and entered the insurance business with his father, continuing in that until the opening of the First National Bank, of which he became one of the stockholders and accepted the position of assistant cashier. He is still identified with his father in the insurance business, and is also secretary of the Home Savings & Loan Association. He is a staunch believer in the principles of the Democratic party. Socially he is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Peters was married, November 13, 1876, to Miss Tillie Crosser, who was born in Henry township, March 6, 1857, and received her edu-

cation in the public schools of Denver, Wood county. Two children have been born to this union, Pearl and Deloy. Mrs. Peters is a daughter of Daniel and Nancy (Archer) Crosser, both of whom were born in Richland county, Ohio, the former in 1806, the latter in 1816; the father died in 1871 in Wood county, the mother in 1890. They are buried in the "Ten-Mile cemetery." They became the parents of eleven children, nine of whom are living. They were pioneers of Henry township, Wood county, and entered their land from the government. Mr. Crosser was a great hunter.

C. G. McCauley, proprietor of the marble works at Bowling Green, and a prosperous business man of that city, was born in Stark county, Ohio, May 24, 1854. He is a son of Joseph and Ruth (Reed) McCauley. Joseph McCauley was born of Irish parents, in Chester county, Penn., August 8, 1820. He was married, in 1844, in Salem, Columbiana Co., Ohio, removing to Lima, Ohio, where he died. His wife, Ruth Reed, was born in Salem, in 1824, and is now residing in Lima.

The subject of this sketch obtained his education in the public schools, and when thirteen years old began learning the trade of a marble cutter, in which he served an apprenticeship of five years. He worked for a time at his trade at Lima, and at Fort Wayne, Ind., where for two years he was also employed as fireman of an engine on the C. H. & D. railway. He then became a commercial traveler for J. D. Halter, of Lima, Ohio, selling monuments, etc., which occupation he followed for two years. In 1877 he located permanently in Bowling Green, and on April 15 of that year established his present business, in which he has been successfully engaged ever since.

Mr. McCauley possesses the advantage of a thorough acquaintance in all the details of his business, being not only a stonecutter and marble finisher of the highest order, but also a firstclass salesman, and it is due to his ability in this direction, as much as anything else, that his trade has grown so rapidly and has spread over such a large extent of country, his goods being placed on the market not only in Ohio but in Michigan, Pennsylvania and Indiana as well. He is a man of untiring energy and industry, and has an enviable reputation among the business men for square dealing and honest methods.

Mr. McCauley was married June 4, 1879, to Miss Florence E. Reid, who was born in Trumbull county, Ohio, January 10, 1856, her parents

being Thomas C. and Margaret M. Reid, who removed to Wood county, Ohio, in 1866. Five children have blessed this union, namely: Ina, Arthur (died October 10, 1885), Florence, Reid, and Floyd. Our subject is a Republican, and while not a politician in the ordinary sense of the word, takes an interest, as every good citizen should do, in affairs relating to his own county and State. Socially he belongs to Centennial Lodge, No. 626, I. O. O. F.; Canton Alpine, No. 26, I. O. O. F., at Bowling Green, Ohio., and Lodge No. 53, of the Elks, at Toledo. He holds a high place in the regard of his fellow men, and is one of the worthy citizens of Wood county.

**S. S. HOPKINS.** Among the substantial and prosperous citizens of Bowling Green, must be classed the man whose name opens this sketch, and who commands the respect of the community as a man of enterprise, and also as a brave soldier of the Civil war. He was born in Huron county, Ohio, February 23, 1839, and is the son of George and Hannah (Smith) Hopkins. The Hopkins family is of Irish and Welsh ancestry. Moses Hopkins, father of George Hopkins, and grandfather of our subject, died in Erie county, Ohio.

The father of our subject was born in Genesee county, N. Y., in 1802, and came to Erie county, Ohio, in 1823, walking all the way. At that time there was only one house where the city of Cleveland now stands, and everything was in the most primitive condition. Mr. Hopkins was a wagon maker by trade, and he was offered every inducement to remain there, but he was bound for the then "Emporium of the West," Milan, Erie county, and would not be persuaded to stop short of his destination. He remained at Milan until 1844, when he went to DeKalb county, Ind., and seven years later returned to Ohio. In 1824 he crossed Lake Erie on the first and only steamer plying on that lake, and was in Detroit, Mich., when its population numbered only two hundred souls. He died in 1864. His wife died at Napoleon, Henry county, when ninety years of age.

Of the nine children born to George Hopkins and his wife, eight grew to maturity, as follows: Mary Ann, wife of L. Weaver, of Napoleon, Henry county; Smith, who died in Henry county, Ohio; Charles B. lives in Illinois. He is an architect and was superintendent of the construction of the State building in Tokeka, Kans. (during the war he served in a mechanics' regiment, building bridges, pontoons, etc.); Harriet became the wife of L. Smith, and died in 1874 in Iowa;

Carolina married Milton Stout, of Henry county; Homer P. lives in South Bend, Ind. (he served in the army of the Potomac from its organization until Grant captured Richmond); George resides in Cincinnati, Ohio (he enlisted when but fifteen years old, and served through the entire war, going with Sherman to the sea); S. S. is subject of this sketch.

S. S. Hopkins spent his younger days in Henry county, where he attended school and learned the trade of a blacksmith. He was married August 20, 1863, in Henry county, to Miss Mary E. Reynolds, who also was born in Baltimore, January 18, 1845, and four children have blessed their union: John G., born September 15, 1864, married Miss Flora Van Tassel; Laura is the wife of A. Peters, of Bowling Green; Edward, born November 25, 1868, married Nettie Phenix, and they have one child, Fern; Mina May, born August 4, 1870, is the wife of Oliver Shearer, of Plain township.

Mr. Hopkins began his married life in Henry county, and followed his trade in the town of Florida, until 1865, when he removed to Napoleon, where he remained for ten years, and in 1875 returned to Florida. From the latter date until 1884, he lived successively in Defiance, Napoleon, and Toledo, coming to Bowling Green in the latter year. Since making his home in Bowling Green Mr. Hopkins and his sons have carried on a large business, doing not only horseshoeing but carriage work and painting. He is an energetic, active man, remarkable for his youthful appearance, and is to-day seemingly not over forty years of age. He is a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, and is prominent in the I. O. O. F., in which he is a past grand, and at present is past chief patriarch in the order at Bowling Green. When the Civil war broke out, Mr. Hopkins was the first man to enlist from Erie county, Ohio, going out with Company D, 8th O. V. I., for three months. At the expiration of his term of enlistment, he returned home to care for his aged parents, who had been left alone by the enlistments of the other three boys.

**PERRY G. EMMETT**, one of the oldest and most respected of Wood county's agriculturists, now residing near Fenton, Webster township, is a native of Lincolnshire, England, born April 26, 1820. It is supposed that the family are descended from the famous Irish patriot, Robert Emmett.

His father, John V. Emmett, a sailor by occupation, married Miss Martha Banks, of Cranuel, England, and reared to adult age a family of

seven children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest. The others are—Thomas; Charles; Martha, the wife of Thos. Yarwood, of England; Elizabeth, wife of Charles Roper, of Fenton, Ohio; Ann, the wife of G. Graves, of Paulding county; and George, a resident of Buffalo, N. Y. Four other children died in early infancy. The later years of Mr. Emmett's parents were passed upon a farm in England, his father leaving the sea for agricultural pursuits some years before his marriage.

Mr. Emmett received a limited education in his native country, and was sent out to work at an early age, tending sheep for his board and clothes. At twelve he began working on a farm at one shilling a week, and continued farm labor until the age of twenty-one, when he secured employment on public works. As soon as he had saved enough money, he came to America, landing at Quebec, in 1844. After remaining in America about six months, he returned to England, and remained there five years, returning to this country in July, 1849, landing at New York, thence going to Chicago, where he engaged in brick making. In 1850 he bought eighty acres of land in Huron county, which he cultivated for a short time, and then sold, moving to Erie county, remaining until 1858 when he came to Wood county. His first purchase was a tract of forty acres; but his thrift and enterprise have enabled him to add to it until he now has one hundred acres under cultivation. His attention is given chiefly to stock and grain raising, and he was the first to introduce Lincolnshire sheep into this county.

On October 26, 1851, Mr. Emmett, married Miss Emily Hunt, a native of Franklin county, N. Y., born April 28, 1830, the daughter of John and Nancy (Lloyd) Hunt. Six children were born of this marriage: Martha, the wife of Isaac Dent; Perry, born June 19, 1854; Isaac, born April 26, 1856; Mary E., the wife of Henry Williamson; George W., who manages the old homestead, and Elizabeth, who died in infancy. Mr. Emmett has always taken an active interest in public movements, and in politics he is an independent voter.

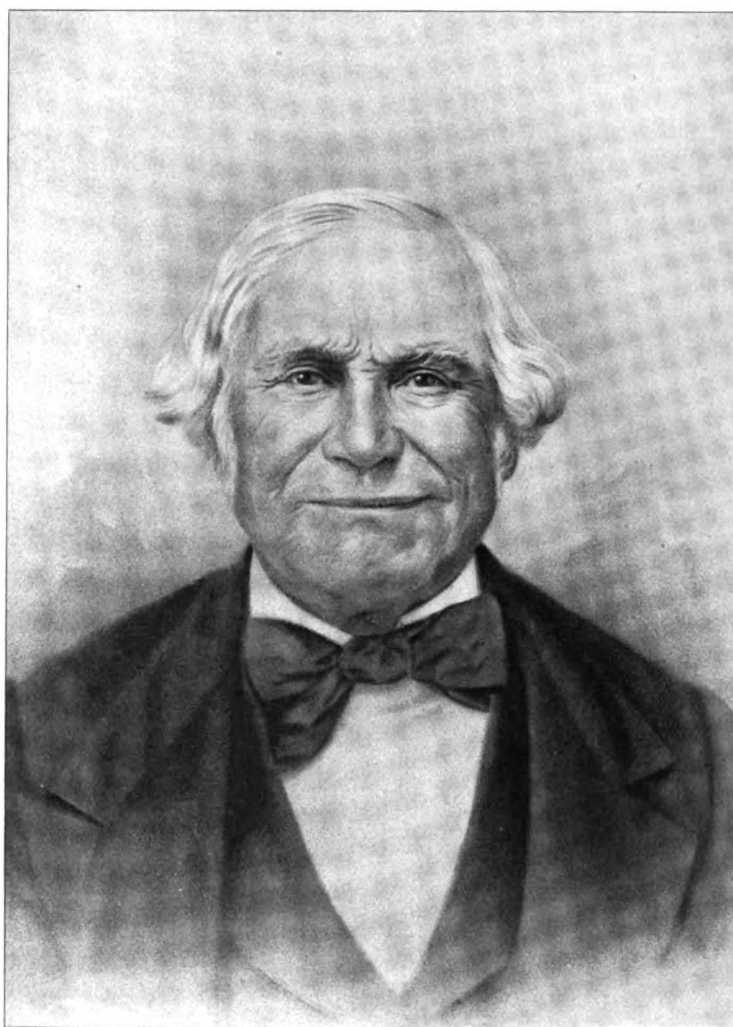
George W. Emmett, our subject's youngest son, was born in Webster township, Wood county, September 10, 1871. He was educated in the schools near his home, and has always been his father's assistant, in later years relieving him entirely of the work of the farm. Industrious, sober, and clever, he is a worthy descendant of this honored family, and his genial manners make him popular wherever he is known.

On July 26, 1894, he married Miss Ruby Coger, who was born in Elmore, Ohio, February 4, 1877, the daughter of Orlando and Katie (Bolandier) Coger, prominent residents of Troy township.

SOLOMON KUDER, deceased. The subject of this sketch, one of the honored pioneers of Wood county, and for many years a farmer near Tontogany, was born near Lancaster, Penn., September 4, 1790. In early manhood he entered the service of his country as a soldier of the war of 1812, and served one year.

He was married December 22, 1816, at Circleville, Ohio, to Miss Catherine Row, who was born near Philadelphia, Penn., April 7, 1800. Her parents came to Ohio across the mountains in a wagon. In 1821 Mr. Kuder moved to Tiffin, where he engaged in milling, and in 1836 he came to Wood county and entered a tract of 1,100 acres of land at the government price, with a view to stock-raising; but his cattle being afflicted with murrain, he abandoned that enterprise and engaged in agriculture. He was prominent among the early settlers, having resided near Tontogany about thirty-seven years, and previous to the Civil war was a member of the Whig party, later becoming a Republican. His wife died June 15, 1870, and on Friday, August 15, 1873, at 2 P. M., Mr. Kuder passed to his long rest, aged eighty-two years, eleven months and eleven days, after many months of suffering.

Fifteen children were born to this union, of whom only three are now living. The names, with dates of birth, and of death of those deceased, are as follows: John, October 3, 1817, died September 3, 1818; Elizabeth, March 25, 1819, died September 25, 1819; Malinda, October 13, 1820, died August 2, 1888 (she was formerly the wife of Alexander Alcorn); Nelson, August 21, 1822, died April 30, 1888 (he was a farmer); Catherine, August 8, 1824, was the wife of Judge Tuller, of Tontogany, and died in 1870; Margaret Ann, July 17, 1826, is the widow of John McColley, of Tontogany; Josiah Hedges, July 16, 1826, died July 6, 1882 (he was a farmer here); Mary Jane, April 30, 1830, died September 13, 1850; Eliza, December 25, 1831, married Barnard Phillip, of Washington township; Wellington, November 18, 1833, died April 7, 1841, having met his death by accident; Sarah M., February 2, 1836, died March 9, 1890 (she had been a teacher in early life); Martha Hortensia, October 13, 1837, never married, but with her sister Sarah remained at home and was the mainstay of her parents, caring for



*Solomon Kuder*





them tenderly in their declining years; Victoria Virginia, June 12, 1839, died January 14, 1882 (she married E. B. Beverstock); Harrison, November 14, 1840, died November 13, 1854; and Caroline, born September 16, 1842, married E. Ketcham, and died December 10, 1869.

Mr. Kuder divided his choice lands among his children as they reached maturity, and he and his wife had the satisfaction of seeing them settled near them, and of receiving in old age their affectionate care. He was a pensioner of the war of 1812, and received also a land warrant for his services at that trying period. Miss Martha Kuder has in her possession, among other valuable relics, her father's pension papers, and a deed made to him which was signed by the hand of Andrew Jackson.

A. L. MUIR, president of the Wood County Tribune Company, and editor of both the daily and weekly editions of the *Tribune*, was born in Webster township, Wood Co., Ohio, January 5, 1857. Thoroughly identified with the best interests of his native county, he takes a conspicuous part in public affairs, and it is to his competent editorial management, that the growing popularity of the *Tribune*, with the reading public, is due.

John Muir, grandfather of our subject, was born in Scotland, and came to America in 1832, locating at Perrysburg, Wood county, and moved to Webster township, where he built the first Presbyterian church out of logs. Notwithstanding the hard work and privations of pioneer life, he lived to the ripe old age of ninety-six. His wife, in her maidenhood was Mary Prentiss. John Muir, Jr., our subject's father, was born on a farm near Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1824, and was eight years old when his parents established their home in this county. He received no regular schooling in his boyhood, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits from early years. During the Civil war he served for three years and three months in Company L, 3rd O. V. C., under Gen. Kilpatrick, army of the Tennessee, holding rank as corporal and sergeant. He is one of four living children out of a family of seven, all of whom lived to the age of forty and over. He is an ardent Republican, and has taken an active part in local affairs, serving for some time as director of the County Infirmary. He married Miss Catharine C. Pember, a member of the old pioneer family for whom Pemberville was named. Her father, Carlisle Pember, was a native of Pennsylvania, and came in 1832 to Wood county, where he located on the "Dutch Fields" at the

forks of the Portage river, now Pemberville, and erected sawmills and gristmills. He married Elizabeth Radabaugh, and reared a family of four children. Our subject's parents have been for many years leading members of the U. B. Church at Pemberville, where they still reside. Seven children were born to them: Elizabeth, the wife of James H. Muir, of Pemberville; John, a guard in the penitentiary at Columbus; Robert, a collector at Toledo; Mary, the wife of Frank Cook, of Chicago, Ill.; A. L., our subject; Charles, a farmer in Webster township, and James P., the assistant superintendent of schools of Pemberville.

Our subject acquired a good education in early life in the Maumee Seminary, and the academy at Fostoria, which he has supplemented by continuous reading and observation. He followed teaching as a profession for thirteen years, and in 1887 was elected clerk of the county courts, being at the time the youngest official ever elected in Wood county. He filled this position for six years and six months, to the complete satisfaction of the public, and on his retirement in 1894 he bought an interest in the *Tribune*, where his abilities and knowledge find a constantly widening field of usefulness. He was married, in 1889, to Miss Addie Thurstin, who was born near Bowling Green, April 12, 1869. They have had two children: Ruth and Wallace. Politically Mr. Muir is a Republican, and he is prominent in the various fraternal societies, the K. of P., I. O. O. F., and is a Master Mason in Wood County Lodge.

N. R. HARRINGTON, a prominent attorney, of Bowling Green, was born August 27, 1860, in Pickaway county, Ohio, of English descent. His grandfather, William Harrington, was one of the early settlers of Trumbull county, coming from Vermont, and locating there in 1819. He died at the age of ninety-one.

W. A. Harrington, our subject's father, was born in Trumbull county, in 1829, and died there June 5, 1893. From 1858 to 1880 he followed farming in Pickaway and Madison counties, but he returned to his native place to spend the remainder of his days. He was a justice of the peace in Trumbull county for many years, and took an influential part in the local work of the Republican party. He married Miss Helen M. Ross, who was born in New Hampshire in 1835, and died in 1883. They were both active members of the Presbyterian Church, and leading spirits in the various progressive movements in their society. They had four children, our subject be-

ing the eldest; two died in infancy, and the other, Minnie M., is now the wife of Orlo Woodruff, of Rock Creek, Ohio.

Our subject received excellent instruction during his boyhood in the public schools of Warren, Ohio, and started in business life as the book-keeper for the Lima Paper Mills, of Lima, Ohio, and later was made secretary and superintendent of the works. He resigned in 1884 to study law, in the office of his uncle, C. A. Harrington, of Warren, a partner of William T. Spear, now justice of the supreme court of this State. While reading law he served as deputy clerk of court, for some time. He was admitted to the bar in March, 1887, at Columbus, and in the following May began the practice of his profession in Bowling Green. In 1888 he formed a partnership with Robert Dunn, in law and abstracting, which continued until 1890, when he went into business with his present partner, Frank Baldwin. In 1888 he was elected city solicitor on the Republican ticket, and made a fine record; but since the expiry of his term he has devoted himself to private practice, in which his marked abilities have already won him a high reputation. Mr. Harrington was married January 1, 1887, to Miss Laura Belle Case, of Trumbull county, and has three children: Edward A., Helen M. and Frank A.

REV. ANDREW HAYS, one of the most widely and favorably known citizens of Wood county, has for over half a century been engaged in the work of the ministry. He was born in Hanover township, Beaver Co., Penn., May 6, 1818, and is a son of Henry and Hettie (Marshall) Hays, the former a native of Maryland, and the latter of Hancock county, W. Va. They were the parents of seven children—Louisa, who became the wife of John Wade, died in Richland county, Ohio, and was buried at Plymouth; Marshall, a tailor, of Fostoria, Ohio, died in 1890; James, who also died in Fostoria, was for forty-nine years a successful school teacher; Andrew is the next in order of birth; David is a wealthy citizen of Fostoria; Thomas, who died in that city, was the proprietor of the "Hays House;" and Sarah A. died while young. The mother of this family died in Pennsylvania, and in Beaver county, that State, the father wedded Jane McCormick, by whom he had a son—John, who passed away in Charlotte, Mich., after reaching manhood.

Henry Hays owned a good farm in Beaver county, Penn., where he was regarded as one of the substantial farmers of that section; but in the spring of 1834, resolved to come to Wood county, where with his family he arrived on May

1, making the journey in a covered wagon, where the boys slept at night. While *en route* the family stopped in Richland county, Ohio, with a married daughter, Mrs. John Wade, and the father came on to enter his land. He secured 240 acres in Sections 20 and 29, Perry township, and then returned for his family. Nature was still undisturbed in this locality, and they had to cut their way through the dense timber to their home, where Mr. Hays died April 10, 1837, and was buried near Olive Branch church, in Hancock county. The funeral sermon, which was delivered by Wesley J. Brock, was among the first preached in the neighborhood. After it was over the minister offered to conduct services every two weeks if a place could be secured, and Mrs. John Chilcote offered her cabin home for the purpose. From that humble beginning sprang the beautiful edifice of Union Church, in Perry township. The father had served in the war of 1812, was a member of the convention held in Perry Center that organized Perry township in 1835, and was a Democrat in politics. He belonged to the Presbyterian Church, as did also Andrew's mother.

Andrew Hays was sixteen when he came to Wood county, and his primary education was secured in the district schools of his native county. When he left Pennsylvania he was but an ordinary scholar, but, as work was quite plentiful in those pioneer days, he did not continue his literary studies for three or four years. After his conversion at the age of nineteen years, he began reading some, and his first instruction here was in the South Ridge school. Later he attended a more advanced school taught by Lemuel L. Gorsuch, and for one year was a student in the seminary at Norwalk, Ohio, which was among the first Methodist schools in the State. While there he was licensed as an exhorter, and in the winter of 1844-45 was licensed to preach, since which time he has been a local minister, the year 1895 ending his fifty-third year as an expounder of the Gospel.

At Fostoria, Ohio, October 24, 1844, Mr. Hays was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Thomas, who was born in Chartiers township, Washington Co., Penn., August 23, 1823, and was a daughter of Joseph Thomas, a pioneer of Hancock county. Four children blessed this union: Edwin R. and Lorin N. were both attorneys of Knoxville, Marion Co., Iowa, where Edwin died February 26, 1896; Celestia died at the age of twenty-three years; and Emma B. is the wife of Edward Myers, of Tennessee. The mother of these children departed this life Sep-

tember 28, 1872, and was buried in Fostoria. In that city, on October 17, 1873, Mr. Hays wedded Mrs. Jane Thomas, widow of Cyrus Thomas, who was killed during the Civil war. She was born January 8, 1843, and bore the maiden name of Jane York, daughter of Cyrus York, who was a native of Hardin county, Ky. By his second marriage Mr. Hays has a son, Norman M., born May 28, 1877.

Our subject went to housekeeping in a small log cabin on his farm, but it was a happy home, where good cheer always abounded, as it does in the more comfortable home of his later years. For many terms he taught school, receiving fifteen dollars per month, and as low as twelve dollars, barely enough to supply the common necessities of life. However, he now has a good farm of 117 acres. During the war he supplied pulpits for miles around, has probably married more couples than any other minister in Wood county, and has officiated at over 1,000 funerals. He is well preserved for one of his years, both mentally and physically, has a very wide acquaintance throughout this territory, and is held in the highest regard by all who know him. His first Presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison, the Whig candidate. Being an Abolitionist from principle, he joined the Republican party on its organization, and now on account of his views on the temperance question he is a staunch Prohibitionist, believing it his Christian duty to do all in his power against the liquor traffic. He made the first Prohibition speech in Perry township, and probably in Wood county, and for three or four years cast the only Prohibition vote in Perry township.

ADELBERT D. TULLER is one of the leading agriculturists of Center township. His farm, with its tasteful and substantial buildings, its neat fences and general air of thrift and comfort, forms one of the most attractive spots in the landscape of the township. As a citizen and business man, our subject stands high in the estimation of his neighbors. In the various enterprises inaugurated for the advancement of the community, he has been a cheerful and ready assistant, and takes a lively interest in the progress of the people around him.

Mr. Tuller was born in Liberty township, Delaware Co., Ohio, September 26, 1839, and is a son of Alvin and Elvira (Maynard) Tuller, and brother of Dr. W. M. Tuller, of Bowling Green. His early life was spent after the manner of most farmers' sons, his education being carried on in the district schools during the winter, while in

the summer he aided in the work of the fields. He remained with his father until 1864, when he enlisted in Company D, 20th O. V. I., at Delaware. From there the troops proceeded to Camp Chase, then to the Mississippi and Black river. For a time they were stationed at Cairo, Ill., and participated in the Atlanta campaign. Mr. Tuller was in all the engagements in which his company took part, and at the close of his service was honorably discharged at Louisville, Kentucky.

On returning to Ohio, our subject worked on the old homestead in Delaware for a time, and then removed to Licking county with his parents, where he operated eighty acres of land. He next went to Franklin county, where he farmed 110 acres for fourteen years, at the expiration of which time he came to Wood county, locating in Center township. In connection with the cultivation of the eighty-acre farm belonging to his brother, the Doctor, he also owns eighty acres, which was entirely unimproved at the time of his purchase.

In Delaware county, Ohio, in October, 1867, Mr. Tuller was united in marriage with Martha E. Smith, who was there born on March 27, 1845. She was called to her final reward December 17, 1869, and Mr. Tuller was subsequently wedded to Elizabeth A. Shanholts, of Licking county, born in 1849. Five children graced the second union, namely: LeOda, born April 26, 1872; LeElda, who was born November 12, 1874, and is the wife of Azro Perrin; Linden, born March 23, 1876; Olland, born February 12, 1878; and Worthy R., who died in infancy. The mother of these children died August 10, 1891, leaving many friends to mourn her loss. In politics Mr. Tuller is identified with the Republican party, being a strong believer in its principles. He is numbered among the honest, industrious and enterprising citizens of the township, and is respected throughout the community for his sterling worth and unbounded liberality.

RUFUS B. MOORE, attorney at law, formerly the junior member of the well-known firm of Parker & Moore, Bowling Green, was born March 30, 1860, in Hancock county, Ohio, and is a son of Levi and Margaret (Line) Moore. His father was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, in 1824, and his mother in the same county in 1826. They were married December 1, 1844, and celebrated their golden wedding in 1894, on their farm in Wood county. Mr. Moore, Sr., was reared upon a farm in the north part of Fairfield

county, and received his education in the academy at Lythopolis, teaching for one year before his marriage, and for the same length of time afterward. He then entered the ministry of the United Brethren Church, becoming an itinerant, and was presiding elder of Sandusky Conference for a number of years. He was also for a time financial agent of Otterbein University, at Westerville, Ohio. In pursuit of his calling he made his home at various places, among them being Fostoria, Galion, Green Springs, Westerville, Elmore, and Bowling Green, retiring from active work about two years ago.

Five children were born to the parents of our subject: Melissa, who married A. H. Berry, and died at Galion in 1880; Alida, who is at home with her parents; Flora E., who is a graduate of Otterbein University, married the Rev. P. B. Lee, and lives at White Cloud, Kans.; Rufus B.; and Cara A., who after teaching in the high schools of Hicksville and Fostoria, is now a stenographer in her brother's law office.

The subject of this sketch was graduated from the high school at Galion, Ohio, in 1878, with the highest honors of his class, and also with the same grade from Otterbein University, in 1883, where he took a full classical course. His father being in moderate circumstances, Mr. Moore paid nearly all his school expenses by teaching during the vacations, and during part of the school terms. After finishing his college course, he taught for one year in the grammar school at Bowling Green, then going to Cowley county, Kans., where he was superintendent of schools and high-school teacher at Burden for two years. During the summer vacation of 1885, he went out on the western prairies about fifty miles from any railroad, and into a new country, built himself a sod house, and took up a claim of 160 acres from the government, which he duly proved up, and for which he received a deed. In 1886 he returned to Bowling Green and studied law with R. S. Parker, being admitted to the bar in June, 1888, and immediately after formed a partnership with that gentleman under the firm name of Parker & Moore. This partnership was continued until January 1, 1895, when Mr. Moore opened an office, and has since been doing business for himself. In the spring of 1887 he was elected township clerk, and has been re-elected at the end of each term ever since. In the spring of 1892 he was elected city solicitor of Bowling Green, and is now serving his third term in that office, having been re-elected in 1894 and 1896. He is a young man of more than ordinary intelligence and business ability,

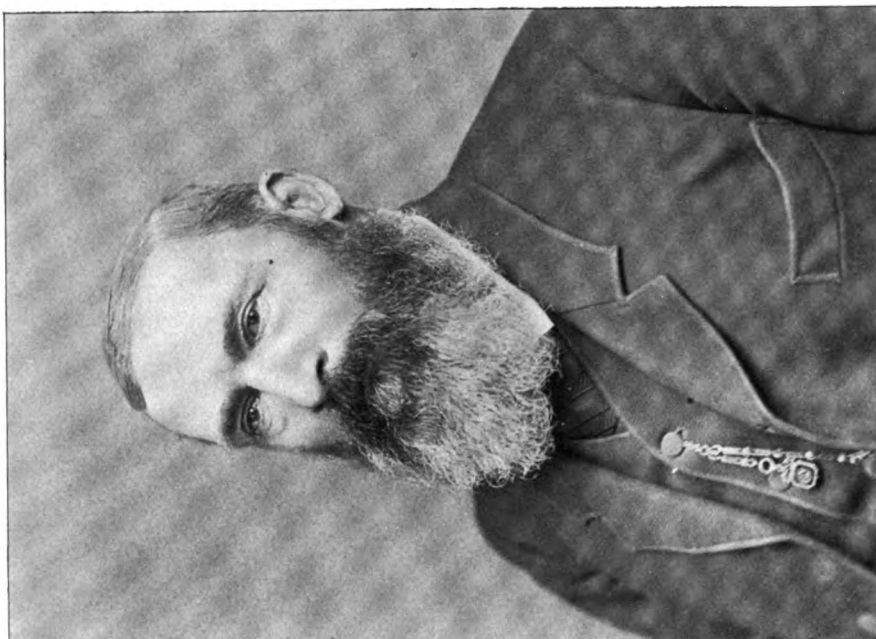
and in the important positions he has held has gained the confidence and esteem of the entire community. He is popular with all classes of society, and has a brilliant future before him.

Mr. Moore was married January 1, 1889, to Miss May Rudolph, youngest daughter of J. R. and Mary Rudolph, who was born in Wood county, May 5, 1864, and died February 19, 1896. They have three children: Murton R., Donald R., and Harold B. In politics Mr. Moore is a Republican, and fraternally belongs to the K. of P. and I. O. O. F. He is a member of the United Brethren Church of Bowling Green, and does his share in supporting all public and philanthropic enterprises.

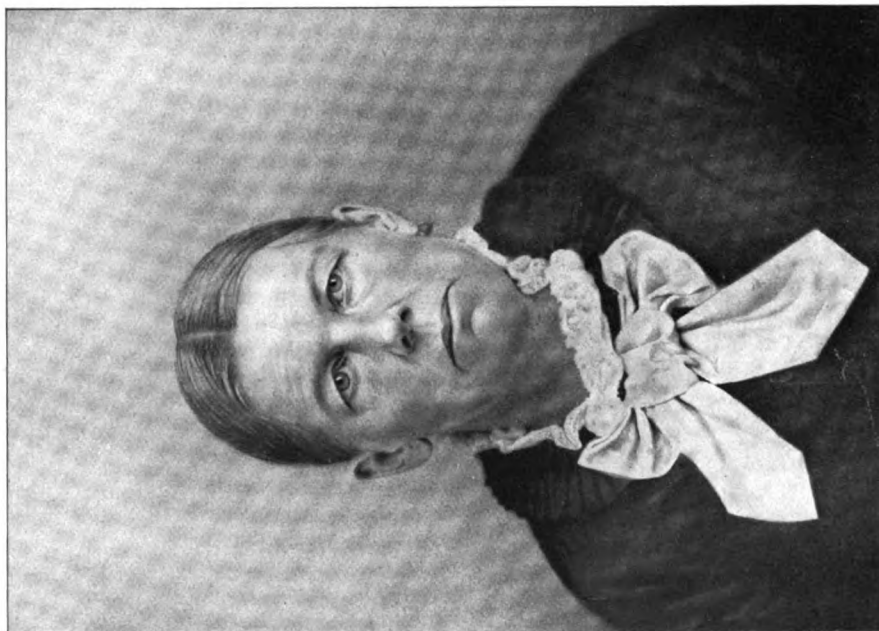
The paternal grandfather of our subject, Levi Moore, was born near Hagerstown, Md., in 1779, and came to Ohio in 1799. He married Miss Sarah Bright, and his sister Debbie became the wife of Major Bright, whose descendants are numerous in Hancock county. Levi Moore settled near the present site of the city of Columbus; removing from there to the northern part of Fairfield county, he took up land which is still in possession of the family. He died in 1858, and his wife in 1861. The Moore family is of English descent.

GEORGE KNAUSS. The history of this leading farmer and prominent citizen of Plain township, if written out in full would be an interesting story of the trials and hardships of pioneer life in the early days of this great State, and also an illustration of what may be accomplished by a strong will and persistent energy in the face of all obstacles.

Mr. Knauss was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, March 21, 1830, and when a young man of eighteen years came with his parents to America. He had obtained a good education in the excellent schools of his native land, but could not speak a word of English. On November 23, 1852, he was married to Miss Catharine Hirsch, also a native of Germany, born May 23, 1829. They settled on a rented farm in Medina county, Ohio, and from there came, in 1854, to Wood county, where our subject worked for his father for two years, receiving for his services thirty-three and one-half acres of land. On this the young couple settled in a log house which Mr. Knauss built, and then the hard work of his life began. During the daytime he worked for neighboring farmers at fifty cents a day, and at night cleared his own land, and made such improvements as he was able. Many a time the sound of his axe was heard, while the blaze of his fire,



*George Harris*



*Catharina Ruess*



burning the brush, was seen long after midnight, and daylight of the next morning found him up and ready to go to work again for the small pittance which supported himself and wife.

In 1856 Mr. Knauss rented a piece of prairie land, broke it up, and raised a good crop by which he cleared \$600. This was his first real start in life, and this money was made under the greatest difficulties, for he was afflicted with that scourge of the early settlers, chills and fever, and worked straight on when really not able to be on his feet. Often when his wife brought his dinner to the field, so that he could eat while the ox-team was feeding, she would find him lying on the ground too sick to taste the food. Yet in spite of all this he persevered, and soon was on the high road to prosperity. A man with such pluck and endurance is bound to win in the end; and now Mr. Knauss, with his fine farm of 500 acres, his handsome home, one of the best in the county, and filled with all the comforts and luxuries one could wish—surrounded by affectionate children and grandchildren, and with the loving companionship of his faithful wife who with him has borne the burden of care—can look back upon the hardships of his early years with complacency, and spend the remainder of his days in peace and contentment.

Ten children have blessed this happy home, of whom the following record is given: (1) Katie W., born September 5, 1853, is the wife of August Kaeding; they have seven children—George, Martin, Bertha, Edward, Adolph, Minnie, and Meta L. (2) George G., born May 23, 1855, is unmarried, and lives with his parents. (3) Mary J., born October 13, 1857, is the wife of John Hilt, of Fremont, Ohio, and has two children—George and Theodore. (4) Matilda B., born December 16, 1859, is the widow of William Friedrich. (5) Adolph C., born March 9, 1862, married Mary Knette (they live in Wood county, and have one child, Katie). (6) Anna E., born November 20, 1864. (7) Fred C., born May 13, 1867. (8) Helena C., born December 16, 1869, married James Brim, and they have three children—Walter, Ethel and Mabel. (9) Louise M., born February 2, 1873, died July 21, 1875. (10) Bertha O. L., born February 9, 1876. These children are all members of the Lutheran Church, and were educated in the district school.

Our subject's parents were George and Elizabeth (Barbera) Knauss, both born in Wurtemberg, Germany, the former on January 23, 1803, and the latter on February 12, 1809. They were married in Germany, and came to America in 1848, locating first in Medina county, Ohio,

and in 1854 removing to Wood county, where the father died at Bowling Green April 10, 1879, and the mother on October 29, 1880. Fifteen children were born to them, of whom five grew to maturity, as follows: George, the subject of this sketch; John, a farmer in Wood county; Amelia, wife of C. Heiser, of Riga, Mich.; Paulina, married to Levi Linegar, and living in Nebraska; Gilbert, a farmer in Wood county.

Mr. Knauss is known throughout the county as a progressive, public-spirited man, in favor of public enterprises, and always ready to assist in projects for the welfare of the people. He was the chief advocate of the stone road north of Bowling Green, and contributed time and money for building the same. He gives it as his opinion that the chief reason why the German born citizens, who located in this part of Ohio, have outstripped the native-born farmers in the accumulation of wealth, is because of the superior education of the Germans in agricultural matters, they having a better knowledge of the proper methods of tilling the soil, drainage, etc., and being able to make their land produce all it is capable of. Mr. Knauss is a well-informed man, a capable manager, and is highly esteemed by all who know him. In his political predilections he is a Democrat, but in voting he selects the man who, in his estimation, is best fitted for the place. He and his family are all members of the Lutheran Church.

JOSEPH E. BAIRD, clerk of the courts of Wood county, and one of the most courteous and popular officials at the county seat, was born November 12, 1865, at Perrysburg, where his parents still reside. Proud of being a "Wood county product," he has thoroughly identified himself with the interests of this locality, and in return the community has bestowed upon him a hearty indorsement at the very outset of his career.

C. C. Baird, his father, was born in 1830 in Stark county, Ohio, and came at an early age with his parents to Wood county, where he grew to manhood. He engaged in the hotel business at Perrysburg, and has also been prominent in the political work of the Republican party, holding various offices, from constable to sheriff of the county. He was elected to the latter position in 1872, and served for two terms, after which he returned to Perrysburg. In 1858 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Croft, who was born at Cleveland, Ohio, in 1838.

Our subject, who is one of ten children born of this union, was obliged to depend upon his



own exertions for an education, and was still further handicapped by the loss of a leg when he was ten years of age. But his worthy ambition was supported by fine mental gifts, and the resistless energy which a life of high moral ideals and correct habits develops, and he triumphed over every obstacle. After graduating from the high school at his native place, he taught for some years with marked success, was also assessor for two terms in his township, being elected on the Republican ticket in a strongly Democratic neighborhood. Entering the Law department of the University of Michigan, he was graduated therefrom in 1893. In August of that year he became the candidate of his party for his present position, and three months later was elected by 1,638 majority, being 319 more votes than were cast in his county for the head of the ticket, Governor McKinley. His native town usually gives a Democratic majority of 175, but he carried it by 275 votes. The universal esteem in which he is held is largely due to his excellent principles and good habits, as well as to his recognized talents. Socially, he is a member of the K. of P., and the I. O. O. F. lodges, both of Perrysburg.

LEWIS C. EDGAR, attorney at law, and the popular mayor of Prairie Depot, Montgomery township, was born in Stark county, Ohio, December 18, 1846, and was a child of two years when his parents came to Wood county. Robert Edgar, the father of our subject, was born in Cork, Ireland, and came to America when eight years old. He was married in Pennsylvania to Miss Jeannette Perrine, a lady of Scotch extraction. He was a poor man, and made his living by his trade, which was that of a carpenter, when he settled in Section 13, Montgomery township; later he came to Prairie Depot, where he died at about the age of eighty; his wife passed away when over seventy-six years old. They were the parents of thirteen children, our subject being the youngest, all but one living to maturity. In politics Robert Edgar was first a Whig, later a Republican.

Our subject received a limited education. He lived at home until his enlistment in January, 1864, when but a little over seventeen years old, at Freeport, in Company C, 72nd O. V. I., under Capt. Samuel J. Snyder. The first engagement was at Paducah, Ky., and the next with Sturgis' raid, in which our subject was taken prisoner near Ripley, Miss., and conveyed to Andersonville and other Southern prisons, where he remained nine months. He was then paroled and

went to Camp Chase, where he was discharged in June, 1865. Returning to Prairie Depot, he attended a select school, later going to Lebanon, Ohio, where he taught for awhile, and then attended school for two terms at Oberlin. In all he taught for thirty-five terms, eighteen of which were at Prairie Depot, and all, with the exception of one, in Wood county. In 1873, Mr. Edgar began to read law with Lockwood & Everett, in Toledo, and later with Haines & Price. His study was interrupted by his teaching, but, in 1880, he resumed his reading with Brown & Guernsey, of Fostoria, and in the spring of 1882 was admitted to the bar and opened an office in Bowling Green, where he remained until 1887, when he returned to Prairie Depot, and has lived and practiced there ever since.

On January 2, 1876, Mr. Edgar was married, in Montgomery township, to Miss Ida Gould, who was born in Scott township, Sandusky Co., Ohio, August 29, 1855, a daughter of John and Harriet (Cook) Gould. Mr. Edgar is a Republican; in his younger days was clerk of Montgomery township, and also served as a member of the board of education. In 1889 he was appointed mayor to fill an unexpired term, and with the exception of one term, has served continuously since. He is a charter member of Petroleum Lodge No. 499, K. of P., at Prairie Depot, and he and his wife are members of the Church of Christ, in which he is an elder, and she is superintendent of the Mission Band. She is also a member of the Y. P. S. C. E., and the C. W. B. of M. Mr. Edgar gives his entire attention to his professional and official business.

W. J. WHITE, secretary and treasurer of the Zihlmann Glass Company, was born in Monroe county, Ohio, May 28, 1864. His parents, William and Mary (Schindler) White, were both born in Ohio, the father dying in Monroe county when our subject was about five years old. Mrs. White resides at Switzer, in the same county. To this couple were born three children, namely: Our subject, W. J.; Charles E., who lives at Switzer; Tillie C., who married C. E. Smith, and lives in Cumberland, Maryland.

Mr. White remained in Monroe county until eleven years old, when, being obliged to make a living, he went to Powhatan, and clerked in a store during the summer and attended school in the winter. He learned the German language, which he reads and speaks as well as he does English. In 1886 he gave up his position in Powhatan and went to Cumberland, Md., where he secured a situation as shipping clerk in the

Cumberland glass factory. He stayed with that company until the Zihlmann Glass Company was incorporated, in 1889, when he came to North Baltimore and accepted the position of shipping clerk. He soon proved himself to be a capable, energetic business man and was rapidly promoted to various offices until, in 1892, he was given the responsible position of secretary and treasurer, besides attending directly to the shipping, which is quite extensive, as they ship material all over the United States, to Canada and to Mexico. Mr. White is not married. He is a Republican in politics, a member of the I. O. O. F., the Encampment, and the Canton Alpine, of Bowling Green. He is also captain of Co. K, 2nd Infantry, Ohio National Guards, and the company's success and prosperity are largely due to his energies in its behalf. Mr. White is a thoroughly competent business man, and has the entire confidence of his employers. He is a director in the Zihlmann Glass Company, and also is one of the owners of the Columbia drug store, which is doing a flourishing business.

Mr. White's grandfather lived for awhile in Rome, Italy, where he spent his childhood. He was a butcher by trade, and died in Monroe county, Ohio. The maternal grandparents were from Switzerland, and the grandmother died at the extraordinary age of one hundred and four years. Mr. White is a leader in society, where his sincerity and genial nature have made him popular with all with whom he comes in contact.

JAMES G. HICKOX, the well-known and popular cashier of the Exchange Bank of Bowling Green, one of the oldest and most reliable financial institutions of northern Ohio, was born in Washington, Conn., August 9, 1861, son of C. L. and Mary R. (Grant) Hickox. Our subject's early education was obtained in the schools of his native town. Coming west in 1881, he found congenial employment in Toledo, Ohio, with the banking firm of Raymer, Seagrave & Co., and later with the First National Bank of Toledo, with which he was connected for some years. Seeing an opening in the real-estate and loan business with George Ketcham & Co., he invested his means with that firm, and, resigning his position in the bank, gave his attention to their interests.

On July 1, 1890, he became connected with the Exchange Bank at Bowling Green, as partner and cashier, and his energy, experience and ability have contributed largely to the growth and development of its already extensive business.

Genial, cultured, and possessed of admirable social traits, Mr. Hickox is popular with all classes. He is a ready and influential supporter of any progressive movement in his locality, taking special interest at present in the Wood County Fair Association, of which he is treasurer, and a leading stockholder.

WILLIAM W. DUNIPACE, ex-commissioner of Wood county and a well-known pioneer of Webster township, residing near Scotch Ridge, is a native of Wood county, born in Webster township January 7, 1842. He is of Scotch descent; his grandfather, William Dunipace, was born in Scotland, and Robert Dunipace, our subject's father, was born in 1809, near Edinburgh, in Cregmille castle.

In 1834 Robert Dunipace emigrated to the United States, and for four years resided at Perrysburg, building boats for Lake Erie and the Maumee river. He moved to Webster township about 1839, where he entered 160 acres of land, which he cultivated during the remainder of his life. He married Jane Muir, a native of Scotland, and had eleven children, of whom our subject is the eldest living. Of the others, the survivors are Margaret, Robert, Samuel, and Jane; Mary, Mary P., James, John and George are deceased. John died April 20, 1871, from injuries received while in defense of the Union cause, having served in Company I, 144th O. V. I. Our subject's parents were faithful and consistent members of the United Presbyterian Church, to which our subject and his family also adhere. The father was for many years an elder in the Church. He was an influential Whig in early days, and took part in the great mass meeting at Fort Meigs. An honest, industrious, kindly man, his death in February, 1882, was deeply lamented by the entire community.

William W. Dunipace began his education in a log school house in his district with Miss Martha Gilbert for his first teacher. June 30, 1863, he enlisted in Company D, 86th O. V. I., Capt. John H. Reed commanding. His first service was in Morgan's raid, when he took part in the capture of John Morgan, and acted as guardsman on the way to Columbus. His regiment was later assigned to the force under Gen. Burnside, and was at the surrender of Cumberland Gap, September 9, 1863. Mr. Dunipace was discharged at the expiration of his term of service, being mustered out with his company February 10, 1864, returned home, and for some time attended the Normal School at Maumee. He

then learned the carpenter's trade, and began the construction of bridges on contract in different parts of the county. He taught school in 1868, and the same year he bought eighty acres of land in Webster township, to which he has since added until he owns 180 acres of choice land, chiefly devoted to stock raising.

On December 31, 1868, he married Miss Lizzie Adams, who was born in Montgomery township, Wood county, September 20, 1845. Her parents were Thomas and Mary (McGill) Adams, who came from Scotland in 1831 and settled upon a farm of 240 acres in Montgomery township, where Mr. Adams died in 1878, his wife surviving him until 1891. They had eleven children: James, John, Robert and Jennie (twins), Lizzie, Helen, Cornelius, Thomas, George, Frank and Minnie.

Mr. Dunipace and his wife have had eight children, whose names with dates of birth are here given: Mary, April 25, 1870, is a school teacher in Montgomery township; Robert, February 16, 1872, is a student at Ada, Ohio; John, August 20, 1874, a graduate of the Fostoria Academy, is now engaged in teaching; Bertha, January 30, 1878, William, October 10, 1879, Hazel, December 19, 1886, Harley, April 8, 1888, are all at home; and George, who was born October 22, 1884, died at the age of three years. Mr. Dunipace possesses the honesty, energy and thrift so characteristic of his race, and stands high in the esteem of his neighbors. He has held various offices, having been township clerk, school director, member of the board of education, assessor, and in 1886 was elected county commissioner on the Greenback ticket. He is now a Populist in politics. He belongs to the G. A. R., Benedict Post, of Pemberville.

WILLIAM PERRIN, deceased. In a brief sketch of any living citizen it is difficult to do him exact and impartial justice, not so much, however, from lack of space or words to set forth the familiar and passing events of his personal history, as for want of the perfect and rounded conception of his whole life, which grows, develops and ripens, like fruit, to disclose its true and best flavor only when it is mellowed by time. Daily contact with a man so familiarizes us with his many virtues that we ordinarily overlook them, and commonly underestimate their possessor. Nevertheless, while the man passes away his deeds of virtue live on, and will in due time bear fruit, and do him the justice which the pen fails to record.

Mr. Perrin, who during life was one of the

most prominent farmers of Center township, was born in Madison township, Franklin Co., Ohio, January 1, 1816. His father, Joseph Perrin, was born and reared in Pennsylvania, where he wedded Mary Fletcher, and from there, in 1812, rode to Franklin county, Ohio, on horseback. They were the parents of the following children: Barbara, Jacob, Jonathan, John, Susan, Mary and William, all of whom have passed away, except Susan, and the father and mother both died in Franklin county; the former was drowned.

Our subject was but eight months old when his father died, and he was adopted by his uncle, William Perrin, who gave him good educational advantages. On his farm William grew to manhood, aiding in its cultivation, and caring for his uncle during his declining years. For several years after the latter's death he still continued the operation of that farm. On November 14, 1839, he was united in marriage with Mary A. Breckenridge, and to them were born five daughters: Margaret J., born October 28, 1840; Eliza J., born May 16, 1847, now the wife of A. B. Ebright, of Columbus, Ohio; Susan, born July 29, 1850, now the wife of P. H. Stevenson; Theresa A., born July 31, 1853, now the widow of William Wade; and Mary A., born December 1, 1856. The mother of this family died May 29, 1858, and for his second wife Mr. Perrin chose Miss Rhoda M. Needels, who was born April 28, 1833, a daughter of James Needels, a farmer of Madison township, Franklin Co., Ohio. By this marriage there were six children, namely: William, born September 3, 1860, and died in 1861; Sarah W., born October 13, 1863, now the wife of John Ralston, by whom she has a son, Le Roy, born in 1892; Frank F., born February 8, 1865, a farmer of New Mexico; Azro S., born September 15, 1868, and married Le Elda Tuller, by whom he has one child, Ray T.; Jonathan A., an oil operator, born February 13, 1871, and married to Mary English; and Minnie R., born April 21, 1874.

In 1866, Mr. Perrin disposed of his property in Franklin county, and removed with his family to Center township, Wood county, where he purchased 320 acres of partially improved land, which he ditched, tiled and fenced, making it one of the most valuable tracts in the township. Besides his own fine residence he erected two other dwellings upon the place, and gave a large portion of his farm to his children, though his widow still retains forty acres, the cultivation of which she superintends. The cause of education ever found in Mr. Perrin a warm friend and supporter, he donating the land for a school house near his



*Wm Perrin*



home, also furnishing the stone for the foundation, and superintending the construction of the building. For several years he held the office of supervisor, and was also trustee of his township. He was a man of progressive and enterprising ideas, which he endeavored to carry out, and gave his support to all objects calculated to benefit his township or county. He laid aside life's cares after a pure, honorable and useful career, actuated by unselfish motives, prompted by patriotism and guided by truth and justice, passing away March 25, 1895, leaving a loving wife and children to mourn the departure of a kind and indulgent husband and father. His death was deeply regretted throughout the county, for he was widely and favorably known. His political support was given to the Republican party. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a member for over fifty-one years.

Mrs. Perrin was one of a family of fourteen children, of whom seven are now living: Cyrus F., a farmer of Franklin county, Ohio; Curtis L., of Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Perrin; Mrs. Rebecca E. Brown, of Franklin county; Mrs. Mary Ann Brown, of Franklin county; Mrs. Jennie L. Wilkins, of Wapakoneta, Ohio; and Mrs. Lizzie N. Kile, of Columbus. The parents, James and Sarah A. (Stevenson) Needles, were both born in Franklin county, Ohio, the former in 1808. They died in 1860, and December 4, 1874, respectively. Philemon Needles, his father, was born in Delaware, and when a young man settled in Franklin county, where he owned a large property. Mrs. Perrins' parents were noted for their purity and good deeds. Their industry and economy brought forth abundant fruit, hence there was a competency during their lives, and a heritage for their children.

Mrs. Perrin spent two years at Delaware (Ohio) Wesleyan Female College, thus laying the foundation for an intelligent, useful life. She has never ceased to be a student. What she learned last year did not satisfy her. She is up to the times, and takes an interest in the advancement and enterprise of the day. When she came to this vicinity there was no school, Sabbath-school or literary privileges. Mr. Perrin's efforts were ably seconded by her to secure a school district, and the first election of officers was held in her best room. When the school house was completed, she did not cease her efforts until there was Sabbath school, and no assistance she could give was ever considered grievous. Through shade and shine she was in her place, doing anything assigned her, teaching infant or Bible class, or in the absence of the superintendent,

filling his office creditably. Her work has not been a failure.

When her children and others were advanced far enough to be benefited by literary exercises, she urged the young people to organize for that purpose, and at their request wrote a constitution and by-laws for them, became a member, and made it a rule to be prepared for any duty assigned her. In her reading, if she saw anything either in poetry or prose suitable for any one to read or speak, it was carefully put by. The young ladies and gentlemen soon learned where the supply might be found, and the smaller ones where to get good pieces. "Little acts of kindness, little deeds of love," have been the factors which have bound old and young in loving cords to their friend and neighbor. She is an humble follower of Christ, and has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since she was eleven years of age. Her children rise up and call her blessed.

B. F. DAVIS, M. D., a prominent physician and druggist, of Tontogany, was born at Painted Post, Steuben Co., N. Y., October 11, 1836, of old New England stock—his great-grandfather Davis, and grandfather, Arthur Davis, having both been born in Rhode Island.

J. P. Davis, father of our subject, was a native of Norwich, Chenango Co., N. Y., born in 1810. There he married Miss Mary Darby, who was born in December, 1809, near New Berlin, N. Y., a daughter of Rufus Darby, a farmer who was of English and Scotch ancestry, although her family had long been residents of New England. For some years after their marriage, our subject's parents lived on a farm at Painted Post, and in 1837 they came to Ohio, settling on an eighty-acre farm near South Bloomfield, Morrow county. Here Mrs. Davis died in 1859, leaving seven children, namely: B. F., our subject; Harriet E., since deceased, who married N. H. Patton, of Bryan, Ohio; William R., living in retirement at Traer, Iowa; Arnold, who was a soldier during the Civil war in the 20th Regiment, O. V. I., was killed at Atlanta, and buried there in the National Cemetery; Albert L., deceased, who graduated in the Medical Department at Ann Arbor in 1871, and was in practice with our subject until his death, in January, 1877, when he was aged thirty years; Morgan, residing at Mount Liberty, Ohio; and Malon R., a traveling salesman and resident of Toledo. By Mr. Davis' second marriage with Miss Joanna Bishop, three children were born: Minnie, the wife of N. D. Huddleston; Cora Converse; and Ella. In 1864, J. P.

Davis moved to Mount Liberty, where he died three years later. Politically he was a Democrat until the Slavery question became a party issue, when he joined the Republican ranks.

Our subject attended the district schools until he was sixteen, and then a select school at Centerburg. At the age of nineteen he began to teach, and afterward studied one term in college at Iberia, Ohio, and one term in Delaware. In the spring of 1859 he entered the office of Drs. Russell & Thompson, of Mount Vernon, Ohio, where he studied medicine, and then in the winter of 1861-62 attended lectures at Ann Arbor, Mich., and the winter of 1862-63, at Starling Medical College, Columbus, graduating in February, 1863. In 1861 he enlisted in the three-months' service, in Company B, 4th O. V. I., Capt. H. B. Banning (afterward a general) commanding, and in the fall of 1862, when Cincinnati was threatened by Kirby Smith, he was one of the "Squirrel Hunters." On March 11, 1863, he was commissioned assistant surgeon of the 44th Regiment, O. V. I., which served in the 23d Army Corps, under Gen. Scofield, Gen. Burnside commanding the department. In February, 1864, the regiment veteranized, and was made the 8th O. V. C., after which it served in the Lynchburg raid under Gen. Averill, and took part in the campaign in the Shenandoah Valley, under Sheridan. The Doctor was at the battle of Winchester, and was an eye-witness of the historic ride which turned at Cedar Creek the fortunes of the day. Part of his regiment was captured at Beverly, W. Va., in January, 1865, taken to Richmond, and released on parole. On being mustered out in 1865 Dr. Davis located in Tontogany, and has since followed his profession with marked success. In 1872 he and his brother opened a drug store in Tontogany, conducting the same jointly until the death of the latter in 1877, after which our subject carried it on alone till the fall of that year when R. J. Collin became associated with him in business, under the firm name of Davis & Collin.

Dr. Davis has been twice married, first in 1865 to Miss Elizabeth White, who was born in Delaware county, in 1846. She died in 1878 leaving three children, the first born having died in infancy. The names and dates of birth of the younger three are: Hattie E., born August 11, 1870; Frederick W., March 7, 1873; and Bernard Francis, July 22, 1875. Dr. Davis married, second, Mrs. Sarah A. (Carpenter) Ross, who was born in Maumee in 1845. In politics the Doctor is a Republican, and he is an influential worker in all measures for local improvements. He is a

member of the G. A. R., of the F. & A. M., No. 451, Tontogany, and of the Wood County Medical Association.

LE ROY VAN TASSEL. From Holland to America came the founders of the Van Tassel family in 1795, and settled in the beautiful valley of the Hudson, where their descendants lived for several generations. Luke Van Tassel, the father of our subject, was born on the banks of that river, and at the age of seventeen years became a fifer boy in the war of 1812. He subsequently removed to Lorain county, Ohio, afterward to Indiana, and was engaged in making castor oil, and later became a resident of Wood county. In 1836 he took up his residence in Plain township, near Bowling Green, whence he removed to Missionary Station farm. He afterward lived at Waterville, and later at Turkey Foot Creek for two years; also two years on the Hedges farm. In 1849, he purchased sixty acres, on which our subject now resides. He was married in 1818, at Chautauqua, N. Y., to Sallie Richmond, and they became the parents of eleven children, namely: Amelia, first the wife of Francis T. Lane, deceased, then the wife, of A. H. Plant, deceased; Lyman; Ann, wife of Josiah Kuder; Silas, of McClure, Ohio; Isaac, and Olive, deceased; Harriet, wife of Hiram West; Sidney; Le Roy; Luman and Reuben. The father of the subject of this sketch died December 2, 1869, on the farm in Washington, township, and the mother on September 29, 1894.

Our subject was born in Lorain county, Ohio, May 11, 1834, and was educated in the district schools. He became a mechanical engineer, and for fifteen years was employed as head sawyer in some of the principal sawmills of his and adjoining counties. The pursuits of civil life, however, were interrupted May 2, 1864, by his service as a member of Company B, 144th Regiment, O. V. I., in the Civil war. He was discharged on August 31, following, and on his return home engaged in farming.

Mr. Van Tassel was married July 20, 1862, to Martha Alcorn, and to the union were born seven children, as follows: Carrie, born July 5, 1863, now the wife of James McWilliams, by whom she has three children; Willard, born October 10, 1864, is a resident of Toledo, Ohio; Helen, deceased; Effie J., born October 4, 1867, now the wife of William Hariman; Laura E., born February 8, 1869; Florence, born September 27, 1870, wife of Herbin Gill; and Lulu, born December 24, 1889.

Mr. Van Tassel is a warm friend to the cause

of education, and for six years served as school director. He is a member of the Grange, of which he served as master one year, and chaplain two years. In politics he is a Republican, and socially is connected with Neibling Post, No. 20, G. A. R., of Weston. He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church, and are most highly esteemed people. They have a pleasant home in the midst of a highly improved farm, and their friends throughout the community are many.

William W. Hariman, who married their third daughter, was born in Plain township, July 25, 1854, and is the only son of Jonathan and Ann (Wickham) Hariman. In 1890 the marriage of the young couple was celebrated, and their union is now blessed with two children—John L., born January 22, 1891; and Homer L., born August 3, 1893. In 1891 Mr. Hariman purchased his present farm of forty acres, which has been tiled and drained, and is now a very valuable property. He is a member of Kenilworth Lodge, K. of P., of Weston, and a Democrat in politics. He and his wife attend the United Brethren Church.

CHARLES O. IRELAND, a reliable and intelligent young agriculturist of Liberty township, residing in Section 25, was born in that township in 1869. His parents, Thomas and Laura (Newberry) Ireland, were born, reared and married in Clermont county, Ohio, whence in 1864 they removed to Liberty township, Wood county, where the father purchased eighty acres of unimproved land, which he at once began to develop, making his home thereon until his death, in 1884. In politics he was a Democrat, and served his township as supervisor; in religious belief he was a faithful member of the Disciples Church. His widow still lives on the old homestead. Their family comprised six children: Mrs. Nancy Steel, of Liberty township; Edward, who died in Clermont county; George, who is married, and makes his home in Liberty township; Alex, who died in that township in 1866; Charles O.; and Mrs. Mary Schrader, who resides on the old home farm.

The subject of this sketch has spent his entire life in Liberty township, and received the rudiments of his education in the district schools, which he has supplemented by considerable reading, and is well posted on the current topics of the day. He is the owner of a good farm of twenty acres of highly productive and fertile land, which by industry and good management he has brought to a high state of cultivation.

His income is increased not a little by the product of three oil wells upon his place, which bring him from \$120 to \$140 per month.

In 1888, in Liberty township, Mr. Ireland was married to Mrs. Sarah R. Robinson, widow of Joseph Robinson. She was born in Clermont county, Ohio, and is a daughter of A. M. Lang, of Liberty township. Mr. Ireland has never taken a very active part in politics, although keeping well informed upon matters of general interest, and uniformly voting the straight Democratic ticket. Socially he is a member of Wingston Lodge No. 553, K. of P., and he is classed among the most respected representative citizens of the community.

GEORGE B. SPENCER, M. D., a leading physician at Weston, was born in Cayuga county, N. Y., December 16, 1844.

The Spencer family originated in England, and the ancestors of the American branch came to this country in Colonial times. William Spencer, our subject's great-great-grandfather, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war on the side of the colonies, and afterward settled in New Jersey where he passed the remaining years of his life. His son Nathan, and grandson John, the grandfather of our subject, were lifelong residents of New Jersey.

Nathan Spencer, the father of our subject, was born there in 1817, and in early manhood removed to New York State, where he married Miss Louise Barhite, a native of Schenectady, N. Y., born in 1822. He came with his family to Ohio, in 1848, locating in Huron county, and there his wife died in 1850. They were members of the Presbyterian Church, and stanch Abolitionists. During the days of the "Underground Railroad" they fed and helped many an escaping slave on his way to Canada, and Mr. Spencer was an influential worker in the Republican party from its beginning. He died in Olena, Huron county, in February, 1888. Our subject was the second of a family of three children. Melissa, the eldest, married Lewis Toan, of Weston, and died in 1892. The youngest, Mary, is the wife of Randall West, of Little Sioux, Iowa.

George B. Spencer's boyhood was passed in Huron county, where he availed himself of the educational advantages offered by the district schools. In September, 1861, when but little over sixteen years of age, he enlisted in Company F, 3rd O. V. C., and served three years and two months, receiving his discharge in November, 1864, before he was twenty. He served in the army of the Cumberland, and took part in the



battles of Pittsburg Landing, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Atlanta, and many minor engagements. He was captured three times and twice escaped from the hands of the enemy. On January 15, 1863, he was captured by Morgan's men, and was paroled by Morgan. He still retains the parole he received from him, as a relic of those stormy days. In the Kilpatrick raid around Atlanta, in 1864, he received a slight wound while charging a bridge, and he had several close calls during the course of his service; at Stone River his cap was shot off, and on another occasion bullets pierced his clothing.

After his return from the war he entered Oberlin College, where he remained one year, and then began the study of medicine with Dr. Sykes, of Plymouth, Richland county. He finished his professional course, in Western Reserve Medical College, graduating in 1867 with honors, being made valedictorian of his class. He at once engaged in practice, first in Tiffin, where he spent a year and a half, and later in Shiloh, Richland county. In 1870 he located permanently in Weston. Here he soon became popular, not only as a physician but as a citizen, and he has held different offices of public trust. He has taken great interest in local and educational affairs, having been a member of the Weston board of education, member of the council, a county school examiner for nine years, and for the past three years clerk of the school board. He has been a trustee of the cemetery at Weston for some time, and is now clerk of the board, and takes considerable pride in fitting it up and improving it; an ornamental fountain has recently been erected there through his exertions, and he is at this time working for the erection of a soldiers' monument, that will be not only an honor to all soldiers, but a splendid ornament to the cemetery. In the fall of 1887 the Doctor was elected a member of the Legislature for Wood county, an office which he filled for two terms with fidelity and ability. He was chairman of the committee that built the Soldiers' Home at Sandusky, and was secretary of the committee on insane asylums during both terms.

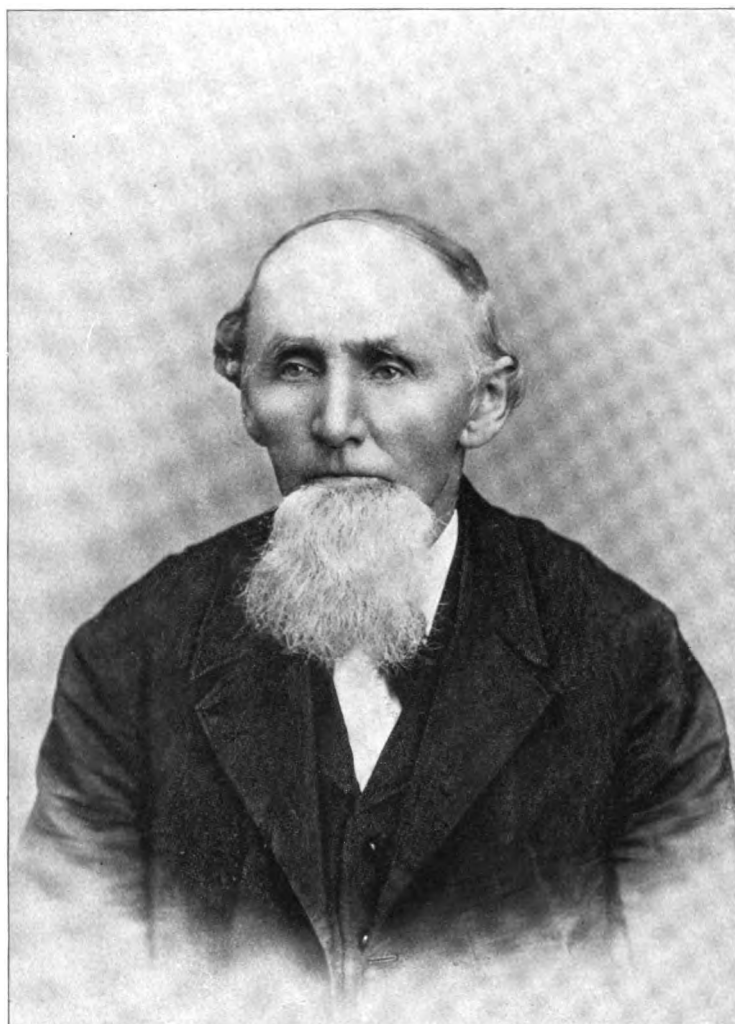
In 1868, Dr. Spencer married Miss Sarah K. Strong, who was born in Plymouth, Ohio, June 1, 1849. They have three children: William H., the eldest, graduated in pharmacy from the State University at Columbus, was married in 1893 to Miss Rena La Dow, of Plymouth, Ohio, and now conducts a drug store at Oberlin; George, who was married in 1893 to Miss Grace Pugh; and Mary. Dr. Spencer is a broad-

minded man, taking an intelligent interest in all the questions and movements of the day. He is a member of the Wood County Medical Society, and, being a member and health officer of the board of health of his village, meets every year with the Ohio State board of health. Socially, he affiliates with Kenilworth Lodge No. 340, K. of P., with Weston Lodge No. 560, A. F. & A. M., and with Neibling Post No. 20, G. A. R., Weston, of which he was second commander, serving two years in that capacity. He has been taking considerable interest in horticulture for several years, and now has a fine fruit orchard of ten acres just north of town. He was for several years editor of the *Weston Free Press*, a weekly newspaper, and gained quite a reputation as a writer of comic sketches and locals.

PHILIP W. HEYMANN, a prominent retired agriculturist of Grand Rapids township, Wood county, was born June 22, 1822, in the village of Kaltenholtzhousen, Province of Nassau, Germany.

Mr. Heymann received his education in his native land, and, in 1847, came alone to America, the voyage, which occupied fifty-two days, being made in a sailing vessel. He landed at New York with but two dollars in cash, he having loaned a friend on board the vessel some forty dollars, which, by the way, was never returned. In New York, however, Mr. Heymann found a friend of whom he borrowed eight dollars, and with this small sum he was enabled to travel west to Sandusky City, Ohio, from there proceeding to Huron county, where, in Lyme township, he bought on credit a farm of 198 acres, which he improved. In the following year his parents, John G. and Mary (Opperman) Heymann, emigrated to this country, bringing with them the rest of their family, and twenty-five hundred dollars in cash, with which the father bought a farm in Lyme township. Here the parents passed the rest of their pioneer lives, the mother dying in 1872, the father nine years later. They were leading members of the German Reformed Church. Their family numbered ten children, as follows: Jeannette, Anna, Philip W. (our subject), William, George, Henry, John P., Catherine, William F., and Margaret, all yet living except Jeannette, Anna, William and Margaret.

When the subject of these lines left the parental roof, in 1852, his father gave him a team and two hundred dollars, and bringing his wife and two children (for in the meantime he had married) Philip came to Wood county, settling on his present farm of 160 acres in Weston (now Grand Rapids) township, at that time all unim-



*P. W. Heymann*



proved woodland. Their first home in this wild spot was a little log cabin, with neither doors nor windows, and from this humble beginning Mr. Heymann has evolved a valuable estate, having ditched and tiled it thoroughly, planted thereon a fruitful orchard, and erected commodious and comfortable buildings. He and his worthy wife reared their family of children well, and helped each to secure nice homes, Mr. Heymann preferring to do so during his lifetime, and when his children really needed such aid, to allowing them to wait until his death, at which time the property would be divided up, though, it may be added, he has still a good residue to leave. He now enjoys a well-earned leisure, leaving to others the active work of his estate.

On October 9, 1849, Philip W. Heymann was married at Sandusky City to Miss Mary Morehead, who was born October 9, 1832, a daughter of George Morehead, one of the early settlers of Huron county, born in January, 1795, in Harrison county, W. Va. When a mere boy of seventeen Mr. Morehead enlisted under Gen. Harrison in the struggle of that day with the British and Indians along the Maumee river, but was taken ill and sent home. He married Miss Charity Patton, and by her had three children: Mary (Mrs. Heymann), Emily (wife of Joseph Morris, of Nebraska), and Andrew J. (a prominent resident of Huron county). Mr. and Mrs. Heymann have had five children: (1) Louisa, born August 18, 1850, married to William Ross, of Weston township. (2) G. Albert, born November 5, 1851, is a farmer of Grand Rapids township; he married Sarah Dull, who died December 11, 1888, the mother of four children; G. Albert afterward married Mrs. Jennie Pratt, a widow, and by her has one son. (3) Lester W., born August 17, 1857, is also a farmer in Grand Rapids township; he married Stella Roland, and has four children. (4) Anna L., born August 18, 1859, died at the age of eighteen; and (5) Flora May, born March 14, 1862, is the wife of J. F. McKee, a prominent resident of Grand Rapids township.

Mr. Heymann is one of the most intelligent and progressive citizens of his locality, and by his integrity, geniality and good judgment has won the friendship and esteem of a wide circle of acquaintances. He has been school director for a number of years, and is a ready and generous promoter of any worthy cause. In politics he was originally a Democrat, afterward becoming a Republican, but of late years has been a staunch Prohibitionist. In Germany he served in the German army four years. Ever liberal supporters of the United Brethren in Christ, he and his

good wife are unceasing in their works of philanthropy and charity, and none stand higher in the estimation of the community in which they live.

HENRY C. FEARNSIDE. One does not have to carry his investigations far in the Wood county history to find that the Fearnside family has been prominent in its development and upbuilding, and a worthy representative of this family is the present subject of our sketch. He was born in the town of Washington Hollow, Dutchess Co., N. Y., October 20, 1833, and is a son of Thomas and Ellen (Robinson) Fearnside. His father was born near Leeds, Yorkshire, England, in 1792, was a self-educated man, and possessed superior business ability. He worked in a woolen-mill, owned and operated by his father, until eighteen years of age, when he removed to Scotland and was employed by his uncle, Benjamin Fearnside. His wife was born in Fochabers, in 1795. In connection with his brother, Mr. Fearnside rented and operated a factory for the manufacture of woolen goods. About 1821 he went to Liverpool, and took passage on a sailing vessel bound for New York. When out only a few days they encountered a severe storm, and the ship lost most of its rigging; but after a long and perilous voyage of ninety days they reached their destination. The food supply, however, gave out, and the passengers for some time only had one biscuit per day. Mr. Fearnside rented a building on Manhattan Island, where he engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods. He was there joined by his wife and family a year later, and carried on business for about six years, when he removed to Glenham, N. Y., and later to Dutchess county. Subsequently he went to Clark county, Ohio, and prepared a home for his family, who came to the West a year later. After seven years he removed to Wood county, and purchased 105 acres of wild land in Liberty township, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until his death. He passed away in January, 1871, and his wife died May 4, 1889.

Mr. and Mrs. Fearnside were the parents of the following named children: Thomas, who died in California; Mrs. Martha J. Corey, of Urbana, Ohio; James, of Michigan; William, who died in southern Illinois; George, a merchant of Oregon; Hannah, who became the wife of Henry Haskins, and died in Kendallville, Ind.; John, of Toledo, Ohio; Henry C.; and Benjamin, who died at the age of two years. Our subject was a youth of fifteen when his parents came to Wood county. No event of special importance occurred in his childhood, and he remained at

home until his marriage, which was celebrated in Liberty township, April 25, 1865, Miss Anna E. Sizer, of Huron county, Ohio, becoming his wife. She traces her ancestry back to Antonio de Sozier, who located in Massachusetts soon after the landing of the Pilgrims. The orthography of the name was changed to its present form by the Massachusetts Legislature.

Mrs. Fearnside was born in Woodstock, Ulster Co., N. Y., May 31, 1843, and is a daughter of Franklin and Abigail (Bloomer) Sizer, the father born in Hampden county, Mass., in 1806, the mother in Greene county, N. Y. He was a carpenter by occupation, and on his marriage located in Greene county, N. Y., whence he removed to Greenwich, Huron Co., Ohio. In 1858 he settled in Liberty township, Wood county, where the mother died in 1883, the father in 1888. Their children were Clarissa C., wife of Anson B. Abbott, now of Weston, Wood county; Daniel W., who died in Waterville, Ohio, in 1876; Abraham F., who served in the Civil war in Company A, 14th O. V. I., and was accidentally drowned July 29, 1862, at Pulaski, Tenn., while bathing in the river; and Mrs. Fearnside.

On their marriage our subject and his wife located on the old homestead, and he has since given his entire attention to farming. Their union has been blessed with four children: Martha, wife of William Haskins, of Waterville, Ohio; George W., assistant cashier in the Commercial Bank of Bowling Green; William F. and Benjamin, at home. Mr. Fearnside is a stalwart Republican in politics, but has never been an office seeker. He belongs to the Methodist Church, and is an intelligent, well-read and popular man, highly esteemed by many friends.

THOMAS N. BIERLY. No citizen of Pemberville has contributed more to the development of its highest interests than has the subject of the following paragraphs, who is well known throughout northwestern Ohio as an able attorney and a man of superior business qualifications. With but limited means, when a young man, and with no influence to assist him, he nevertheless, by indefatigable energy and tireless determination, has gained a position of importance among the professional men of the locality, and occupies an influential place in the legal fraternity of Wood county.

Before presenting in detail the events that have given character to the life of Mr. Bierly, some mention of his ancestors may appropriately be made. The family has been identified with

the history of America for a number of generations, and its members have invariably been patriotic and honest men. He traces his lineage to Prussia. His great-great-grandfather, who was born in that country, participated in the conflict usually known as the Thirty Years war, in which he was severely wounded. On coming to America, he settled in Pennsylvania, though it is not known whether his home was in Bucks or Lancaster county. For many years he led a secluded life, and his last days were spent on the top of Blue Mountain, where he died unattended by any friends.

Anthony Bierly, the great-grandfather of Thomas N., was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, serving through the entire period of the conflict. His house and all of his property were destroyed by the Indians; but, undaunted by the misfortune, he worked his way once more to prosperity and success. He was a man of some education, and was looked up to as a leader among the early settlers of Center county, Penn. His son Nicholas was born near Sunbury, Penn., in 1775, and married Miss Lucinda Buchtel, a native of Center county, and a descendant of German ancestors. Her father was obliged to work seven years in payment for his passage from his native country to America. Aside from this fact, but little is known of the early history of that branch of the family. The last days of Nicholas Bierly were spent in the home of his son, George, to whom he bequeathed the farm.

The father of our subject, George Bierly, was born in Center county, Penn., July 17, 1819. His character is in some respects unique. Possessing no educational advantages except four months in school during his boyhood days, he nevertheless became one of the best posted men in his locality. He has been a thoughtful reader of ancient and modern history, and is particularly posted concerning current historical topics. In early life he learned the trade of a wheelwright, and later adopted the occupation of an agriculturist. Possessing the brave and patriotic spirit of his ancestors, he enlisted in the army during the Mexican war, but saw no active service. For seven years he was connected with the Pennsylvania militia. In 1857 Mr. Bierly came to Ohio and settled on a farm near Bradner, where he still makes his home. A Republican in his political belief, he has advocated the principles of that party since the time of President Lincoln's first election. Among the pioneers of Wood county he was a leader, and by his fellow citizens he was often selected to occupy positions of trust and honor. His wife, Sarah, born January 21,

1821, is a daughter of James Magee, who was born in Londonderry, Ireland, but was of Scotch descent.

Two years before the family removed to Ohio, the subject of this notice was born in Center county, Penn., February 21, 1855. He grew to manhood in Wood county, and has known no other home than this. Even in boyhood he was prominent among his schoolmates on account of his superior talents and recognized ability. Being a diligent student, he availed himself of every opportunity to acquire knowledge, and early laid the foundation for the broad fund of information he possesses to-day. At the age of seventeen he took an examination for a West Point cadetship, and stood fourth in his class of twenty-three, with an average of over seventy-seven per cent. He attended the Normal School at Republic, Ohio, and taught several terms of school. When the time came for him to select a life occupation, Mr. Bierly chose the profession of law, and carried on his readings with the late Hon. James R. Tyler, of Perrysburg. Immediately after his admission to the bar, in 1877, he opened an office in Pemberville, where he has since conducted an increasing and profitable practice. As a member of the Democratic party, he has been active in local politics, and is a leader in the councils of his party. He has served as mayor several terms, has been president of the school board, and was a candidate for prosecuting attorney, to which he would have undoubtedly been elected had it not been for the large Republican majority in the county.

The landed possessions of Mr. Bierly are extensive and valuable, including residences in Pemberville and three well-improved farms in Wood county, besides the "Crystal Hotel" at Bradner and other real-estate interests. His dwelling, one of the most attractive homes in Pemberville, is situated on the east side of the river, and is a substantial frame structure, a model of architectural beauty, and surrounded by a wide-spreading and well-kept lawn. Into their pleasant home Mr. and Mrs. Bierly welcome their hosts of personal friends, and extend a cordial greeting to the stranger within their doors. Mrs. Bierly was, in maidenhood, Miss Jennie Furbush, and is a native of Wood county, where her entire life has been spent. Four children bless the happy home, Clarence, Lulu, Everett and Neva.

Possessing a generous and philanthropic nature, Mr. Bierly has made a fortune, not for the purpose of hoarding it, but that he may do good, and render the lives of others happier. He contributes liberally to the support of his par-

ents, whose declining years are made comfortable through his thoughtful attention; and he is also generous in aiding other members of the family who need assistance. His benefactions, however, are not limited to the circle of his relatives, but extend to all worthy enterprises. The public library of Pemberville is a standing monument to his generosity; most of the books and shelving were donated by him, and he has taken the liveliest interest in the success of the work. On Christmas of 1894 he presented each of the Sunday-schools of the city with one hundred books as a free gift. Fraternally he is connected with the Odd Fellows and the Royal Arch Masons, and for some time served as master of the Masonic lodge at Pemberville. On April 1, 1895, Mr. Bierly moved to Toledo, Ohio, where he opened an office at No. 310 Valentine Building. He has recently purchased a fine residence at No. 1521 Twenty-second street, where the family now reside.

CAPTAIN A. W. ADAMS, postmaster of North Baltimore, and a veteran of the Civil war, is a native of Seneca county, Ohio, born November 28, 1838. He is the son of Martin and Martha (Dillon) Adams, both of whom were born in Jefferson county, Ohio, the former in 1800, and the latter in 1807. They were the parents of the following children: George W., who is in the insurance business in Chicago, Ill.; Thomas, a dentist in Springfield, Ohio; Henry Clay, a lieutenant in the 25th Kansas Regiment, who was killed during the Civil war; Pollie, deceased, wife of — Hall, of Pueblo county, Colo.; Andrew J., deceased; A. W., our subject; Francis Marion, who was killed in Colorado; Rhoda D., who died in Nebraska; Eli R., residing in Toledo; Peter C., living in Springfield; Campbell, who died in Troy, and Jennie, living in Columbus.

Capt. Adams remained in Seneca county during his childhood, attending the district and graded schools. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in Company K, 49th O. V. I., and contributed his mite in the cause of preserving the Union. He was promoted through the various ranks to the position of captain, receiving his commission at Nashville, Tenn., and served in that capacity during the remainder of the war, being mustered out of service November 30, 1865. The Captain participated in all the battles with his company, among them being those of Chickamauga, Stone River, Nashville and Franklin. He took part in twenty-eight pitched battles and numerous skirmishes, and was fortunate enough to

escape without receiving a wound. At the close of the war Capt. Adams returned to Tiffin, Ohio, and was engaged in the shoe business for one year. Selling out in 1868 he went to St. Paul, Minn., and after a short residence there to California, where he engaged in the lumber business. From California he went to Nevada, where he remained a year, afterward spending another year in Minnesota before he returned to Ohio, coming first to Toledo, in this State. He finally settled on a farm in Bloom township, Wood county. This place is situated in Section 28, and comprises 240 acres, on which there are three oil wells, which produce 180 barrels per day, he receiving a royalty of one-sixth. In 1886 the first gas well was drilled on this farm. In 1893 Capt. Adams was appointed postmaster at North Baltimore, and in this capacity has made himself one of the most popular citizens of the town. He adheres to the Democratic party, and is a stanch believer and admirer of its principles.

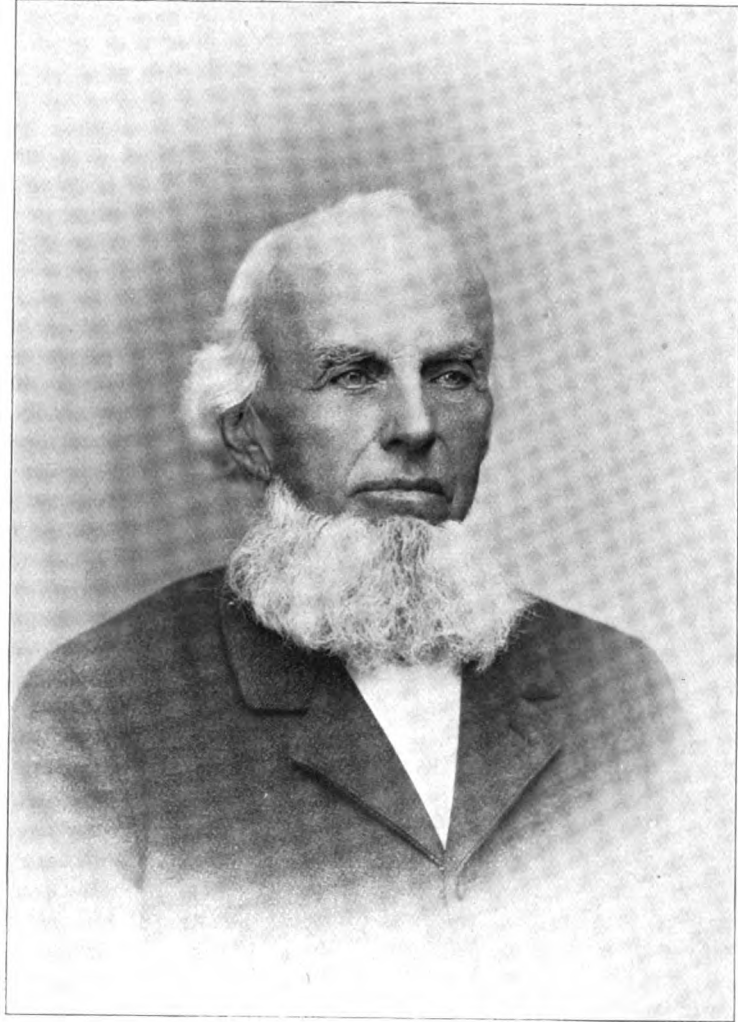
Capt. Adams was married in Toledo, December 22, 1874, to Miss Minnie K. Maybee, who was born in Monroe county, Mich., March 14, 1849, and they have two children, Grace M. and Maude; the former graduated from the public schools of North Baltimore May 29, 1896; Maude is now in the class of 1898, same school. The Captain is of distinguished appearance, a most genial companion, his many and varied experiences making him an interesting conversationalist, and his travels have given him an excellent insight into human nature, with a power of self-restraint that makes him an admirable public official.

SOLOMON FRIES, ex-commissioner of Wood county, and one of the substantial agriculturists of Bloom township, furnishes a demonstration of what right ambitions, hard work, wise management and an economical wife will enable one to accomplish. He was born November 24, 1824, in South Whitehall township, Lehigh Co., Pennsylvania.

His family is of English origin, the first to come to America being John Fries, his grandfather, who settled near Philadelphia. He died there suddenly, of cholera, leaving five children penniless. They were sent to relatives in Lehigh county, and there Abraham Fries, our subject's father, was reared, attending school but little and learning the shoemaker's trade at an early age. He married Miss Mary Smith, a daughter of Henry Smith, a well-known resident of Lehigh county, and of their family seven grew to adult age: Gid-

eon, of Lehigh county, Penn.; Mary, deceased wife of John Acker, of Lehigh county; Solomon, our subject; Amos now living in Lehigh county; Samuel, who died in Alabama about 1885; Violetta (now Mrs. Ezra Hildebeitel), of Allentown, Penn., and Elias, who resides in Bowling Green. Abraham Fries won creditable success in life, without the aids upon which so many others have based their progress. He and his wife were devout adherents of the Reformed Church; in politics he was a Democrat, but took no active part in public affairs. His death occurred in 1858, when he was seventy-six years old, his wife having passed away some years before, aged fifty-six. Her parents came from Scotland, and settled near Philadelphia.

The subject of our sketch attended a German subscription school, the only one of any kind in his neighborhood, which itself was German. In May, 1841, he began to learn the trades of bricklayer, stonemason and plasterer. His mother had died three years before, when he was fourteen, and his father, being consumptive, had early impressed upon his children the necessity for their becoming self-supporting. Three years were spent by young Solomon Fries as an apprentice, during the first of which he received nothing; during the second he received his board, but no wages, and for the third he got his board and twenty-five cents per day. His trade he followed continuously for ten years, and although Allentown, Penn., was burned about that time, and labor was in demand, he never received more than seventy-five cents per day, and sixty-five was considered good wages. In the fall of 1851 he came to Tiffin, Ohio, traveling by the Erie canal to Buffalo and a lake steamer to Sandusky. From that point he took the Mad River railroad (now the Big Four), arriving October 28, 1851, at his destination, where he was welcomed by some old friends named Strauss. Work was scarce and money scarcer, and, winter coming on before any regular employment was found, he offered to work for his board. Still unsuccessful, he determined to make the most of his time by attending an English school, although he was twenty-seven years old at the time, and this he attended only twenty-two days. After he paid his tuition, on April 1, 1852, he had only the small sum of \$1.84 left. He would have returned to Pennsylvania had he been able to secure the means, but things soon took a turn for the better, and he found some work at carpentering, and, later, steady work at his trade. During the dull season in winter he would chop wood for twenty-five cents a day and board, the highest price he ever received being thirty-five cents per cord.



*Solomon Fries*





On February 21, 1856, Mr. Fries was married in Tiffin to Miss Louisa C. Steckel, a native of Lehigh county, Penn., born April 29, 1836. Her father, a blacksmith by trade, came to Ohio in 1840 with his wife Caroline (Leisenring) and their two children. They located first in Butler county, but later, in 1844, moved to Seneca county. On October 10, 1860, Mr. Fries bought 160 acres of land in Bloom township, Wood county, partly cleared, with a small barn and a log cabin, to which he brought his family April 16, 1861. He had saved enough money to begin farming to good advantage, and it was not long before he had his farm in good condition. For some time he worked at his trade, but later he gave his entire attention to his estate, to which he has added until he now owns 743 acres, much of which is the best land in that vicinity. In 1876 he built a model barn, and in 1882 he erected the finest brick farm house in the township, and one of the best in the county. He has done the most of this work himself, and his fine orchard was planted by him, with the help of his wife, who has been an able assistant to him in all his efforts. Seven children were born to them: Zenobia is at home; William A. is a farmer of Bloom township; Jennie died at four years of age; Selinda married Albert Ickes, of Webster township; Edward M. is a lawyer at Bowling Green; Anna married Frank Slotterbeck, of Bloom township, and Cora is at home.

In local affairs and in the work of the Republican party Mr. Fries is prominent, his sound common sense and well-known integrity having gained him the entire confidence of a wide circle of acquaintances. For twenty-two years he was a member of the school board of his district, and has also been trustee and supervisor of Bloom township. In the fall of 1881 he was elected county commissioner, and held that office for six years following, with credit to himself and satisfaction to the public. He and his amiable wife stand high in the esteem of the community.

MARCUS A. MCKENDREE, M. D. Among the many excellent physicians residing in Bowling Green may be found the subject of this sketch who, with his estimable wife, also a member of the medical fraternity, holds a leading place in both professional and social circles.

Dr. McKendree is the son of James and Elizabeth (Baldwin) McKendree, the former of whom was born in 1801 in county Antrim, Ireland, and came to America when eighteen years of age. His parents were natives of Scotland, who removed to Ireland, and there died. The

wife of James McKendree was born in 1818 in Pawlet, Vt., and their marriage took place in Erie county, Penn., where for some years they carried on farming. In 1856, when the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father removed with his family to Ohio, and kept what was called the "State Line House," an old-time country inn, which stood on the State line between Ohio and Pennsylvania, between Ashtabula and Erie counties, Mr. McKendree owning land on both sides of the line. There they lived for twenty years, the father dying in 1874. The mother of our subject resides in Erie, Penn. Her parents came from Rutland county, Vt., and settled in Erie county, Penn., where they both died, the mother surviving her husband for twenty years, and living to the good old age of eighty-four years.

Mr. McKendree, Sr., was a prominent Mason and Odd Fellow, and his son has many of the emblems which he wore in the high degrees of the former order. In politics he was a Democrat, and was a highly esteemed citizen. He was twice married, his first wife being a Miss Snow, by whom he had two children, James, a farmer in Rulo, Neb., and Nancy, who became the wife of George Nash and lived in Erie county, Penn., both now deceased. By his second marriage seven children were born, namely: William J., living in Lima, Ohio; Albert, in Erie, Penn.; Irvin P., in Conneaut, Ohio; Helen and Robert E., residing in Erie county, Penn.; Josephine E., married to Frank Colman, and also living in Erie, Penn.; and Marcus A.

The subject of this sketch was born in Erie county, Penn., July 19, 1853, and his boyhood days were spent in the old inn which his father kept on the State line. He remembers sundry amusing incidents which occurred during his residence there, the house being the scene of many romantic weddings. At that time no marriage license was required in Pennsylvania, and many couples would come to the "State Line House" to be married, as the parlor and sitting room were in that State. The literary education of our subject was obtained at the Conneaut High School, after which he commenced reading medicine at home, and later with Dr. Schooley, of Weston. After teaching school for a time he entered the Eclectic Medical Institute at Cincinnati, from which he was graduated in June, 1884, and for two years thereafter was associated with Dr. Schooley in the practice of medicine at Weston. He then took up his residence in Bowling Green, where he has since been successfully engaged in general

practice. He has been connected with the Pension Board since September, 1893, and is at present its secretary. He is a member of the State Eclectic Medical Society and of the Northwestern Ohio Medical Association. Socially, he is a prominent member of the Encampment, Uniform Rank, I. O. O. F., and is the physician for the Order of the Maccabees in Bowling Green.

Dr. McKendree was married December 25, 1876, to Lydia Walford, who was born in New York City, December 8, 1858. Mrs. McKendree graduated from the Toledo Medical College in March, 1893, after having read medicine for some time with her husband, and has a large practice. She makes a specialty of the diseases of women, and is very successful in her treatment. She is the medical advisor of the L. O. T. M., in Bowling Green. Both she and her husband are popular members of society.

JOHN D. MUIR, a leading agriculturist of Webster township, Wood county, was born in that vicinity, January 15, 1841. His father, James Muir, was born in Scotland, and in 1832 came to Wood county and entered 160 acres of land in Webster township, where he died April 18, 1857. He was a Republican in politics, and one of the earliest supporters of the United Presbyterian Church at Scotch Ridge. He married Miss Marion Dunipace, a native of Scotland, and had twelve children, of whom our subject is the eldest. Margaret, Jane and James reside with their mother at the old homestead; Mary married John Hagamier; Susan married H. C. Swan; Jessie married Charles Greiner; William, Isabel, Frances, and Alice are deceased.

Mr. Muir went to school during boyhood in an old log house in District No. 4, Webster township, his first teacher being Miss Carruthers. He worked upon the farm until 1861, when he enlisted in Company K, 21st O. V. I., under Capt. S. S. Canfield. He participated in a number of hard-fought battles, and in January, 1863, received an honorable discharge. Soon after he re-enlisted for five years in Company G, 64th battalion, which consolidated with a battalion from Wyandot county, forming the 144th O. V. I. (Col. Hunt commanding). After the consolidation, Lieut. Muir was transferred from Company G to E. He was ordered to Toledo September 16, 1863, where he was commissioned second lieutenant, and then sent home, September 19, to order his company to report at Camp Lucas, Toledo, Ohio. A collision occurred September 20, on the D. & M. R. R., while the new recruits were on their way to Toledo, and several

were killed and injured. Among the latter was Lieut. Muir, who was unable to go to the front for some time, but finally, in May, 1864, rejoined his regiment at Wilmington, Del. He returned home at the close of the war, and in 1866 bought forty acres of land, and built a log cabin with only one window and one door, and to this primitive abode, on May 2, 1866, he brought his bride, formerly Miss Eliza Loomis, a daughter of Dudley and Mary (Wallace) Loomis. Five children were born of this union, whose names with dates of birth are as follows: Philinda, December 30, 1866, was for ten years a successful teacher in the public schools, and now travels as sales-lady for a Kansas firm; Dudley J., June 2, 1868; Minnie, September 20, 1870, married Charles Urban; Fannie, July 15, 1874, married July 18, 1896, to Byron H. Callin; Mabel, August 2, 1875, is at home. Mr. Muir is now living in Toledo, having retired from active business. He is a Republican in politics, and has held various offices of trust, having been school director for twelve years, and also trustee and supervisor. He is a member of the F. & A. M., No. 516, of Pemberville; of Manateau Club, and A. P. A., of Toledo, and of Benedict Post G. A. R., No. 26, of Pemberville, of which he is commander. DUDLEY J. MUIR, our subject's son, was born at the old homestead in Webster township, near Scotch Ridge. He was educated in the schools of that neighborhood, and for a time was employed as traveling salesman for a firm in Chicago. On October 7, 1890, he married Miss Kaddie Beard, daughter of Alex and Mary (Shoemaker) Beard. She was born March 25, 1870, in Perrysburg township. They are leading members of the U. B. Church. Mr. Dudley Muir is a Republican, and a member of Camp A. Jolly, Sons of Veterans, No. 301, of Pemberville.

FRANK W. ROGERS, M. D., specialist in diseases of the eye, ear and throat, although still a young man, stands at the head of his profession, and is one of the most successful practitioners in the State. He is a native of Ohio, born in Norwalk, April 3, 1863, and is the son of Samuel J. and Fanny M. (Wilson) Rogers.

Dr. Rogers is the youngest of four children—three sons and one daughter—all of whom are living. During his boyhood he attended the schools of his native town, after completing the course in which he began reading medicine under Dr. Gill, of that city. For two years he was a student in the medical college at Ann Arbor, Mich., after which he entered the Chicago Homeopathic College, Chicago, from which he was

graduated in 1888. He began the practice of his profession in Bowling Green, and after a time took a course in the New York Post-Graduate School. In the colleges both at Chicago and New York he made a special study of the diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, in which line he has achieved a wonderful success. He is a fine scholar, devoted to his work, of which he is very fond, and is popular with his brother practitioners. He has recently established an elegant office in the Spitzer Building, Toledo, Ohio, thereby giving his patrons the advantage of better railroad facilities, and gaining a central location for all northwestern Ohio.

Dr. Rogers has been successful not only in his professional career, but also financially. Dependent on his own exertions and his ability and energy, he has acquired a nice competence, most of his interests being located in Bowling Green. He owns the block on West Wooster street, in which he has the finest suite of offices in the county, and is one of the four partners in the Swayzee Glass Company, located at Swayzee, Ind. This company does a large business in the manufacture of fruit jars, oil cans, bottles, etc., and employs about one hundred men; they own their own gas wells. Dr. Rogers is a Republican in politics, and is one of the most popular young men in the city. On February 4, 1895, he was married to Alzora M. Downer, daughter of Wellington and Mary (Marlatt) Downer, of Mitchell, S. Dak. She is a lovable woman, a friend to every one, domestic in her life and an invaluable companion.

Samuel J. Rogers, the father of our subject, was born in Watertown, N. Y., November 14, 1826, and was the third in a family of twelve children. When eight years of age he came with his father's family to Norwalk, Ohio, where he was married January 26, 1851, to Fannie M. Wilson, who was born in the latter city January 31, 1833. He was a cooper by trade, but after his marriage he took up farming and made a comfortable fortune. In his early days he exchanged half of a cravat for two oak trees, worked them up into barrels which he hauled to Huron to sell, thus making his first start in business. Politically he was a strong Abolitionist. He was a descendant of Gen. Harper, who was in command at the battles of Bunker Hill, Lexington, and other noted engagements in the Revolutionary war. Frank W. Rogers, a brother of Samuel J., enlisted in the Third Ohio Cavalry during the Civil war, and died at the hospital at Louisville, Kentucky.

Mrs. Rogers was a member of the Methodist

Church. Her parents were Levi and Lucy (Kellogg) Wilson, the former of whom was born at Scranton, Penn., of Scotch and German ancestry, and settled in Norwalk in an early day, where he was married and lived until sixty-three years of age. In early life he was a cooper, but he afterward followed the occupation of a farmer. He was a large, powerful man, a giant in strength and endurance. Until the time of the Civil war he was a Democrat in politics, but he became an ardent Republican during that period. His wife was one of the twelve children of Martin Kellogg, one of the leading pioneers of Norwalk, who died in 1892 at the advanced age of one hundred and six years.

EDMUND G. BAKER. There are numerous fine farms in this county which will compare favorably with any others in the State as regards production, and, also, as to the improvements which have been made upon them. Many of these places are owned by men comparatively young in years, who started in the world with but little more than an unlimited amount of energy and perseverance, and who are succeeding to an eminent degree in building up a comfortable home in Wood county. As a representative of this class of agriculturists, great pleasure is taken in presenting the name of the subject of this notice, who is living on a good farm of ninety-nine acres in Troy township, which was first opened up by Henry Baker, of Pemberville, Ohio. Our subject bought the place in 1888, and the following year moved thereon. He now devotes his time to its cultivation, and also to stock dealing, making a specialty of handling sheep.

Mr. Baker made his advent into this world September 1, 1858, in Woodville township, Sandusky Co., Ohio, at the home of his parents, Sandford G. and Phœbe (Osborn) Baker. His father was born in 1817, in Vermont, and with his father, Elijah Baker, came to Wood county, in 1838, locating on a farm in Troy township, near Luckey. The latter's wife bore the maiden name of Lavina White, and was a native of Vermont. After residing on that farm for some years, the grandfather removed to Woodville township, Sandusky county, where he bought a farm of Sardis Burchard, on which the father now lives. His death occurred in that township in 1864, in his ninetieth year, and his wife died in September, 1862.

In 1840, in Troy township, Sandford G. Baker was united in marriage with Miss Almira Webster, a native of Connecticut, and a daugh-

ter of Joseph Webster, one of the honored pioneers of Troy township, who died in Hillsdale, Mich. Mrs. Baker died in 1856, leaving three children who yet survive: Mrs. Helen Morse, of Missouri; Mrs. Emily Osborn, of Iowa; and John W., who resides at Burgoon, Sandusky county. In Woodville township, Sandusky county, the father again married, his second union being with Miss Phoebe Osborn, and their wedding was celebrated in 1857. The lady was born in Erie county, N. Y., and is a daughter of Joseph and Catherine (House) Osborn. Her father died in the Empire State, after which her mother moved to Sandusky county, Ohio, where she later became the wife of Mr. Benedict, but both are now deceased. In his younger days, Mr. Baker was a great hunter, and at that time had ample opportunity to indulge in that sport all over Wood county. For two years he kept a public house at Lemoyne, and then removed to his present farm in Woodville township, Sandusky county. By his second union he had eleven children, ten of whom are still living, namely: Edmund G., whose name introduces this review; Ida, who is taking a literary course at Ann Arbor, Mich.; George, a teacher in the public schools in Kansas; Mrs. Belle Price, who previous to her marriage also engaged in teaching; Rose, at home; Sanford, an attorney at law of Seattle, Wash.; William P., who is studying electrical engineering in the University of Michigan; Arthur, who is studying medicine in the same institution; and Kate and Charley, both at home.

After pursuing his studies for several years in the district schools of Woodville township, Edmund G. Baker entered the normal at Valparaiso, Ind., where after two years he was graduated with the class of 1882, and on returning to Sandusky county served as superintendent of the Woodville school for two years. His marriage was there celebrated December 3, 1884, Miss Linda Herman becoming his wife. She is a native of that county, born January 27, 1860, educated in Woodville, and is a daughter of Henry and Clarinda (Webster) Herman, early pioneers of Sandusky county, who still make their home in Woodville township. By this union three sons have been born: Mark, born October 18, 1885; Roscoe, born April 17, 1888; and Ralph, born January 29, 1893.

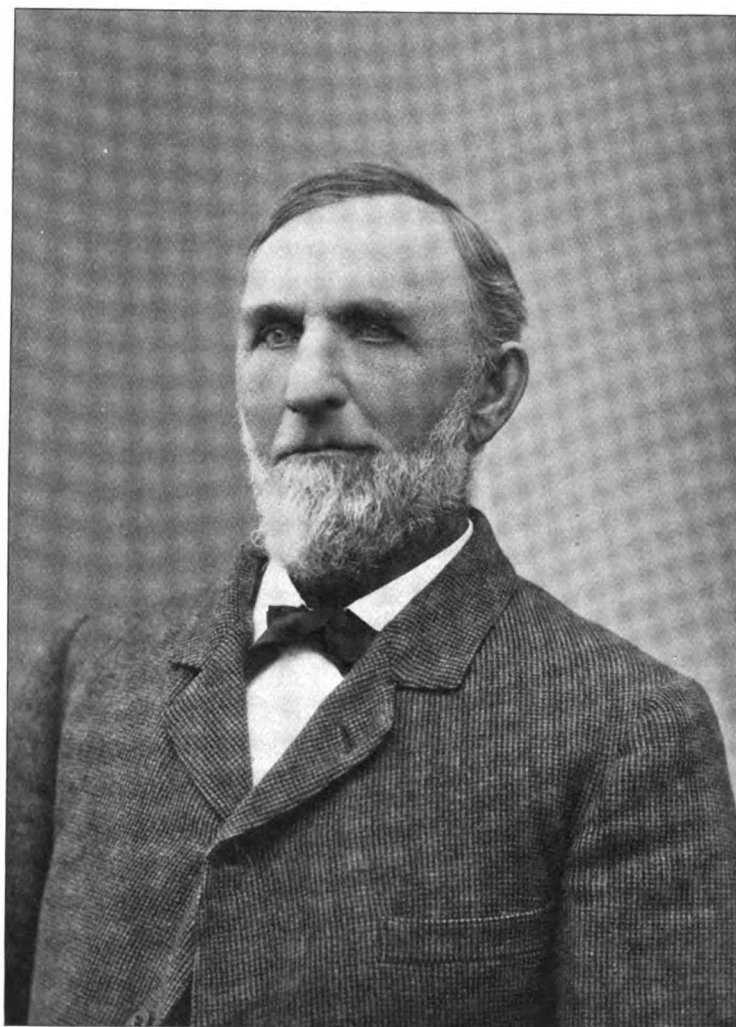
F. H. THOMPSON, ex-county commissioner, farmer and fruit raiser, of Perrysburg township, was born in Rutland, Vt., July 28, 1839, a son of Augustus M. and Ann Maria (Slawson) Thompson.

Augustus M. Thompson was born near Poughkeepsie in 1814, and first came to Perrysburg in 1832, settling there permanently in 1836. He afterward took up farming on the Stone road, and then returned to mercantile business in Perrysburg, where he died in 1875. Politically he was a Whig. Mrs. Thompson was born in Rutland in 1814, and died in Perrysburg in 1891. Six children blessed their union, namely: Helen, who died when five years old; F. H., our subject; Arrietta, now Mrs. Charles Dustin, of Toledo; Charles A., who lives in Massachusetts; Emma, the wife of W. S. Weed, of Toledo; and John P., residing in Perrysburg.

Our subject was an infant when his parents came to Perrysburg, where he went to school for a short time, and then left to work in his father's store. Later he was employed on a railroad in the positions of brakeman and conductor, respectively, on a freight train. In 1863 he was agent for the C. H. & D. R. R., at Perrysburg, in which position he remained for over a year, then resigning to take a situation in a dry-goods store. In April, 1861, he enlisted in Company C, 21st O. V. I., and served nearly four months. On December 21, 1865, he was married to Mrs. Spafford, whose maiden name was Amanda Baird. For a year after his marriage he clerked, and then came to a farm in Perrysburg, where he has sixty-seven acres of land, forty-five of which are laid out in apple trees, to the cultivation of which he has devoted much of his time. From these apples he makes cider, and he has an extensive custom trade.

Mr. Thompson is a Republican, and was for two years trustee of the township. In the fall of 1886 he was elected county commissioner and served two terms—six years—consecutively. He has made a wide reputation as a county officer; he is a clear thinker, a natural student of human nature, and has posted himself so thoroughly on the law pertaining to the duties and powers of county and township officials that he has become the recognized authority on all technical questions. He has a mind naturally adapted to research, and is too cautious to proceed blindly with a project, but prefers to stick to the old adage: "Know first that you are right, and then go ahead."

By her first marriage, Mrs. Thompson had three children: Clifton Amos, who married Grace Cooper, and has two children—Grace and May; Elmer, a civil engineer in Bowling Green, who married Mildred Kramer, and has one child—James Francis; and Waldo, who died when two years old. Two sons were born of her marriage



*F. H. Thompson*



with Mr. Thompson: (1) Leland Albert, born March 15, 1868, at present in charge of the water supply on the Clover Leaf R. R. (he married Miss Carrie Pierce, and they have one child—Esther M.); and (2) Edward A., born March 21, 1870.

F. M. YOUNG, cashier of the Commercial Banking Co., of Bowling Green, and a leading citizen of Wood county, was born September 12, 1845, in Mercer county, Ohio. Until sixteen years of age Mr. Young made his home at Wapakoneta. Soon after the breaking out of the Civil war, although only a boy, he decided to offer his services in defense of the old flag. He accordingly enlisted, August 7, 1862, for three years, in Company K, 99th O. V. I., and served throughout the war, being mustered out with his regiment June 26, 1865, at Salisbury, N. C., with the rank of orderly sergeant. He was sent to Camp Dennison, Ohio, and received his discharge July 17, 1865. The regiment to which he belonged was assigned to the Western division of the army, and participated in every battle of the campaign, twenty-four in all, besides many skirmishes. After the fall of Fort Fisher the regiment was assigned to the Eastern division, and marched through the Southern States, taking part in all the engagements in that section. The 99th went into service with 1,021 men, but lost so heavily, in killed and wounded, that although several times recruited, it was so reduced in number that it was finally consolidated with the 50th O. V. I., and it was as sergeant in that regiment that our subject was serving at the time of his discharge.

After the close of the war Mr. Young settled in Plattsburg, Mo. Here he was employed in the office of the clerk and county recorder until 1871, when he returned to Ohio for the purpose of assisting his father, who was then in feeble health. He located in Weston, where, in 1872, he was married to Miss Hattie Baldwin, who was born in Perrysburg, Ohio, August 8, 1852. Three children have blessed this union: Mabel, Charles and Robert. After his marriage Mr. Young was engaged in the insurance business until 1877, when he was appointed to a position in the U. S. Revenue office at Toledo, and removed his family to Perrysburg. He was "civil serviced" out of position for participating in politics, and returned to Weston. Having been elected probate judge in 1884, he removed to Bowling Green, which has since been his home. In 1892 Mr. Young was made secretary of the American Foundry & Machine Co. On December 15, 1892, he was appointed cashier of the Commercial Banking Co., which

responsible position he continues to hold to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Mr. Young is a strong Republican, and as may be inferred from his war record, is an active member of the G. A. R., of which he founded the first post under the new rules in Wood county, at Weston. He is also a member of the Masonic Order, I. O. O. F. and Royal Arcanum. He is deeply interested in whatever pertains to the welfare of his community, and is one of its most highly respected citizens.

T. J. Young, the father of our subject, was born in 1820 in Shelby county, Ohio, where for many years he followed farming. He was subsequently made postmaster at Wapakoneta, which office he held from 1852 until 1863, removing in the latter year to Wood county. His death took place in 1888 at Celina, Ohio. He was a staunch Democrat. He married Lydia A. Shipman, who was born in 1826 in Mercer county, Ohio, the daughter of Herman and Sarah Shipman, both of whom were of Dutch descent; the former was born in New Jersey, the latter in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Young died in 1872. Their family comprised three children, namely: Lenora, who married J. S. Bodkin, now of Spencerville, Allen Co., Ohio; Sarah, who became the wife of H. H. Keil, of Weston, Ohio; and our subject.

John Young, the paternal grandfather, was a native of Kentucky. He was a great hunter, and his brother William was a friend and companion of Daniel Boone. The Young family is of Scotch origin.

JAMES H. LA FARREE, the efficient manager and secretary of the Bowling Green Natural Gas Co., enjoys in a marked degree the confidence of the stockholders in that prosperous enterprise, and has won, by his energy, integrity and good judgment, an enviable reputation throughout the community. He is a native of Wood county, born September 26, 1837, on his father's farm, near Stony Ridge.

His grandfather, David La Farree, came from the vicinity of Strasburg, which then belonged to France, over a hundred years ago, and settled near Chambersburg, Penn., where his son, James La Farree, our subject's father, was born January 9, 1797, and spent his youth. Arriving at manhood, James La Farree married Miss Elizabeth Sifford, who was born in Maryland March 12, 1800. Her father, Christian Sifford, was a prominent citizen of Frederick City, Md., and had been an under-professor at Heidelberg University previous to his coming to America. She was one of a large family, of whom six—John,



Louis, Daniel, Ann, William and herself—lived to old age.

After their marriage, our subject's parents came to Ohio, locating at Lancaster, in 1820. Later they went to Maryland, where they remained two years, and then returning to Ohio, again settled at Lancaster. In 1832 they moved to Perrysburg, Ohio, and bought government land near Stony Ridge, in Wood county. At that time the old Western Reserve and Maumee turnpike was not built, and these courageous pioneers had to make their way through the woods as best they could. Mr. La Farree was a cabinet maker by trade, and carried on that business for some time in addition to his farm work. He was a Democrat, as every member of the family has always been, and he had at first only two fellow-partisans in the township. He and his wife were members of the M. E. Church. He died of cholera, August 2, 1852, his wife surviving him until September 10, 1888, when she died at the old homestead. They had seven children: John, born March 20, 1820, was a resident of Troy township, and died December 12, 1888; Augustus, born March 5, 1826, was a soldier during the first years of the Civil war, and died August 3, 1865; Cornelia, born March 31, 1831, is the wife of M. B. Richmond, of Crawfordsville, Ind.; Samuel, born March 22, 1834, lived at Umatilla, Oregon, and died May 16, 1866; James H. is the subject of this sketch; George W., born February 9, 1841, lives in Perrysburg; Frances, born April 12, 1844, is the wife of Samuel Swope, of Troy township.

James H. La Farree was educated in the district schools near his home, and in the public schools of Perrysburg. Not content with these opportunities, he has followed an extended course of private study, and kept well posted on the subjects which interest the best minds of the day. At the age of fifteen he learned the cooper's trade with a neighbor, Joshua Chappel, and afterward taught school for some time. He then engaged in bridge building, and later became foreman of the planing-mills at Perrysburg, holding that position thirteen years. In July, 1880, he came to Bowling Green, and became foreman in a planing-mill; but on becoming connected with the Natural Gas Co., he undertook the management of that business. Since July 1, 1886, he has had exclusive control of their interests.

In April, 1861, Mr. La Farree enlisted for three months in Company C, 21st O. V. I., and served in West Virginia; but after two months' service, being taken sick, he came home, and was sick for nearly two years. In February,

1865, he re-enlisted, in Company G, 189th O. V. I., and served several months in northern Alabama and Tennessee, being discharged in September, 1865, with the rank of orderly sergeant.

In 1863, Mr. La Farree was married to Miss Ella G. Norton, who was born in Perrysburg May 12, 1846. They have six children, all living in Bowling Green: Lloyd, Erne, Alice, Kate, Daisy and Rex. Another daughter, Winifred, died in 1880, at the age of four years. Since 1863 Mr. La Farree has been a Mason, and he is a member of Phoenix Blue Lodge, Perrysburg, and Crystal Chapter, Bowling Green.

Chester Willis Norton, Mrs. La Farree's father, was in his day one of the leading men of Wood county. He was a native of Henderson, N. Y., born about 1820, and came in an early day to Perrysburg, Wood county, with his father, Chester Norton, who was a merchant. Chester W. Norton was married in 1842 to Theresa Curtis, who was born in New York State about 1827, daughter of Jairus and Susan (Alexander) Curtis, natives of Vermont who settled at Perrysburg in a very early day.

JOHN McMAHAN. The subject of this personal narrative is one of the most successful stock raisers and progressive farmers within the borders of Perry township, owning a good homestead of eighty-five acres in Section 11. He has made his special field of industry an eminent success, and is highly esteemed and respected by those who know him best. A native of Ohio, he was born in Spencer township, Hamilton county, January 14, 1816, and is the eldest of the four children of Hugh and Elizabeth (Stump) McMahan, the others being Mary, wife of John McClow, of Cincinnati, Ohio; Andrew, who for over forty years ran a sawmill, and died in Cincinnati, in August, 1894; and Jane, wife of Edward Collins, also of the same city. When only a boy, his father died, but his mother kept the family together, living in a small house given her by her father. She passed away in Hamilton county in 1836.

John McMahan attended the subscription schools, paying fifty cents a month tuition, and the wood used for fuel was also contributed by the pupils. He followed various occupations during his youth, and as he lived near where the Little Miami river flows into the Ohio, he often made a few cents by catching minnows for the gentlemen who came out from Cincinnati to fish. At the age of twenty-two, he began to work at the carpenter's trade, at which he was able to

earn \$1 per day, and followed that business for many years.

In Hamilton county, in August, 1843, Mr. McMahan wedded Miss Martha Matthews, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of George Matthews. To them was born a son—Walter, who died in Florida, in February, 1894. After the death of his first wife, our subject married Sarah Seaman, who was a daughter of William Seaman, and was born in Hamilton county, Ohio, where she departed this life, leaving one child—Martha, now Mrs. Lewis Beckman, of Perry township.

In March, 1857, Mr. McMahan came to Wood county, walking from Tiffin to Fostoria, and on his arrival in Perry township erected a house for Nathan Hatfield. In the following October he was united in marriage with Miss Jane A. Hatfield, a native of Ashland county, Ohio, and a daughter of Nathan Hatfield, and they became the parents of the following children—Sarah J., who was born November 4, 1859, and became the wife of Charles Shunk, of Perry township, where she died; Nathan E., who was born December 26, 1861, and died while young; Hugh, who was born December 6, 1865, and is a farmer of Perry township; Louisa, who was born March 16, 1864, and died at the age of nineteen years; William H., who was born February 2, 1869, and lives at home; Warren P., of Perry township, born September 7, 1874; and Minnie D., born February 18, 1877. After ten weeks of illness, the mother of this family died August 2, 1895, and her remains were interred at Fostoria, Ohio. She held membership with the Evangelical Church.

In the fall of 1857, Mr. McMahan went to Cincinnati, where for two years he worked with his brother in a sawmill, but in March, 1860, returned to Wood county, purchasing forty acres of new land in Section 33, Perry township, only a few acres of which had been cleared. He erected a two-story frame house upon the place, 18 x 32 feet, with a kitchen, 14 x 16 feet, and one story in height. For sixteen years he was employed in the sawmill of Nathan Hatfield, but in April, 1878, removed to his present farm in Section 11, Perry township, where about half of his eighty-five acres had been cleared, and on the place stood a small log house, a short distance east of his present home. The neat and orderly appearance of the property manifests to the most casual observer the thrift and care of the proprietor, and shows conclusively that he understands his business thoroughly. He has erected all the buildings upon his farm, and, besides general

farming, has been very successful in the raising of hogs, never having lost a single one by cholera, when they were dying all around him. His first vote was cast for William H. Harrison, later he became a Democrat, but for nearly twenty years has now voted with the Republican party. On that ticket he was elected justice of the peace in Perry township, where he served for three years. He joined the I. O. O. F. in Cincinnati, with which he held membership for a number of years, and for fifty years has been a consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

J. B. WILSON, of Bowling Green, the well-known deputy treasurer of Wood county, holds in a marked degree the esteem of the public as an able and energetic official, having served the county in several responsible positions. He is a native of Wood county, born in Grand Rapids, December 31, 1853.

His father's family was originally from Germany, but his grandfather, John Wilson, was born in Pennsylvania, and in early manhood came to Ohio, where he was prominent among the early settlers. He died in Stark county September 27, 1866, at the age of seventy-five years. His son Matthew, our subject's father, was born in Fayette county, Penn., February 12, 1812. After coming to Ohio with his parents he married Miss Elizabeth Blythe, who was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, October 31, 1823, the daughter of a leading pioneer, Samuel Blythe, later of Weston, Wood county. He was of mixed English and Scotch blood, and his parents settled in Jefferson county during the territorial period. Our subject's parents lived in Wayne county for four years after their marriage, and then moved to Grand Rapids, Wood county. From 1853 to 1867 Mr. Wilson, Sr., was employed in a store as clerk. They returned to Wayne county to spend the remainder of their lives, and died there—Mr. Wilson on January 27, 1887, and his wife on December 7, 1891. They were devout adherents of the Methodist Church.

Our subject was the youngest of their three children. David, the eldest, lives in Wayne county, and C. H. in Chicago, Ill. With the exception of a few years in Wayne county during boyhood, Mr. Wilson has spent his life in Wood county. In 1879 he was made principal of the schools of North Baltimore, holding that position until 1881, when he resigned to accept the office of deputy auditor of Wood county. His faithful service was appreciated by the people, and after six years as deputy he was elected auditor, being re-elected on the expiration of his

first term. He has recently accepted the appointment as deputy treasurer. He was married December 31, 1878, to Miss Catherine Simon, a native of Wood county. They have four children—Milo D., Cecil B., Charles and Gladys. Politically he is a Republican, "dyed in the wool," his father having been an early supporter of that party. He was a delegate to the National Republican Convention at Minneapolis in 1892, and voted for Hon. Wm. McKinley for President. He is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the K. of P.

**DERASTUS LEE.** It is an undisputed fact that Bloom township contains some of the leading farmers of Wood county, and among the foremost of these is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. He is the representative of one of our pioneer families, those who endured the hardships, privations and difficulties attending a settlement in the "Black Swamp" in the early "forties," and whose labor transformed the heavily timbered wilderness into productive fields. He passed his youth in the midst of the most primitive surroundings.

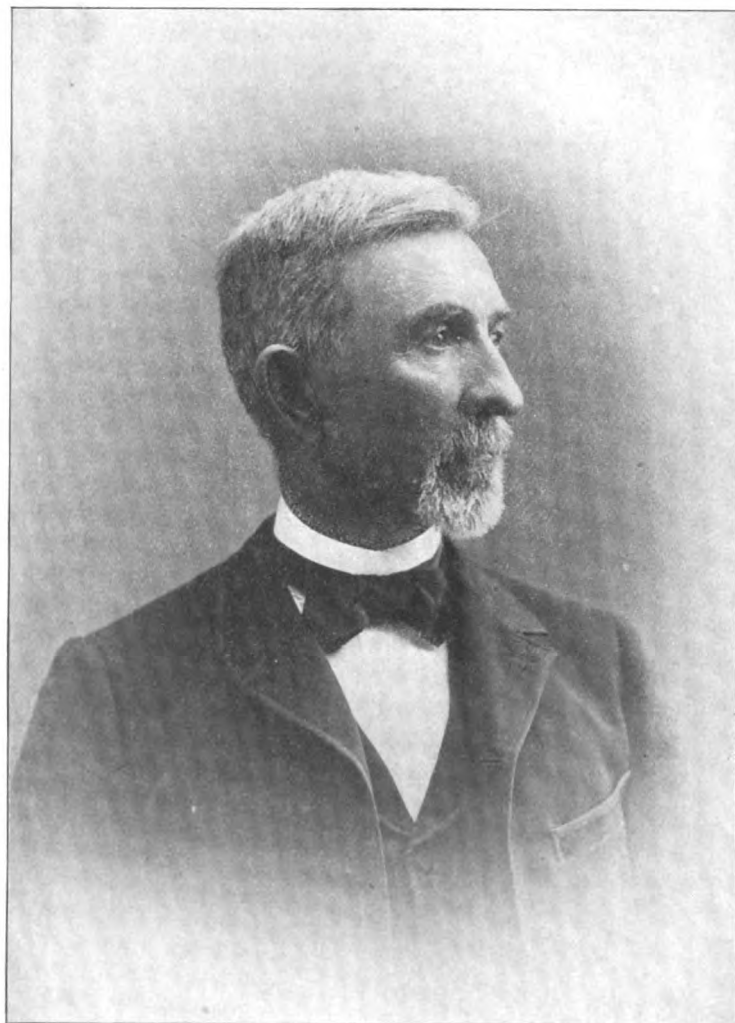
His grandfather, Lemuel Lee, was born in Connecticut. He was compelled to make his own way in the world from an early age, owing to the death of his father and the scattering of the family, and when a young man he came to Ohio, locating in Columbiana county. At that time Ohio had not yet been admitted as a State; within its limits was to be found much land upon which no "pale-face" had ever set foot, and in fact it was only along the eastern border that it was safe for a white man to take up his abode. Lemuel Lee married a Miss Jackson, and they had a large family, of whom six sons and two daughters lived to adult age. He was not a man to accumulate property, and in his circumstances there was but little opportunity to do so, but he made an honest living. He died about 1854.

George J. Lee, one of the older sons, born in 1806, was our subject's father. Reared on a frontier farm, his schooling was very limited; indeed, to use his own expression, he was "educated with the grubbing hoe." During his boyhood but few schools were to be found, and they were the subscription schools patronized by the well-to-do classes. He was a large boy before he ever attended one, and then the humiliation of reciting in classes composed of children much smaller than he almost drove him to leave school, which he would have done had it not been for the encouragement of the teacher, his

uncle, James Gordon. This one term of three months was the limit of his educational advantages. On February 4, 1830, he married Miss Hannah Wollam, a native of the same county, born in 1805. Her father, Henry Wollam, was a well-to-do farmer of that neighborhood, owning an excellent farm which he had redeemed from its primitive state, and improved with some unusually good buildings for that time. Before his marriage George Lee had learned the tanner's trade; but an attempt to engage in it met with little success, and he settled upon a farm on Beaver creek, where our subject first saw the light. As time passed, and the future of his children became an important problem, he decided to go farther west where land was cheaper, and September 25, 1841, he started for Wood county with his household goods in a large wagon, on which his wife rode with the younger members of the family, which then included six children. This conveyance was drawn by two oxen, with two horses as leaders. Ten days later they arrived in Montgomery township, having made a short visit in Richland county with friends, and a temporary home was made with John Vosburg until a suitable location was found. Mr. Lee entered 160 acres of land, which was in its primitive condition—not one tree having been cut upon it—and his first work was to clear a spot for the building of his log cabin. His brother, Henry, had accompanied the party, and he entered eighty acres adjoining, then returned home, where he died a few years afterward, having no direct heirs, and a one-third interest fell to our subject's father, who later bought the remaining two-thirds. He also bought another tract of forty acres, and at the time of his death owned 280 acres. He was a man of influence in his community, Democrat of the "Jacksonian stripe," and he took great interest in public affairs. For many years he and his wife were members of the Protestant Methodist Church. This venerable pioneer couple lived several years beyond their "Golden Wedding Anniversary"; they died within two and one-half years of each other, both having passed fourscore years, and their remains rest in West Millgrove cemetery.

Ten children were born to them as follows: Henry, January 10, 1831, living in Jerry City; Derastus, April 27, 1832; Samuel, August 29, 1833, died in Bloom township, May 16, 1855, of consumption; Mary J., April 7, 1835, married Adam Graham, of Montgomery township; Jackson, June 19, 1837, enlisted August 15, 1861, in Company H, 49th O. V. I., was wounded at





*Derastus Lee*



*Mary E Lee*



Chickamauga, September 19, 1863, and died the next day, his body never being recovered; Milo, March 15, 1839, died in Bloom township, April 30, 1858, of consumption; Sarah A., October 18, 1840, married Philip Brubaker, of Bloom township; Susanna, May 9, 1842, is the wife of Benton Musser, of Gratiot county, Mich.; John H., September 11, 1844, died of consumption, January 13, 1862, in Bloom township; and Benjamin F., October 27, 1846, died March 23, 1847.

Derastus Lee was about nine years old when he came to this county, but there was plenty of work upon his father's farm, and even at that age he could "pick brush" in the clearing. With no modern machinery and but few tools, and those of the rudest sort, the work of the farm and household required the help of all, and schools were but little thought of, so that his educational opportunities were very limited. After he attained his majority he for one term attended the select school taught by Alfred Kelley, the pioneer teacher of West Millgrove. His own experience has given Mr. Lee a great desire to see facilities for education brought within the reach of everyone, and he is the ardent supporter of any improvement in the schools of to-day. On September 25, 1858, he married Miss Mary E. Vallance, a native of Ashland county, born June 22, 1837. Her parents, James and Elizabeth (Brubaker) Vallance, came to Wood county in September, 1849, settling in Perry township. She had fared no better than her husband in educational advantages, attending the schools of her day for about three months. At the time of his marriage Mr. Lee had by work and "dickering" secured a team of horses, a wagon, a plow, and a harrow, the first horse, which he bought of his uncle, Lemuel Lee, being paid for by \$30 in money and the chopping of ten acres of timber. With this outfit he started in business on his own account, taking the old homestead on shares. His residence for the first eleven years was in an old log school house which he had fitted up. There were many days of toil and but few of recreation in those years; but he and his wife were young, strong and ambitious, and their mutual affection made their old cabin a happy home. During this period Mr. Lee bought 160 acres of timber land in Section 12, Bloom township, which he still owns although he has never lived there. In the spring of 1871, he purchased eighty acres in Section 10, to which he moved. For twenty years he was engaged in threshing, in addition to farming, sometimes with a partner, sometimes without. His work was always faithfully done,

and while thus employed he gained a wide circle of friends in different parts of the county. He did not spare himself over his tasks, and frequently when he had been busy up to a late hour of the night, he has crawled up to the side of a straw stack to sleep till morning. He has added to his land at various times until he now has nearly 800 acres, making him one of the largest landowners in Wood county, and most of his property is good farming land, which can not be said of some other extensive holders. Probably there is not another instance in Wood county of a poor boy becoming, through his own efforts, the owner of so large an estate. Industry, wise and economical management, and shrewd bargaining have made this progress possible, his estimable wife deserving, also, a large share of credit.

Of their ten children, eight are now living in Bloom township. The names of all, with dates of birth, are as follows: James W., February 17, 1860, is a prosperous young farmer; Laura E., March 3, 1861, married Abraham Loe; John F., September 25, 1862, is a well-to-do farmer; Jacob E., July 31, 1864, is at home; Charles W., October 11, 1867, died February 2, 1868; Hattie E., February 6, 1869, married Samuel Dennis, of Bloom Center; Perry M., March 12, 1871, is a progressive young farmer; Florence, June 4, 1873, married Elza Wright, of Bloom township; Mary Ettie, October 1, 1875, died March 21, 1876; and Rhoda V., December 25, 1878, is at home. Among the foundation stones of Mr. Lee's tasteful and commodious residence is a relic of pioneer times — the top stone of an old hand-mill once belonging to his father's neighbor, Peter Painter, and many a time during his boyhood did Mr. Lee walk through the woods which lay between the two farms, carrying corn which he converted into meal with the aid of that stone.

Coming from a family in which consumption has claimed several members, Mr. Lee's death has been often predicted, yet he is hale and hearty, and bids fair to live many years. At the age of sixty-four he can perform a day's work which would do credit to one twenty years his junior. In October, 1894, he met with a serious injury. While nailing a board on a fence the nail broke and a flying piece struck him in the left eye, entirely destroying the sight. He is a good neighbor, kind-hearted, out-spoken, and a man of strict integrity. In politics Mr. Lee is a Democrat, and he is one of the chief counselors of the party in his locality. He formerly attended conventions and caucuses with great regular-



ity, but he has never been an office seeker, and, although he has served creditably as trustee of his township, he has often declined to become a candidate for other positions. He once led the "forlorn hope" against the overwhelming Republican majority in the county, having been selected by his party as the candidate for county commissioner, and he succeeded in reducing the majority—a notable achievement, as things stood.

FREDERICK YEAGER, a prominent citizen of Perrysburg, and a brave veteran of the Civil war, was born in Perrysburg, Wood Co., Ohio, February 22, 1844, a son of John J. and Elizabeth (Helfrich) Yeager. The grandfather, also named John J. Yeager, was a soldier in the French army, and died in France. The grandmother, whose maiden name was Margaret Liber, came with her second husband, Lorenze Hirtzel, to this country in 1854, and both died of cholera at Perrysburg eight weeks after their arrival. Mr. Hirtzel had also been a soldier in the French army. The maternal grandparents of Mr. Yeager were farmers in Lucas county, Ohio, where they died and were buried. They were members of the Roman Catholic Church.

John J. Yeager, father of our subject, was born June 7, 1821, in Alsace, France (now in Germany), and was married to Elizabeth Helfrich, a native of Germany, born November 19, 1819, in Hessen-Darmstadt. In 1840, prior to their marriage, they came to America, becoming acquainted at Perrysburg, where their wedding took place May 16, 1843. He was a farmer by occupation, and was thus employed until the breaking out of the Civil war, when, loyal to the interests of his adopted country, he decided to offer his services in defense of the government. Accordingly he organized a company, of which he was made captain, and which became a part of the 111th O. V. I. He entered the service in the fall of 1862, remaining therein some eighteen months, during which time he was present at the siege of Knoxville and in other noted engagements. In February, 1864, he was taken so ill that he was obliged to resign his command and return home. In 1868 he was made commissioner of Wood county, which office he held until 1871. His death took place at Perrysburg April 27, 1891. In religious faith he was a Methodist, in politics a Republican, and he was a most worthy citizen. His wife died January 16, 1890, leaving their only child, the subject of this sketch.

Frederick Yeager attended the common schools of his native village during his boyhood,

and had entered Baldwin University at Berea when Gov. Brough called out the 100-day men to serve in the war of the Rebellion. The patriotic impulses of the young student would not allow him to remain inactive at a time when the youth, as well as the grey-haired men, of his State were pressing to the front, and, like his father, he joined the Union forces, enlisting in Company F, 144th O. V. I., in which he served until August 24, 1864. On October 5, same year, he re-enlisted, this time in Company E, 181st O. V. I., and took part in the battles of Murfreesboro, Decatur, and Nashville, after which he became a member of the 23rd Army Corps, 2nd Division, 3rd Brigade; he was present at Raleigh, N. C., where Johnston surrendered to Sherman, April 20, 1865. He was honorably discharged at Salisbury, and returned to his home at Perrysburg, where he carried on farming for three years, embarking in mercantile business, in which he was engaged for the succeeding twenty-two years.

In politics a Republican, he has filled public positions of honor and trust, including township clerk (one year), to which office he was elected in 1870, though the township is strongly Democratic; township treasurer four years, from 1877 to 1881; was on the school board eleven years, and mayor of Perrysburg two years. In 1891 he was elected county treasurer, and was the second man born in the county to hold that office. In 1893 he was re-elected, and has filled the responsible position to the satisfaction of the public, and with credit to himself. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is prominent in the G. A. R., filling all the chairs in that order. On December 5, 1865, he was married at Perrysburg to Miss Fidelia E. Kreps, who was born September 1, 1844, and four children have blessed this union, as follows: Minnie E., born January 16, 1867, now the wife of S. H. Sanford (both are teachers in Little Rock University, Little Rock, Ark.); John O., born April 6, 1870, employed in a mercantile house in Toledo (he married Sarah Lindsey, and they have one child—Madeline); Merton F., born September 12, 1873, still at home; and George Legrand, born July 7, 1876, also at home. Mr. Yeager has always held a prominent place in the community, and is highly esteemed as a loyal and public-spirited citizen.

HON. E. F. DAY, mayor of Risingsun, is also one of the most prominent business men of that vicinity, being the head of a well-known firm of contractors and builders, and of the oil company known as Day, Burnett & Winchell.

His grandfather, Dr. Stephen F. Day, was a successful physician in Wayne county, Ohio, where he continued his practice to an advanced age. His wife, Elizabeth (Strause), a native of Pennsylvania, died in her seventy-sixth year in Montgomery township, Wood county, at the home of their son, Stephen F. Day, Jr., our subject's father. He was born in Wayne county, February 28, 1827, and came to Wood county at the age of fifteen. He lived near Longley until his marriage, in September, 1849, in Scott township, Sandusky county, to Miss Mary A. Phillips, who was born in Stark county, Ohio, October 26, 1828, the daughter of David and Mary A. (Bates) Phillips. The young couple began housekeeping near Risingsun, upon an uncleared tract of eighty acres, which Mr. Day sold after making some improvements. In the fall of 1860, he purchased 150 acres in Scott township, Sandusky county, and lived there until 1883, when he moved to a farm in Gratiot county, Mich. Later he went to Coffee county, Tenn., but, not liking the place, he only remained one winter, and returning to Wood county traded it for forty acres in Section 1, Perry township, where he now resides in a comfortable home. When a young man he worked at the carpenter's trade, but farming has been his chief occupation. Of his family of ten children all are married and well settled in life. They are—Emily, Mrs. Martin Shively, of Risingsun; Ezra F., our subject; Charles H., of Risingsun; David, of Seneca county, Ohio; Jane, Mrs. Edwin Ballinger, of Risingsun; Emanuel, a resident of the same town; the twins, Rosetta (Mrs. William Bovie, of Scott township, Sandusky county), and Rosanna (Mrs. Charles H. Williams, of Risingsun); Willis, who also lives at Risingsun; and Effie, Mrs. Eli Hollenbaugh, of Seneca county, Ohio.

Mr. Day first saw the light September 3, 1852, in Section 25, Montgomery township, and his early education was such as the district schools of that day and locality afforded. He was stout and active, and helped his father to clear up two farms during his boyhood; but at twenty-one he began to learn the carpenter's trade, for which he had already shown remarkable aptitude. Under the training of Adam Shively, of Scott township, Sandusky county, he readily mastered the details of the business, and then continued for two years as a partner. After this he engaged in contracting and building, and he has put up some of the finest residences in that locality. His ability as a mechanic is of the highest order, and he draws his own plans after a system which is unexcelled for simplicity and effectiveness. In

the spring of 1896 his brother C. H. became associated with him in the business.

On January 17, 1878, Mr. Day was married in Tiffin, Ohio, to Miss Charlotte Riley, the daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Mossgrove) Riley. They began housekeeping in Risingsun, in a very comfortable home which he had previously prepared, and here six children were born to them: Alfred J., Ada L., Bessie E., Homer F., Ethel, and Minnie. All are at home, and the first two are members of the class of 1896, Risingsun High School. Their mother departed this life November 17, 1891, and her mortal remains were consigned to earth in Trinity cemetery, Sandusky county. Mr. Day has since formed a second matrimonial alliance with Miss Ida Mills, of Ohio county, W. Va., the daughter of James Mills.

As a financier, Mr. Day has shown marked ability. His earlier years were by no means prosperous, and he was obliged to borrow money for the first time that he ever had in his house; but his industry and shrewd management have brought a good reward. He owns eighty-three acres of land in Seneca county, and some very valuable town property for residence and business purposes, in Risingsun, and his oil interests and other enterprises now bring him, under his constant and judicious care, a fine competence. In principle he is a Democrat, but party lines are secondary with him to the public welfare. No man commands more fully the confidence of his fellowmen, and he began his public service at the age of twenty-one as clerk of Scott township, Sandusky county. He was the first mayor of Risingsun, and has since been elected several times, this being his fifth term. His decisions have never been reversed in the courts, and it may be said that he displays rare legal talent, all the more remarkable from his lack of early training. He has drafted ordinances and documents such as other incumbents of the office have not attempted; as an enemy to the disorderly element he has the esteem of the better classes. His popularity is proven by his repeated election to this office, and he has also served as treasurer of the village, and has been a member of the council every year except one since the incorporation of the town. Socially, he is a member of the I. O. O. F.

JUDGE GUY C. NEARING, of Bowling Green, now (1896) serving his second term as judge of the probate court of Wood county, has for nearly twenty years been a prominent member of the legal fraternity in the county.

He comes of old pioneer stock, and is of German descent. His grandfather, Guy Nearing, left central New York in 1817 to settle in Perrysburg, Ohio, where he died in 1840 at an advanced age. He was a contractor by occupation, interested in canal construction, and in a number of important buildings, among them the old court house and jail at Perrysburg, and a mill on the river. He was twice married; by his first wife he had three sons—Horatio, Zepheniah and Neptune (our subject's father)—and by his second wife he had two daughters, and three sons—Freeman, Henry and Emilius; of these Freeman died in infancy; Henry lives near Tontogany; and Emilius (who was deaf and dumb), followed the carpenter's trade in Fulton county until his death, in August, 1890. Of the daughters, one married, and died in Wood county; the other died in infancy.

Neptune Nearing, our subject's father, was born in New York State in 1808, and died in Wood county in 1844. He learned the cabinet maker's trade in his youth, but was engaged chiefly in assisting his father on his contracts. For a few years he conducted a hotel at Texas, Ohio, and then retired to his farm in Plain township. He returned to New York State for a wife, and married a distant relative, Mrs. Stella Nearing Parsons, who was born in Vermont in 1809, and died in 1890. Of their three children, the eldest, Scott, died in infancy; Sarah Rosetta is now the wife of J. Hayes, of Chicago, Ill.; our subject being the youngest.

Guy C. Nearing was born at the old farm in Plain township March 12, 1843, and had the ordinary educational advantages of a country boy of his time. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company B, 6th O. V. I., was first sent to West Virginia, was later transferred to the Ohio region, and finally to the army of the Cumberland. He was in several noted battles—Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge—and after three years' service received an honorable discharge, leaving the army with the rank of sergeant. In December, 1862, he was wounded at Stone River, and fell into the enemy's hands. He was sent first to Nashville, and later to Louisville, and was absent from his command until the following May.

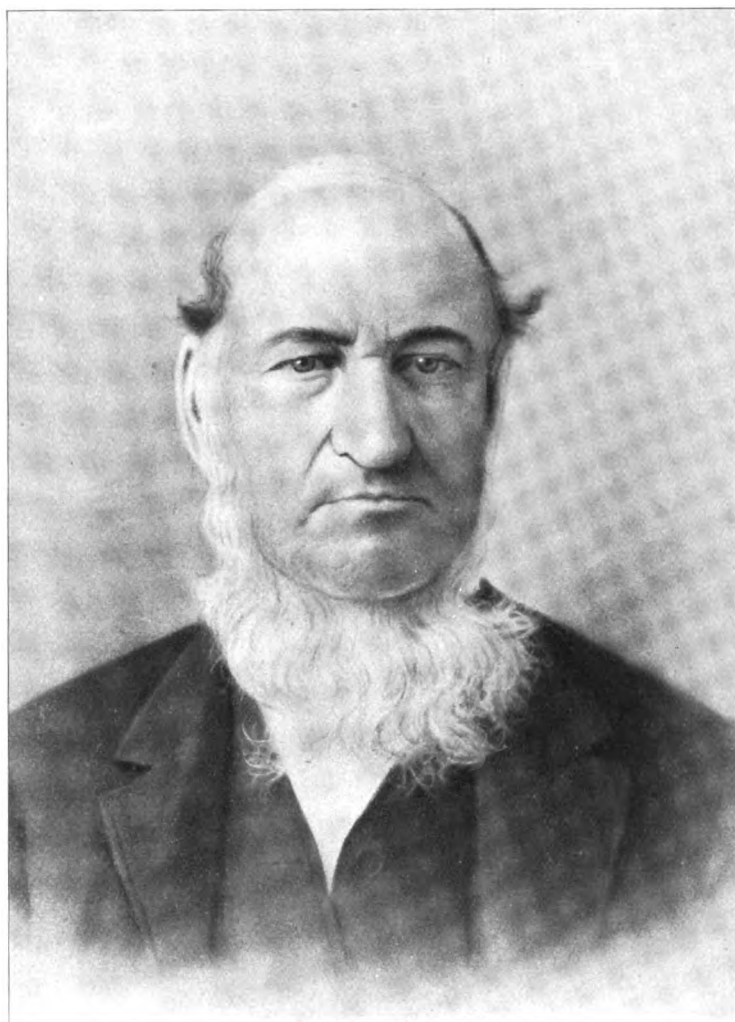
On his return home he attended school for a short time in Perrysburg, and then engaged in teaching during the winter time, though he was a farmer in summer. Thus he continued until 1873, when he began to study law. In 1876 he was admitted to the bar, and opened an office in Bowling Green, where his strong vitality and

commanding presence, his gift of accurate and rapid analysis of legal principles, and his untiring energy, brought him quick recognition in professional circles. He is also interested in various commercial enterprises, being a director in the First National Bank, having extensive investments in the oil fields of Wood county, and owning a farm of 120 acres in Center township. Politically he is a Republican, and he is regarded as a leader in county and municipal affairs, holding various offices. He has been a member of the city council, city solicitor, clerk of Center township, and since 1891 has been probate judge, having been re-elected to this second term by a large majority over an able and active competitor. He is a member of Wiley Post No. 46, G. A. R., and also takes an active interest in fraternal organizations, being a prominent Mason, a valuable member of the Blue Lodge, in which he has filled all the chairs, and a Royal Arch Mason; he also affiliates with the subordinate lodge, I. O. O. F., in which he has passed all the chairs.

On December 13, 1865, our subject married E. V. Rockwood, a native of Lorain county, born January 27, 1846, and they have one son, Charles R., who is deputy probate judge. As leading members of the M. E. Church, they take a prominent part in the social and philanthropical movements of that progressive body, and are also ready friends of every worthy enterprise outside of denominational lines.

Giles C. Rockwood, father of Mrs. Nearing, was born, in 1819, in New York State, and was a carpenter by trade. He came to Ohio with his parents in 1829, and was here married, in 1845, to Laura C. Wack, by whom he had three children: E. V. (Mrs. Nearing); Hoyt O., who died in October, 1877, leaving two sons—William P. and Ernest C.; and Frank P., who died in infancy. In 1849 Mr. Rockwood went to California, and was absent ten months. Mrs. Rockwood was born, in 1819, in Vermont, and in 1834 came to Ohio with her parents, Frederick W. and Hannah Wack, the former of whom was born in Colchester, Conn., and moved to Vermont. Frederick W. Wack was the only child of Frederick Wack, who came to this country from Germany when a boy, and died while serving in the Colonial army in the Revolutionary war.

SYLVESTER ABBOTT, in whose death the community lost one of its most valued citizens, was born July 13, 1812, near Boston, Mass., and at the age of five years came to Greene county,



*Sylvester B Abbott*



N. Y., where he acquired his education and learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, following that pursuit until his removal to Ohio, in 1833. He located in Huron county, where for a time he again engaged in carpentering, and then fitted himself for the legal profession, being admitted to the bar at Toledo.

In Huron county he was married, January 25, 1836, to Alzina Morey, by whom he had one child, John, born October 27, 1836, who is now a physician in Illinois. The mother died January 27, 1837. On May 3, 1838, Mr. Abbott wedded Maryette Caswell, and they became the parents of eight children, namely: Reuben, born April 11, 1839, of Bowling Green; May Elizabeth, born April 10, 1841, now the wife of Byron Niles, of Michigan; Melvin L., who was born June 2, 1843, is a merchant of Bowling Green; George M., who was born August 26, 1847, is a farmer of Michigan; Sarah, born September 28, 1850, is the wife of I. L. Hankey; Alice E., born April 20, 1855, is the wife of Sylvester Ordway, of Bowling Green; Lewis, born December 1, 1857, is a farmer of Wood county; one died in infancy. The mother of this family passed away November 24, 1875, and for his third wife Mr. Abbott, on March 22, 1876, wedded Helen Robins, a lady of culture and refinement, who successfully followed school teaching. She is a daughter of Eliakim and Susanna (Brown) Robins, the former a carpenter of Huron county. To this union have come two children: Celesta G., who was born July 24, 1879, and died February 23, 1891; and Jerry B., born June 4, 1881, still at home.

Mr. Abbott practiced law in both Huron and Wood counties, coming to the latter in 1853, at which time he purchased 160 acres of land in Center township. In connection with law practice he carried on agricultural pursuits, planting an orchard and making many other excellent improvements, while the well-tilled fields yielded to him a handsome income. He continued farming until his death, which occurred January 16, 1891. For several years he served as justice of the peace, discharging his duties with most conscientious fidelity. He was ever faithful to a trust reposed in him, whether of a public or private nature. His business career and his home life were alike above reproach, and he had the warm regard of many personal friends. Mrs. Abbott is still living on the homestead in Center township, and is an intelligent lady of genial manner and kindly disposition, who is held in the highest esteem by her neighbors and the community at large.

LORIN SMITH, one of the most prominent and highly respected farmers of Montgomery township, was born October 11, 1822, in Kiltzheim, Baden, Germany. In his native country his name was spelled Lorentz Schmitt. His parents were John J. and Anna M. (Bauman) Smith, the former of whom was a farmer in Baden, and owned a nice little home of twenty-six acres, where he lived in comfort, and was considered well off.

The parental family consisted of the following named children: John J., Jr., Emily, Frank, Frances, Margaret, Eva, and Lorin. As they grew up the question of finding homes for them was a matter of concern to the parents, and, as glowing reports of the wealth and land of the United States had reached the old country, it was decided to send the eldest son, John, and his sister, Emily, who had then reached the years of maturity, to investigate the truth of these stories of the New World. They accordingly came to the United States, and at Stockbridge, Mass., soon found employment, the son in a hotel. Emily was married soon after her arrival in this country. The reports sent back to the family were so satisfactory that two years later Frank and Frances joined their brother and sister, and were so pleased with the success with which they met that it was decided best for the rest of the family to come also. In 1830, the parents and other children left their old home, driving to Paris, France, with their own team. There the horses and wagon were sold, and they went by boat down the river Seine to Havre, where they took passage for the United States on a three-masted vessel, "The Baird," which had formerly been a mail vessel, and was taking her first trip as an emigrant boat. Their destination was New York, and they were fifty-two days on the ocean, during which time they had a narrow escape from capture by pirates.

At New York City the family was met by the son, John J., and they concluded to come to Ohio, then considered the "Far West." This western trip had been under consideration for some time by those of the family already in the United States, and was one of the motives which induced the parents to emigrate. The journey was made up the Hudson river to Albany, thence over the Erie canal to Buffalo, and by lake to Cleveland, Ohio, where a house was rented and a temporary home made, while the father and eldest son looked about for suitable land to purchase. Land could be bought where the great city of Cleveland now stands, for eight dollars per acre; but learning that there was better land

farther west they set out on a journey which ended in Peru township, Huron Co., Ohio. The incident which caused them to locate here was a common one in the history of the western States. Halting at a spring to drink they found the water exceptionally cool and clear, the land in the vicinity and the location on the ridge between the sources of the Huron rivers favorable to health and industry. The physical features of the country corresponded with their correct ideas of agriculture, and they lost no time in obtaining the land, which had been somewhat improved, and on which an excellent orchard was then growing. This farm was known as the "Old Johnson Farm" at the time of their purchase. The family were moved to Huron county from Cleveland with an ox-team.

The Smith family had a fair amount of money on their arrival in America, as their property in Baden had brought in considerably over \$1,000, and they were able to begin life in this country in a very fair way. After a few years residence in Huron county the father began to look around for more cheap land. A large portion of Wood county was then government land, but it was known as the "Black Swamp," and did not tempt many settlers. The father was a good judge of land, and seemed to think that Wood county had a great future. He entered, after looking around, 162 acres in Section 5, Montgomery township, and the deed, signed by Andrew Jackson, bears the date of December, 1835, and is now in the possession of our subject. A few years after the family located in Huron county, the other members of it came west from Massachusetts, except Emily, who had married Joseph Keller, and died in Boston. Of the other children, John J., Jr., died in Huron county, Ohio; Frank died in the same county in 1872; Frances died in Freedom township, Wood county; Margaret married Peter Stang, and died in Huron county; Eva is the widow of Joseph Addleman, and lives in Huron county; our subject is the youngest of the family.

Lorin Smith had studied in the schools of his native land, and was a very bright boy, being able when seven years of age to both read and write the German language. After coming to Huron county he attended school there and obtained a good education. He worked on the farm with his father, and, being an obedient son, the latter showed his appreciation by giving him 162 acres of government land in Montgomery township, Wood county, out of which, however, he was to give his sister Frances fifty acres, which he did. This was in 1841, and two years

later Mr. Smith visited his land, and made some improvements on it. In the fall of 1844 he built a cabin of hewed logs, 20 x 30 feet, which had a shingle roof, the shingles for which he himself cut from oak trees. Being thus provided with a home, the young man secured for himself a wife in the person of Miss Mary T. Addleman, to whom he was married in Huron county, January 7, 1845. Mrs. Smith was born March 19, 1824, in the same village in Baden as her husband, and is the eldest child and only daughter of John P. and Mary Addleman. Her parents left Baden in the spring of 1831, and drove with their own team to Paris, where they waited two weeks for the horse market to open. Selling their horses, they went by boat to Havre, sailing from there on the vessel "Henry III," which landed them at New York City after a voyage of fifty-four days. They spent the winter of 1831-32 in Buffalo, and in the spring of the latter year bought a farm three and a half miles from that city, where they lived until the fall of 1836. In that year they moved to Huron county, two and a half miles southwest of Norwalk, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Their family consisted of four sons and one daughter. On January 14, 1845, our subject and his bride started to their new home in Wood county. Three teams were necessary to haul them and their goods, the roads through the timber being very bad. Two days were occupied in the journey, which was a rough and tedious one. They at once began to make improvements upon the place. Their cabin was a good one, but sparsely furnished, and the country about them was in a primitive condition. Many of their friends had predicted their failure to put up with such a pioneer life. This, however, only aroused their determination, and instead of disheartening them inspired them to new effort. A plentiful supply of provisions had been brought, which sufficed until the land produced its first crops of wheat and corn. Maumee was the nearest milling point, and it required two days under the most favorable conditions to make the trip. In June, 1847, the aged parents of our subject came to make their home with them, and on September 21, of the same year, the mother died and was buried upon the farm. She was sixty-seven years of age. The father lived with our subject until 1853, when he returned to Huron county, and there died at the age of eighty-four years. This worthy couple were consistent members of the Catholic Church, and were honest, industrious German people. The father was never naturalized, and consequently never voted, but in all things was loyal to his adopted country.

In the course of a few years the results of Mr. Smith's long days of hard work were manifest in the fertile fields and blooming orchards into which the land had been transformed. He bought eighty acres additional; but when the Civil war broke out, and it was very hard to procure sufficient help, he disposed of this property. The old log house continued to be the home of the family, and in it all the children were born. These are as follows: Mary T., born October 27, 1845, is now Mrs. Peter Hettel, of Wapakoneta, Ohio; Caroline J., born November 22, 1847, is the wife of James Fish, of Freedom township, Wood county; Louisa A., born April 25, 1850, is the wife of William Davidson, of Center township, Wood county; John L., born April 13, 1854, died December 21, 1885; F. B., born October 31, 1856, was married October 22, 1895, to Miss Julia Shepler, of Bradner, Ohio (he is a farmer in Freedom township); Charles L., born April 4, 1859, was married December 19, 1889, to Miss Nellie Brandeberry, of Pemberville, Ohio; Frances A., born May 4, 1862, was married October 29, 1889, to George Adams, of Montgomery township. In 1869 Mr. Smith built his present elegant brick residence, which is the finest farm house in Montgomery township, and one of the best in the county. He has added to his original property at various times until he now owns 276 acres, and he has given his sons 170 acres. The land is rich in oil, and is admirably adapted to farming purposes.

The life of Mr. Smith presents an excellent example of what industry, perseverance and good management can accomplish. No man has worked harder than he, and many a moonlight night, in his early days, has found him toiling away until a late hour. He has become a master of the art of agriculture, and is able to procure the best results from his work. He has developed his splendid farm from its primitive condition, and in doing so has spent the best years of his life. With his excellent wife, who has shared in all his labors and privations, he deserves the greatest credit for the success to which he has attained. This estimable couple have passed their fifty-first year of married life; have reared a large family, of which they may justly be proud, and have accumulated a handsome competency in an upright, straightforward manner. No one can accuse Lorin Smith of dishonesty, or question his integrity. In all his business dealings he has never been sued, and he is to-day a man whom everyone respects. He became a naturalized citizen in 1843, but though a loyal Democrat has never been an office seeker. Both he and

his wife are members of the Catholic Church, although not able to attend the services on account of the distance. Notwithstanding the many trials and years of toil through which Mr. Smith and his wife have passed, they are well preserved, and Mrs. Smith, although over seventy-two years of age, is still able to do her own house work. Their life has been full of usefulness, and in the evening of their days, which they are enjoying in ease and comfort, they can look back over the past years with the consciousness of duties well performed.

HIRAM JOHNSON, an honored veteran of the Civil war, who is now living retired in Liberty township, was born in Lisle, Broome Co., N. Y., July 27, 1837. His father, Stephen Johnson, was also a native of the Empire State, and when a young man learned the trade of wood turning, which he followed until his marriage to Eunice Thurston, also a native of New York. Several years later they removed from Broome county, to Bradford county, Penn., where Mr. Johnson took up land, and followed farming in connection with his trade. In 1855 he located thirty miles northwest of Chicago, in Lake county, Ill., where his death occurred about 1865, and his wife survived him only two years. Their children were Liddy, deceased wife of Peter Tanner, of Iowa; Girard, who became a farmer in Minnesota, but has not been heard from for ten years; Hiram; and Edwin, a farmer of Wisconsin.

Mr. Johnson, of this review, was educated in the schools of New York and Illinois, and at the age of twenty-two began learning the mason's trade, which he has followed through much of his life in connection with farming. During the Civil war he manifested his loyalty to the government by enlisting, in 1862, in Kankakee, Ill., as a member of Company K, 76th Ill. V. I. He participated in the battle of Shiloh, then went down the Mississippi river to the Gulf and to Mobile, Ala., participating in the battle at that place and the siege at Fort Blakely. Being taken ill, he was sent to the hospital in New Orleans, where he remained until honorably discharged in 1865, when he at once returned to his home in Paxton, Illinois.

Mr. Johnson was married in Ford county, that State, in 1859, to Liddy Metzger, who was born in Ohio, in 1837, and for twelve years they lived in Paxton. In 1871 they came to Wood county, taking up their residence on six acres of land in Liberty township, which he still owns. For many years he followed his trade, and since 1892 has derived a good income from two oil wells that he has sunk upon his place, and which are excellent



producers. This has enabled him to lay aside active business cares. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three children—Corbin, of Lucas county, Ohio; Edgar and Clarence, at home. In politics, Mr. Johnson is a Republican.

NARCISSE SANGLIER, deceased, was one of the most prominent residents of Liberty township, Wood county. He was born October 24, 1827, in Loir-et-Cher, France, and was a son of Jacob Sanglier, a merchant, who died in that country. Our subject was one of a family of seven children, namely: Virginie, who died in France; Pascal, a scholar and linguist, who married an heiress, and died in Egypt many years ago; Narcisse, subject of this sketch; Adrian, now living in France; Victor, a resident of Tiffin, Ohio; Ovid, still living in his native land; and Adeline, who died in France.

For ten years after attaining his majority our subject was employed as a baker in Paris, and then crossed the Atlantic to America. He landed in New York, made his way to Cleveland, and for one year was employed in the Berea Stone Quarry. He then removed to Milton Center, Wood county, and after a year took up his residence in Liberty township. He was married in Milton Center to Lucine Kubler, who was born in Switzerland February 8, 1838, daughter of Howard and Celestine (Kuinn) Kubler. Her parents were both born in 1810 in Canton Berne, Switzerland, and came to America in 1853, locating in Cleveland, Ohio. The father followed farming in his native land, but worked as a laborer after coming to this country. He died in 1858. Both were members of the Roman Catholic Church. In their family were four children—Mrs. Sanglier; Louise, who died in Cleveland; Joseph, who died in January, 1895, in Denison, Texas; and Christopher, who went west several years ago, since which time no news has been received of him.

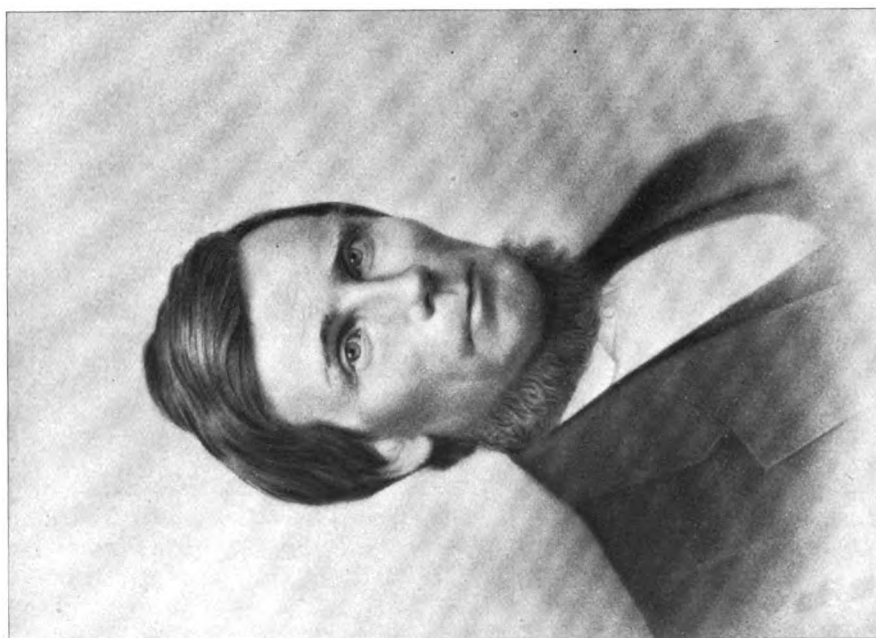
Upon their marriage, our subject and his wife located in Liberty township, where he carried on agricultural pursuits. He first purchased twenty acres, wild and unimproved, but he added to his farm from time to time until he became the owner of a valuable property, which he continued to cultivate until his death, May 3, 1894. In 1887 the first oil well was drilled on the farm, which now contains fifteen wells, and these are a good source of income to the family. Mr. Sanglier was a capable business man, and by his well directed efforts acquired a handsome property.

In the family were ten children: Mary, at

home; Nelson, who died at the age of twelve; Justin O., whose sketch follows; Ashel; Louise; Martha, who was married September 3, 1895, to C. C. La Point, of Erie, Mich.; Lucy, deceased; Rose; Maggie and Alice. ASHEL SANGLIER, who operates the farm, was born October 6, 1867, and throughout his life has aided in the work on the old home place. He acquired his education in the district schools, is a young man of excellent business ability, and now owns 140 acres of land on which are two oil wells. The landed possessions of the family aggregate 1,020 acres. Ashel Sanglier was a member of the Democratic Central Committee for four years, and also served on the executive committee for one term. In April, 1896, he was, by the choice of his friends, nominated for trustee, and was elected by a majority of thirty-three votes, thus overcoming a Republican majority of 120, and is also a member of the county board of election. No better recommendation could be given a young man than this flattering compliment. The entire Sanglier family are members of the Roman Catholic Church.

LUCY SANGLIER, now deceased, was born on the old Sanglier homestead in Liberty township, September 17, 1874. She grew up under the care of her parents, and at an early age manifested unusual mental activity. As she budded into womanhood her rare qualities of mind and heart crystalized into an ambition for education. She attended the district school until 1894, when she entered the Ursuline convent, in Toledo, Ohio, where she completed the full course of study required by that institution, giving special attention to vocal and instrumental music. Having mastered the elements of education essential to a full round complete womanhood, she returned to her home, where she continued to discipline herself; and by that subtile knowledge, known only to a woman of culture and refinement, wound herself around the hearts of her old associates, and made herself doubly dear to the members of her immediate family.

She became revered as a companion, and respected as a model for others. Her high degree of mental and personal culture was only equaled by her zeal in practice of religion. She had aspired to make herself something more than ordinary as an individual, and had attained much of her ambition; but that Mighty One "That doeth all things well," called her to immortality at a period when it was least expected—just when she had attained full maturity of womanhood, and when she was most dear and most useful to



**NARCISSE SANGLIER.**



**MRS. LUCINE SANGLIER.**



all who knew her. September 26, 1896, was the fatal day when the silent hand of the Divine Master stole through the lattice of her room, and with His magic power beckoned the spirit forth, leaving all that was mortal of Lucy Sanglier like a waxen figure—white and motionless.

Those who mourn and miss her have the sacred consolation of knowing that if it is possible for the human soul to attain the ideality the Christian sees through the eye of faith, then, e'er her last pulsation ceased, the halo of a glorious eternity crowned her.

JUSTIN O. SANGLIER, one of the wealthiest and most enterprising farmers in Plain township, was born in Liberty township, Wood county, March 2, 1865, the son of Narcisse and Lucine (Kubler) Sanglier.

Mr. Sanglier was brought up on his father's farm, attending the district school, and assisting in work at home until his marriage, on February 7, 1893, to Miss Adaline Cousino, whose birth took place in Michigan, July 31, 1867. Three children have been born to them: Martha B., Clara L. and Louis C.

Mr. Sanglier is now the owner of one of the finest farms in Plain township, comprising 120 acres of highly cultivated land, upon which are many improvements, and a very large brick residence, in which the family make their home. The Sanglier family is well known throughout the county as wealthy and influential people, and our subject, by his industry and progressive methods, is rapidly adding to his already large possessions. He is popular throughout the community. In religious belief he is a devout member of the Catholic Church. Politically he is a staunch Democrat.

JESSE HAGER, one of the most prominent representatives of the commercial interests in this county, was born March 22, 1865, in the town of Bloomville, Seneca Co., Ohio, and is a son of Christian and Mary (Snyder) Hager, the latter of whom is now deceased.

Our subject was only a boy when his parents came to Wood county, and he was reared on the old family homestead in Jackson township. There he assisted his father in clearing and developing the eighty acres of land, and otherwise improving the property. His education was acquired in the district schools of the neighborhood. At the age of twenty-one he left home and entered the employ of the W. F. Dewey Company, of Hoytville, with whom he remained for about a year. He next secured a clerkship

in the company's store, where he remained about three years, when he was promoted to the position of bookkeeper, and also made manager of the store. Since that time he has done all the buying for the store, paid all the employes, and has not only gained the confidence of the company but also won a high position in commercial circles, and is now one of the stockholders and directors in the business. He has the faculty of ably managing and directing others, and his just treatment has gained him the respect of his employes, and the confidence of his patrons.

On June 20, 1880, in Hoytville, Mr. Hager was united in marriage with Miss Emma J. Dennis, who was born in 1870 near Findlay, Ohio. They made their home in Hoytville, and occupied a high position in social circles, making many friends, and Mrs. Hager's decease, which occurred April 20, 1896, after an illness of four years, was widely mourned. She was buried in the McComb (Hancock county) cemetery.

In addition to his other property Mr. Hager owns a third interest in the Hoytville opera house, and a half interest in a large grain elevator. He is truly a self-made man, and has not a dollar that he has not himself honestly earned. His political support is given to the Democratic party, and he is a wise counselor and able leader in its ranks. He has been honored with a number of local offices, for four years capably served as mayor of Hoytville, has also been township clerk and township trustee, and is now the efficient postmaster, and treasurer of the corporation, also of the school district and township. Socially he is connected with the Knights of Pythias fraternity of Hoytville.

I. S. BOWERS, M. D., one of the leading physicians of Perrysburg, was born in Canada West, now the province of Ontario, December 14, 1856. Jacob Bowers, his grandfather, was a native of Pennsylvania, and by occupation a lumber dealer, owning large tracts of land in this country and in Canada, and operating a number of saw-mills. He made frequent trips to Canada, and at one time took up his residence there, and passed his last years in Ontario, where he died. His son, Isaac W., our subject's father, was born in Pennsylvania in 1824, and on arriving at maturity engaged in his father's business, to which he succeeded at the death of the latter. He married Miss Jane Camp, a Canadian lady, who was two years his junior, and for some years they resided in that country, removing to Michigan when our subject was four years old. In 1876 he came to Perrysburg, where the family resided until

1887, in which year he moved to Ypsilanti, Mich., where he died suddenly September 22, 1893. He was a highly esteemed citizen, a consistent member of the M. E. Church, and in politics a staunch Democrat. He left a widow and six children, viz.: Parmelia, the widow of A. F. Shepard, formerly of Toledo, Ohio, who was killed in a railway accident at that city; Cordelia, the wife of W. M. Thompson, of Owosso, Mich.; Frances Mary, who married Edward Harris, of Monroe county, Mich.; I. S., our subject; Freeman E., a prominent young attorney of Perrysburg; and Estella J., one of the most popular young ladies of the best circles of Perrysburg social life.

Dr. Bowers received his elementary education in the Michigan district schools, later attending the high schools at Perrysburg and Monroe. At an early age he commenced the study of medicine with an uncle at Fond du Lac, Wis., but on his father's removal to Perrysburg he became associated with him in the "wood-pulp" business, which he continued for two years, when he resumed his studies under the direction of Dr. Rheinfrank, of Perrysburg. He was graduated from the Detroit Medical College in 1881, and at once located at his home, where his wide acquaintance and high standing gave him an advantage not to be found among strangers. He had previously practiced as an under-graduate with his preceptor, and from the first he has met with encouraging success, his practice increasing in value and extent each year.

Our subject was married to one of Perrysburg's amiable daughters, in the person of Miss Sophia Witzler, who was born in March, 1856, and they have two children, Merlin and Helen. In politics the Doctor follows the faith of his father, voting the Democratic ticket, and at the present time he is president of the board of pension examiners of Wood county. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F., Fort Meigs Lodge, and has passed the chairs, and the K. of P., in which latter organization also he has passed all the chairs, been chancellor of Perrysburg Lodge, and is now serving as deputy grand chancellor. He holds high rank among his professional brethren, and belongs to the American Medical Association, the Northwestern Ohio Medical Association, the Ohio State Medical Association, and the Wood County Medical Society.

JOHN A. STEARNS, a wealthy, retired agriculturist, residing in Bowling Green, is a native of Ohio, born July 6, 1839, in Montgomery township, Wood county, a son of Justus Stearns.

John A. Stearns was about twelve years old when his father moved to Perry township, and his boyhood was mainly spent in the hard toil of clearing his father's two farms, and helping in the sawmills, so that his educational opportunities were quite limited. In 1864 he enlisted in Company E, 144th O. V. I., for one hundred days, and at the end of the term came home.

On January 1, 1862, Mr. Stearns was married to Miss Elizabeth Myers, a native of Crawford county, Ohio, born February 5, 1842. They have had five children, of whom four are living: Elmer, born November 20, 1862, a farmer and oil pumper at Bays, married Miss Naomi Buvinger, and has one child—Flora; William S., born October 31, 1865, married Miss Minnie White, and they live in Liberty township; Charles, born May 24, 1868, married Miss Lillie Lashway, and they have one child—Lawrence; Frank, born July 4, 1870, married Miss Estelle Parker, and they have one child—Helen; and Alma, born September 8, 1872, died October 2, 1873. Mr. and Mrs. Stearns also reared an adopted daughter, Ada Daily, who was born February 11, 1868. She married Fred Hendricks, of Plain township, and they have one child—Ina.

After his marriage Mr. Stearns lived for two years on a farm in Perry township, and later moved to Plain township, where he now owns 300 acres of land which is given to general farming. At the present time he is also interested largely in oil producing. After living at the farm for over thirty-three years, Mr. Stearns and his wife moved to Bowling Green to enjoy the wealth which has come to them during their years of effort. They are prominent members of the Presbyterian Church at Bowling Green. In politics he is a Republican, and has held an influential place in the party councils for many years, and was for six years a trustee of Plain township. Socially he is affiliated with Lodge No. 641, I. O. O. F., the G. A. R., Neibling Post—both of Weston.

Mrs. Elizabeth Stearns is a daughter of Josiah and Elizabeth (Parks) Myers, both natives of Hampshire county, W. Va., where they were married, and afterward, in 1839, moved to Ohio, the journey being made in a covered wagon. There were born to them eight children, viz.: William, Samuel, Lambert and John, all of whom served in the Civil war, Samuel and John veteranizing (they camped one winter on or near their grandfather's farm in West Virginia; many of their relatives served in the Confederate army); Evaline, wife of B. Jones; Elizabeth, wife of our subject; Anna, Mrs. C. Wooley; and Camilla,

wife of Joseph Davis. There was also an adopted son, named Sidney Brows, who served in the Civil war, the family thus (the sons-in-law having also joined the army) giving no less than nine able-bodied men to the Union cause.

On arriving in Ohio, Mr. Myers took up government land in Crawford county, where he lived from 1839 till 1866, in which latter year he removed to Missouri where he died in 1879, his wife in 1870. His father, William Myers, was a native of Pennsylvania; the father of Mrs. Myers, Samuel Parks, was a minister of the M. E. Church, in Virginia. In his political preferences, Mr. Myers was an ardent Whig, later a no less zealous Republican, and a true friend to the bondman, his Ohio home being for a long time known as an "Underground railroad station," where fugitive slaves were cared for and given a lift on their desperate "run to Canada." In addition to his prominence as a successful agriculturist in Crawford county, he acted as guardian for many estates, so great was the confidence reposed in him by the people, and he served with much ability and characteristic fidelity in various public offices of honor and trust, among which may be mentioned that of county commissioner, an incumbency he filled for several years. No one was better known in Crawford county, and when he left no one was more missed than Josiah Myers.

**JUSTUS STEARNS** (deceased). As one of the pioneer agriculturists of Wood county, a good citizen, and an enterprising and prosperous business man, the subject of this sketch held for many years a prominent place in the community with which his activities identified him. The family of which he was a worthy representative is an old one, and it is probable that the numerous branches in this country could all be traced to three brothers, Isaac, Charles and Nathaniel Stearne, who came from England in the ship "Arabella" with Gov. Winthrop, and landed at Salem, Mass., June 12, 1630. The spelling of the name has been changed by many from the original Sterne to Stearns, Sternes, Sterns, Starns or Stearnes. Richard Sterne, Archbishop of York during the reign of James II, was of this same family in England.

The late Justus Stearns was born in Clifford township, Allegheny Co., Penn., July 8, 1810, where his grandfather, John and William Stearns, Silas Otis and James Stearns, who were natives of Connecticut, had settled in the latter part of the eighteenth century. John Stearns reared a large family, among whom was a son James, our sub-

ject's father, who was born August 5, 1777. The family moved to Pennsylvania a few years later, where John Stearns died, his wife surviving him several years, and dying at the age of eighty years. James Stearns was married in Allegheny county, Penn., to Miss Abilene Hardin, a daughter of Amos Hardin, and settled upon the farm where our subject was born, remaining there until the fall of 1822, when he moved to a farm near Bloomingdale, Richland Co., Ohio, his household goods being transported by an ox-team in primitive fashion. He died there of lung disease, May 5, 1837, and his wife survived him until in September 1861, when she died in Berrien county, Mich., at the home of their youngest son. Both were members of the Baptist Church. While he made a comfortable living, he was not a man to accumulate great wealth, nor did he possess the robust physique with which his sons were endowed. Ten children were born to this estimable pioneer couple, the names with dates of birth being as follows: Lydia, January 6, 1804 (married James Wells, and died in Berrien county, Mich.); Amos, January 8, 1806 (he was a farmer in Troy township, DeKalb Co., Ind., where he died); Phœbe, January 21, 1808 (married Hiram Stevens, and died in what is now Morrow county, Ohio); Justus, July 8, 1810; William, February 17, 1814 (he was a farmer in Chautauqua county, Kans., and died there); Rhoda, February 16, 1817 (married Asa Fields, and moved to Utah, where she died); Masena, March 24, 1819 (married, first, William Hebbert, and, second, Dayton Mills, and died in Berrien county, Mich., November 29, 1895); Wealthy, October 22, 1821 (married William Herbert (deceased), and resides at Bloomingdale); Silas, March 15, 1823 (died in Berrien county, Mich.); and Otis, in February, 1829 (he is now a farmer in Berrien county). With the exception of Amos, all of the sons followed the political faith of their father, and were Old-line Whigs.

Justus Stearns attended school at his native place for some years, but at the age of twelve he came to the new farm in Ohio, where the hard toil of pioneer life occupied his time. He was a strong, robust boy, and, his parents being poor, he often worked hard and late to obtain needed articles of clothing. His only capital was a strong constitution and a mind fertile in resources, but he managed to make his way in life and attain more than an ordinary degree of success. He was married, March 1, 1832, in Richland county, to his first wife, Miss Sarah A. Davis, and in the following year he moved to Wood county with

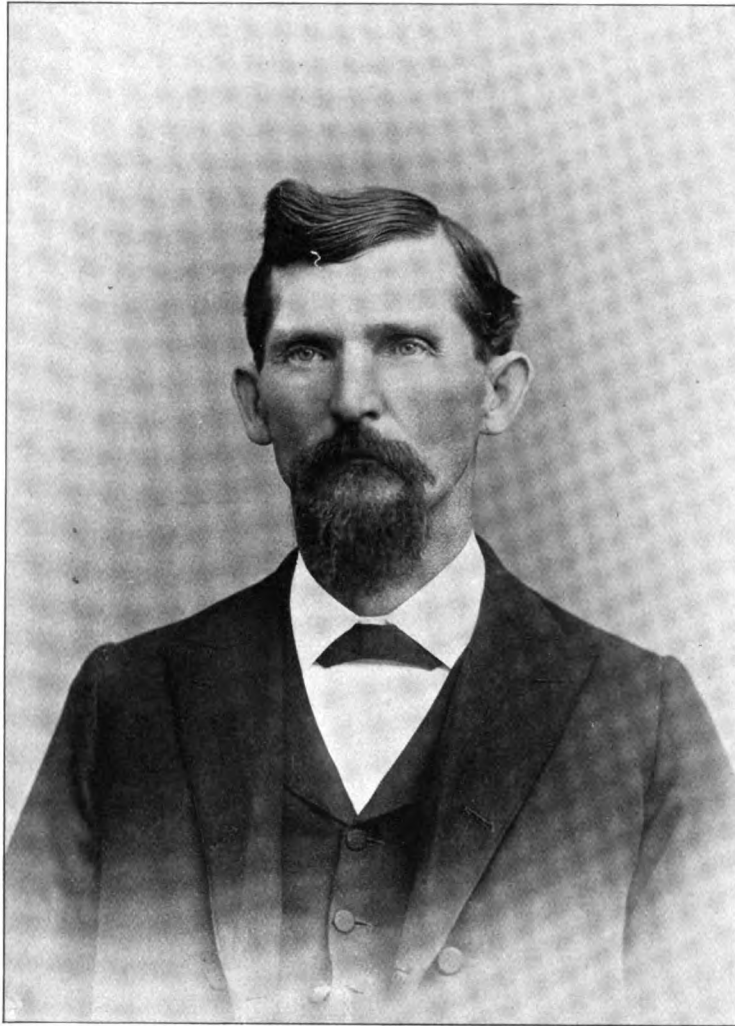
his wife and one child, Mary J., and entered land in Section 31, Montgomery township. He made his home there in the midst of the wilderness, building his first cabin on the east branch of the Portage river, and many years of toil and privation were undergone before the forest became a well-ordered farm. Five children were born to his first marriage: Mary J., July 28, 1833 (now the widow of J. H. Bucher, of Perry township); Silas D., August 9, 1835 (resides in the State of Washington); James H., September 9, 1837 (died in Perry township in May, 1860); John A., July 6, 1839 (now resides in Bowling Green); Orrin, May 9, 1841 (died in Perry township). The mother of these died April 12, 1843, and was buried in West Millgrove cemetery. On July 3, 1843, Mr. Stearns was married, near Greensburg, Sandusky county, to Miss Eliza Cross, by whom he had five children: Sarah A., the widow of Wilson Patterson, of Weston, who died July 18, 1894; Newton and Nelson, twins, the former of whom is a farmer in Plain township, the latter deceased in infancy; and two other children who died at an early age. The mother died July 28, 1850, and on October 10, 1850, Mr. Stearns married Miss Mary Hall, a native of Fairfield county, born January 12, 1822, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Mills) Hall. Her great-grandfather came from Ireland at an early date. Five sons and two daughters were born of this union: Josiah H., a prosperous farmer, of Perry township; Benton, a farmer of Weston township; J. D. and C. D., prominent farmers of Perry township, and Wilson E., a well-known farmer of Plain township; Belle and Laura died in childhood. The mother of this family died April 16, 1887, and was buried in Weston. On July 17, 1888, Mr. Stearns was united in the bonds of matrimony for the fourth time, his bride being Mrs. Mary A. Keyes, whose maiden name was Schooley; she had been twice married, first to a Mr. Silverwood, and, second, to Samuel Keyes. She survives, and now resides in Bowling Green, in an elegant residence completed shortly before the death of Mr. Stearns.

In the fall of 1850 Mr. Stearns moved to West Millgrove and built the first hotel in that place; but not liking that business he soon gave it up. In the spring of 1851 he traded his first farm to R. W. Kelly for a farm in Perry township, and some money to boot. Here he lived for more than thirty years, adding to his possessions from time to time until he owned over 700 acres. Soon after the completion of the B. & O. railroad through Deshler, Ohio, Mr. Stearns and his sons, J. H. and S. D., became interested in

a town site there, and in various industries, mercantile and manufacturing, and also in a hotel enterprise, all of them requiring an outlay of many thousands of dollars. The ventures were attended with success for a time, but later proved a failure, leaving heavy obligations to be met. A forced sale of his extensive property would have caused serious loss, but with rare business sagacity he devised a way out of his difficulty. He sold to his sons, J. H. and S. D., some of his real estate located in Perry township for a good price, taking their notes, and, as they were of the energetic, clear-headed sort who can make the most of a chance when they get it, they promptly paid their notes as they matured, enabling him to pay his debts without serious inconvenience, the whole business reflecting credit on all concerned. Mr. Stearns possessed great foresight, and the debts of his own contracting were never the source of any trouble to him, his temporary reverses being caused through entanglement with the affairs of others. In 1885 he moved to Plain township, where he had bought a large tract of land, which was supposed to be worthless, but he improved it and sold it at a handsome profit. His last years were spent in Bowling Green, where he died September 8, 1888, and his remains now rest beside those of his third wife, at Weston. He was a man of great vitality and strength, and his feats of lifting at "raisings," in his prime, were remarkable. For over fifty years he was a member of the Disciples Church, to which he contributed liberally, and he was throughout his life a leader in any enterprise or movement which appealed to his judgment as likely to benefit the community.

HERMAN MANNHARDT, native of Wurttemberg, Germany, was born May 17, 1846; entered the common schools of his country at the age of five years, the Latin or high school at seven, and completed the course when fourteen years old. He then immediately began the study of medicine with his father, Dr. F. Mannhardt; at sixteen entered the standing army, was promoted from step to step to assistant surgeon, in which capacity he served during the Austro-Prussian campaign of 1866. He took his discharge in 1867, and immediately came to Galion, Ohio, where he practiced medicine with his father until 1868, when he came to Custar, and has resided and practiced his profession there ever since. In 1876 he went to Cincinnati, took a course of lectures and graduated.

In 1870 Dr. Mannhardt was married to Louisa Wingert. Socially he is an Odd Fellow, a Knight



*H. Manshardt*





Templar and K. P.; politically he is a Democrat. He has been mayor of Custar ten consecutive years, and for twenty years clerk of the board of education.

J. H. STEARNS. This prominent and prosperous farmer of Perry township is a member of the well-known family of that name in the county, and of which a sketch appears on a preceding page.

Our subject was born in Perry township, November 8, 1851, the eldest child of Justus and Mary (Hall) Stearns. His education was obtained in the district schools of his locality, and he was brought up on the same farm which he now owns and resides on. On September 17, 1871, he was married to Miss Ella, daughter of Adam and Mary Wininger, who was born in Loudon township, Seneca Co., Ohio, October 9, 1853. The young couple went to housekeeping on the farm of Mr. Stearns' father. The T. & O. C. railroad was then in progress of construction, and Mr. Stearns, Sr., had a contract for grading which he sub-let to our subject, on the completion of which the latter received in pay eighty acres of land in Jackson township, this county. About 1874 or 1875, soon after the B. & O. R. R. was put through to Deshler, Mr. Stearns bought land extensively near that place, eighty acres of which he platted in town lots, and sold to an advantage. During his residence at Deshler, which was about three years, he was engaged in filling contracts for ditching, timber, etc., and at the end of this time he returned to Perry township, and bought 120 acres of the farm on which he now resides. His various investments had brought in a large amount of money, but owing to his kindness in going security and bail for people who left him to pay their indebtedness, he lost a considerable portion of his property. He now, however, is the owner of 210 acres of as good land as can be found in Wood county, and is prospering as a man of his indomitable courage and perseverance is bound to do. In spite of his adverse fortune at times, he has known no such word as discouragement, and has at once set about remedying any disaster that might overtake him. In an expressive Western phrase he is a "hustler," and has not a superior in the township for ability to succeed in what he undertakes. "Cy," as he is familiarly known, is popular throughout his community, and has many warm friends, who admire his industry, go-aheadativeness and cheerful disposition.

In politics Mr. Stearns is a Republican, and has served his township three terms as assessor.

He has also been the treasurer of the township, but has refused a re-election. He is a member of the Evangelical Church at Salem, in which he has held offices of trust and honor. He is a liberal contributor, not only to his own Church, but to other religious denominations, and has assisted in the organization and building of various religious and other institutions. Socially he belongs to the Knights of the Maccabees, at Fostoria.

To Mr. Stearns and his wife came five children, namely: Emma J., born December 29, 1874; John A., born June 23, 1878; Wilber H., born October 11, 1880; Alice E., born April 14, 1884; and Justus, born September 4, 1886. The beloved wife and mother passed to her final rest October 2, 1894, and was buried in the cemetery at Fostoria. She was a most estimable woman, and a consistent member of the Evangelical Church. Her departure was deeply mourned by her family, but Mr. Stearns is devoted to his children, and endeavors to fill the place of the departed one by unremitting attention to their comfort and interest in their welfare.

C. F. MUNGER, a farmer of wide reputation in Perry township, is a native of Brunswick township, Medina county, where he was born August 6, 1842, his parents being Caleb and Anna (Fairfield) Munger.

The subject of this sketch first went to school in Seneca county, Ohio, to which place his parents moved when he was six years old. He was reared to the duties of farm life, and, as he was an only son, was early taught the rudiments of the work. He lived at home until October, 1861, when he enlisted in Company B, 55th O. V. I., to which he was transferred from Company F, at his request. He served continuously with his regiment, in which he played the cornet, until, in Louisville, Ky., he suffered from a partial sunstroke, and was taken to Perry township by Orrin Stearns, where he was ill for some time. He first enlisted for three years, at the expiration of that time re-enlisting for the remainder of the war. Owing to his bad health he sought other work than that of farming, but none suited him so well, and he returned home and went to work for his father.

On September 26, 1869, he was married, in Perry township, to Miss Amanda Stewart, who was born in Crawford county, Penn., February 5, 1847. Her parents, Samuel and Mary M. (Renner) Stewart, came to Wood county in 1849. The father was a tailor in his younger days, later taking up farming. He died in Fostoria, Ohio,

at nearly eighty years of age, and his wife at the age of seventy-two. Their family consisted of eight children, four boys and four girls. Our subject went to housekeeping on the home farm after his marriage, and entered into partnership with his father, which continued until about 1888, when he paid off the other heirs and became sole owner of the eighty acres; he has since added to this, now owning 110 acres. In 1862 a substantial brick residence was built, and here our subject lives, his father living with him. Mr. and Mrs. Munger are the parents of four, children, namely: Edith, now Mrs. Lemuel Good, of Seneca county; Anna L., who married John Strawman, of Seneca county; and Raymond and Charles P., both residing at home.

Mr. Munger has always been a staunch Republican, and has served as trustee of Perry township, and two terms as assessor. He has been for many years director of School District No. 1. Both he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Munger is steward.

Caleb Munger, the father of our subject, was born in Connecticut November 6, 1802, and the mother in Massachusetts in 1803. Both were school teachers, and received a fair education. They moved to Brecksville township, Cuyahoga county, whence they went to Brunswick, Medina Co., Ohio, then to Liberty township, Seneca county, and in the spring of 1859 they came to Perry township, where Mr. Munger bought eighty acres of land in Section 25, about thirty-five of which were cleared, and on which were a log house and barn. Here Mrs. Munger died in 1882, and was buried in Fostoria. Two children were born to this couple, Ann S., now the wife of W. P. Dicken, of Seneca county, and our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Munger were brought up in the Congregational faith; but when they came to Seneca county there was no such denomination in their vicinity, so they joined the Presbyterian Church, of which they were original members in Fostoria.

Politically Mr. Munger was originally a Whig and Know-Nothing, later joining the Republican ranks. He cast his first vote for John Quincy Adams. He has voted for every President since that time, and has never missed an election. He has never sought office, but has always taken an active interest in the success of his party. He is a well-preserved man for his advanced years. When eighty-one years old he broke his right leg, but in four weeks was able to walk around—an exhibition of remarkable vitality. He was reared as a farmer's boy, his father owning a small farm,

and obtaining a living by the hardest kind of work. Mr. Munger was employed in burning charcoal, cutting hoop-poles, etc. The Munger family is remarkable for its longevity: The father of our subject is over ninety-three; one of his sisters died at the age of ninety-five, and another at ninety-three, while a third lived to be eighty-seven. Edward, an uncle of our subject, is living in Chicago at the age of eighty-four years.

HENRY PADGHAM, an intelligent and energetic farmer, and a substantial and reliable citizen of Perry township, having his home in Section 26, was born in the County of Kent, England, September 19, 1829, and is a son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Underdown) Padgham. The father, who was born in England, January 29, 1794, decided to seek a home in the United States with the hope of bettering his financial condition, and consequently, in the spring of 1851, he started with part of his family for the New World, including the following members: Joseph, of Farmington, N. Y.; Walter, a farmer, who died in Iowa; Elizabeth, who was married, and died in Michigan; Philip, judge of the district court of Allegan, Mich.; David, an agriculturist of Manchester, N. Y.; Annie, wife of N. Aldrich, of Washington, D. C.; and Alfred, who died *en route*, and was buried at sea. Two sons, Thomas and John, had preceded the family, coming in 1845, and were living in New York State, while our subject and his brother William did not arrive in this country until 1853. In the family of twelve children all but two grew to adult age. Until the death of his wife, in 1863, the father made his home in the Empire State, and then came to Perry township, and lived with our subject for awhile. Life seemed to lose its charm for him after the death of his wife, and he died in Michigan at the age of eighty-five years. He had three brothers who lived to be over eighty-three years of age—John, who died in Australia; Joseph, who passed away at the home of our subject; and William, who died in England. In politics the father was an ardent Republican.

In the common schools of England Henry Padgham received his education before his twelfth year, and as a farmer boy he worked until eighteen years of age. At that time he enlisted in the standing army of Great Britain for twelve years, but before the expiration of that term concluded to come to America, where their family was then living, and bought his release for twenty-five pounds, English money, or \$125. He had served for five years and one hundred and sixty-three days, a portion of the time in Lon-

don and in other parts of England. On July 31, 1853, he and a brother, William, took passage on the "Patrick Henry," which landed them at New York, September 7, following, and from there they went to Farmington, the same State, where their parents were then living. For four years our subject worked as a farm hand near that place, after which he located near Fostoria, Ohio, where his brothers, William and Thomas, were residing. For eighteen years the former was employed by C. W. Foster.

The first home of Mr. Padgham in Wood county was with his brother Thomas, whom he helped to clear his farm during the first year, and later worked as fireman in Crocker's mill, at Fostoria. On November 27, 1860, he purchased forty acres of land in Section 26, Perry township, only about nine acres of which had been cleared, and a log cabin constituted the improvements. He had secured the land from William Jones, and had gone in debt for half the amount, but he went earnestly to work, and each season saw more of the land ready for cultivation. He now has fifty acres of rich and arable land, upon which are good and substantial buildings, but for the past five years he has left its cultivation to others, and now practically lives retired from active farm work.

At Victor, Ontario Co., N. Y., in November, 1857, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Julia Padgham, of the County of Kent, England. She died on September 27, 1883, from paralysis, and was buried at Fostoria. Mr. Padgham later wedded Rachel A. Huff, by whom he had one child—Ruth M. The mother died October 28, 1886, and was also interred at Fostoria.

In 1863, Mr. Padgham was elected captain of the Home Militia, and on May 2, 1864, enlisted in Company E, 144th O. V. I., doing guard duty at Wilmington, Del., until mustered out in the following August at the close of his term. He supported the Republican party until 1884, since which time he has been an ardent Prohibitionist, and has served as trustee of Perry township. For twenty-six years he has been a sincere and earnest Christian, a member of the Methodist Church, and to all worthy objects contributes liberally of his means.

D. E. COE, one of the pioneer citizens of Perry township, was born in Frederick county, Md., June 24, 1818, and is the son of Thomas and Ann (Souder) Coe.

Mrs. Coe died in Frederick county, Md., leaving one child, our subject. Mr. Coe married a second time in Maryland, and this wife died in

that State, September 12, 1833, leaving four children. Mr. Coe married again, and left Maryland for Seneca county, Ohio, over the National pike, in a large wagon drawn by four horses (Pennsylvania style). He arrived, October 2, 1833, one mile east of Tiffin, Ohio, where he had previously bought 240 acres of land, and on which was a log cabin. There Mr. Coe died at the age of seventy-one. He was the father of nine children, of whom but two survive, D. E. and Caroline, now the widow of Thomas Shaw, of Seneca county.

Our subject attended the subscription schools of Maryland, and did not have as good an opportunity for getting an education as did his brothers or half-brothers. He was reared to the duties of a farmer boy, and worked on the home farm until his marriage, which took place in Seneca county, March 24, 1842, his bride being Miss Margaret Hyter, who was born, March 25, 1824, in Frederick county, Md., and who is a daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Koons) Hyter. Mr. D. E. Coe rented land in Scipio township, Seneca county, for two years, when, in the spring of 1844, he bought 140 acres in Section 13, Perry township. The land was wet and full of stumps, and contained a log house 18 x 24 feet. The forests were in their primitive state, and there were no roads in the vicinity. This portion of nature's wilderness Mr. Coe has transformed into a most desirable farm, and to-day has 240 acres of fine land, on which he has built a comfortable home, with the accompanying barns, bins, etc. Mr. and Mrs. Coe's children are: Clarinda, who married George P. Feebles, of Noble county, Ind.; Emma, now the widow of John Guier, of Perry township; Mary is the wife of S. S. Dicken, who lives near Kendallville, Ind.; Laura married V. D. Newcomb, and died in Seneca county; Alice is now Mrs. Luther Stewart, of Marion county, Ohio; Walter died at the age of thirty-four years; H. L. is a farmer of Perry township; Belle is the wife of Charles Cochard, of Sandusky, Ohio; Charles is farming in Perry township. Mr. Coe is a Republican in politics, and has served as township trustee, and has been school director for twelve years. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church, of which he is also trustee. He has been a successful farmer, and is spending his later years in peace and quiet.

BENJAMIN P. SEARS, a well-known fruit grower of Bowling Green, was born in Tompkins county, N. Y., November 7, 1819.

His grandfather, Eli Sears, was an agricult-

urist in Delaware county, N. Y., and had two sons, David F., our subject's father, and Thomas B. The former was born in 1791, and married at an early age to Miss Sallie Pine, a native of the same county. He was drafted during the war of 1812, but his brother, who was not then married, took his place. He returned home at the close of the war, and settled in Tompkins county, where he married and reared a family of twelve children. Our subject's parents moved to Tompkins county, after their marriage, traveling in a primitive vehicle drawn by a pair of steers. They cleared a farm in the woods, where they spent the rest of their lives, and died. Mr. Sears died in 1872, aged eighty-one years, two months and twelve days. They had ten children: Almarin, and George W., who died in Tompkins county; B. P., our subject; Adaline E., who married, first, John Woodworth, and then Cyrus Barber; Franklin, who died in New York State; Caroline, the wife of Terry Smith, of Seneca county, N. Y.; Jane, who married A. V. McKeel, of Tompkins county, N. Y.; and DeWitt C., a resident of Grand Detour, Ill. Two other children died in infancy.

Our subject grew to manhood upon his father's farm, obtaining his education in a subscription school held in a log house. May 15, 1848, he married Miss Elvira Shannon, a native of Seneca county, born January 15, 1827. Previous to his marriage he had clerked in a store for a year, but the young couple settled at once upon a farm near the old home, where they remained a number of years. Mr. Sears then sold his land and engaged in the grocery business, but lost everything by fire in 1876. In the following year he came to Bowling Green, hoping to make good his losses, and in 1879 he purchased his present property, containing three and a half acres, then in the outskirts of the city, but now surrounded by residences. Here Mr. Sears and his wife devoted themselves to the raising of berries and other fruits, with the success due to industry and good judgment. No serious cares or troubles marred the serenity of their well-spent days. Their only child, W. S., is now a law student in Bowling Green. He married Hester Brewer, and has one child, Elvira.

Our subject's wife was a woman of exceptional intellect and culture. She was educated in a seminary in New York State, and was a teacher before her marriage. Early in life she developed a taste for literary work, and her poems found ready acceptance in the periodicals of the day, the discouraging reply, "declined with thanks," so familiar to most writers, having

never been received by her. At her death, which occurred March 12, 1895, she left some of her best and longest poems still in manuscript, and an effort is now being made to publish them in book form. A natural leader, she always took a prominent part in philanthropical and religious work, and in literary circles, wherever she might be. When she came to Bowling Green the local W. C. T. U., was in a disorganized condition, and she gave her energies freely to revive it. Her success was so marked that she was chosen local president, and later county organizer. She lectured throughout the county, establishing unions, and afterward, as county president, continued the work. She was a delegate to the State convention at Cincinnati, and the National meeting at Cleveland. Her death was regarded as a severe loss to the W. C. T. U., and memorial services were held in her honor throughout the county.

JOHN CURRENT, a progressive and successful general merchant of Dunbridge, was born near Fremont, Sandusky Co., Ohio, January 16, 1845. His father, Thomas Current, was a native of Wheeling, Va., where he was reared on a farm. When a young man he removed with his parents to Sandusky county, and there carried on agricultural pursuits. He married Catherine Washburn, who was born in that county in 1838, and they became the parents of five children: Elizabeth, wife of William Parker; James, a member of Company A, 111th O. V. I., who died in the army; John, subject of this sketch; Maria, wife of William Pero, of Toledo; and Thomas, who died in infancy. The mother of this family died in 1853, and the father afterward wedded Mary Scranton, of Sandusky county. They had two children, Thomas and Mary, both of whom are deceased. The father died in October, 1871.

John Current attended the district schools, and worked upon his father's farm until 1861, when, though only a boy of sixteen, he joined Company I, 57th O. V. I., under Capt. A. S. Skelton, and Col. William Mungen. From Findlay the regiment went to Camp Vance, and thence proceeded to the front. On January 1, 1864, he re-enlisted at Larkinsville, Ala., and was shortly afterward made a corporal. He acted as orderly for Gen. A. V. Rice, and when the latter was wounded at Vicksburg, Corporal Current carried him off the field. Our subject was never absent from his regiment during his long service, except when wounded in the wrist at Dallas, Ga., which necessitated his being sent to the hospital at Nashville, Tenn. He partici-



**MRS. CAROLINE CURRENT.**



**JOHN CURRENT.**



pated in the battles of Shiloh, Yazoo River, and many other engagements, and received an honorable discharge in August, 1865, and returned home.

Mr. Current continued his residence in Sandusky county until 1868, when he came to Wood county, and for twelve months worked by the month. He then rented a farm for a year, afterward working a sawmill for a year, and subsequently renting the Ewing farm for two years. In 1874 he purchased forty acres of land near what is called Devil's Hole, Middleton township, which he cleared and operated for fifteen years, when he abandoned agricultural pursuits and came to Dunbridge, where he has since carried on general merchandising, meeting with excellent success. He is a wide-awake, progressive business man, strictly honorable in all his dealings, and these qualities, combined with a genial manner, have enabled him to secure an extensive trade. He still retains the ownership of his farm, and operates it in connection with his mercantile interests.

Mr. Current was married at Bowling Green, in 1871, to Caroline Williams, who was born near Fremont, October 3, 1850, a daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Parker) Williams. Four children grace this union: Charles E., a dealer in stock; Maude D., who is engaged in school teaching; Grace, wife of George De Verna, a farmer of Perrysburg township; and Claude A., attending school. For five years Mr. Current has served as township trustee; was constable of Middleton township three years; school director a number of years; and a member of the township board of education, which indicates the confidence and trust reposed in him by his fellow townsmen. In politics he is a Democrat; socially he is connected with the Masonic Lodge at Bowling Green; Dunbridge Lodge, No. 786, I. O. O. F.; and Robert Stewart Post, G. A. R., of Dunbridge. He is also a member of the Grange, in which he has filled all the offices, and is justly numbered among the prominent and highly esteemed citizens of his locality.

**JOSEPH HOLLINGTON.** The subject of this sketch has lived upon the site of the present city of Bowling Green longer than any other resident. Born in England May 21, 1824, he came to Plain township with his parents, in 1833, and has seen this spot redeemed from a trackless waste of forest and swamp, and made the home of a progressive civilization. And in this change he has had his share of helpful work. He was one of the building committee of the old court house, and

collected \$12,000.00 for the enterprise. In the struggle for the county seat he took an active part, and, indeed, in every event of note in the history of the county, his name is enrolled among the participants.

His father, Joseph Hollington, was born in 1792 at Redditch, Worcestershire, England, then the leading manufacturing center for needles. He was a candle-molder by trade, and retained the ownership of his shop after he came to America. He married Mary Perry, by whom he had five children: Richard (born March, 1822, died 1893), a well-known resident of West Unity, Ohio; Joseph, our subject; Ambrose, a minister of the M. E. Church at Delaware, Ohio; Mary Ann, the widow of the late Octavius Walters, of Delta, Ohio, formerly member of the Legislature, and William, a prominent real-estate dealer in San Diego, Cal. Our subject's father took an active interest in the politics of his adopted country, and was an ardent Whig. He and his wife were members of the Church of England previous to their removal to America. He died in 1847, his wife in 1854, at the age of sixty.

Joseph Hollington was nearly ten years old when his parents came to Wood county. He was married at twenty-four to Miss Elizabeth L. Lamb, who was born in New York State in 1829. They had three children: Mary E., who died when six years of age; Mary Ann, who died aged twenty-nine, and Maria, born January 29, 1852, who married W. H. Frederick, a native of Seneca county, Ohio, born May 3, 1845. Mr. Frederick was educated in the public schools of his birthplace, learned the trade of mason in early life, and in 1874 came to Bowling Green to engage in that business. He was a soldier during the Civil war, enlisting August 30, 1862, in Company D, 49th O. V. I., which was attached to the army of the Cumberland. His chief battles were at Stone River, Liberty Gap and Chickamauga. In the last-mentioned engagement, September 19, 1863, he was severely wounded, and shortly afterward received an honorable discharge. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of Wiley Post No. 46, G. A. R. Mr. Hollington is also a Republican, and before the war he was a Whig, and took an influential part in the local political movements of that time.

**JOHN KNAUSS** is a native of Germany, his birth having occurred in Bluenburg, February 21, 1840. He is a son of George and Barbara E. Knauss, and a brother of George Knauss who resides in Plain township. He came to this country with his parents, the family locating



in Ohio, and in the public schools of Medina county he acquired his education. He afterward worked as a farm hand in that county for five years. In 1854 he accompanied his parents to Center township, this county, and to his father gave the benefit of his services until twenty-four years of age, when he was married and removed to Middleton township. Here he purchased forty acres of land, and at once began its development. He placed many rods of tiling upon the farm, erected a good house and barn, and afterward extended the boundaries of his farm by the additional purchase of forty acres. He now has a richly cultivated farm, the well tilled fields yielding to him a good return for his care and labor.

On the 31st of March, 1863, in Perrysburg, Ohio, Mr. Knauss was united in marriage with Catherine Bostdorf, daughter of Henry Bostdorf, and a native of Ohio. Fourteen children have been born of this union—Andrew J., a farmer; Emma E., wife of Fred Neeglie; Daniel; John; Edwin; Charles H.; Orange A.; Maggie B.; Martha G.; Cyrus R.; Rutha R.; Herald V., and two who died in infancy.

In his political views Mr. Knauss is a Democrat, but has no aspirations for office. He is a member of the United Brethren Church, in which he is now serving as steward, and is an upright, honorable man who ranks among the best farmers of Wood county, and has the esteem and good will of all with whom he has been brought in contact.

JOHN H. COCHREL, who is now serving as postmaster of Haney, and carrying on a general merchandise store, is one of the prominent business men of Jackson township. He was born in Hancock county, Ohio, July 31, 1858, and is a son of John Cochrel, who was born in Muskingum county; when a young man he entered a veterinary college, where he was graduated. He afterward became one of the most proficient veterinary surgeons in this part of the country. He was married in Coshocton county, Ohio, to Mary Buckler, and immediately afterward removed to Hancock county, locating in McComb, where he successfully practiced his profession. He also purchased a farm of 120 acres, which was operated by our subject and his brother. The mother died in Hancock county, December 10, 1881. The members of the family are Nathan, a farmer of Jackson township, Wood county; Sarah E., wife of George Fout, of Hancock county; Susan, wife of John Edgington, of Hancock county; Finney, a farmer of the same county; and John H.

The last named is indebted to the district schools of Portage and Pleasant townships, Hancock county, for his education, which was completed at the age of twenty years. He then became clerk in the post office and grocery store at McComb, Hancock county, for Mr. Barney, where he remained for three years, receiving a good business training. He afterward purchased a farm in Blanchard township, Hancock county, of one hundred acres, which he cultivated for a year, and then sold. Removing to McComb, he purchased a saloon, which he carried on for three years, and later was proprietor of a meat market for a year. Disposing of his business interests in the town, he then returned to his farm, and not long after established a grocery store on his farm, running three huckster wagons in connection with the store. In October, 1894, he disposed of his property in Hancock county, and came to Wood county, erecting a store in Haney, which he supplied with a large stock of groceries. He also runs three huckster wagons, buying up all kinds of fruit, which he sells at retail through the county. In the winter he also deals quite extensively in poultry.

Mr. Cochrel was married in Henry township, Wood county, March 4, 1878, to Miss Minerva Fellers, who was born in Hancock county, Ohio, where she lived until seventeen years of age, when she came to Wood county with her parents, Noah and Almeda (Evans) Fellers, now residents of Rawson, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Cochrel have two children—Harley J. and Flora May. In politics our subject is a Democrat, and has held some local offices, being now postmaster of Haney.

EMERSON WEBSTER FISHER, M. D., a young man of progressive spirit and enterprise, is successfully engaged in the practice of medicine in Portage. He was born in Snyder county, Penn., at the town of Selin's Grove, November 14, 1870, and is a son of Ben and Lydia (Snyder) Fisher, also natives of the Keystone State. The family is of German origin, and the grandfather, Christian Fisher, who was born in Germany, was the first of the name to seek a home in America. He located in Pennsylvania, and traded a rifle to some Indians for a large tract of land along the Susquehanna river, there following farming until his death. The father of our subject was born on the old homestead, and was reared in the usual manner of farmer lads. After his marriage he located on the Isle of Que, and, by his well directed business efforts, accumulated considerable property. His death occurred in 1875, and

several years later his widow married Solomon Miller, and is now living in Wymore, Neb. Her children are as follows: Mattie A., who became the wife of Rev. W. C. McCool, and died in Ponca, Neb.; Ben F., a merchant of De Witt, Neb.; William I., cashier in the bank at Wymore, Neb.; Peter A., a resident of Lincoln, Neb.; Charles M., a farmer of Logan, Neb.; John W., a machinist of North Platte, Neb.; George C., an agriculturist of Logan, Neb., Emerson W., of this sketch; and Della May, who is clerking in a store in Ponca, Nebraska.

Dr. Fisher, of this sketch, attended the common schools of his native town until ten years of age, when he went with the family to Nebraska, where his elder brother Ben had previously moved and taken up a homestead for the family. The Doctor attended school in the West until seventeen years of age, then continued his studies in the Homer Academy of Homer, Neb., and also spent one term in college in the same State. During the winter of 1888-89, he was a student in the Midland College of Atchison, Kans., after which he pursued a three-years' course in the Rush Medical College of Chicago, from which he was graduated March 29, 1892. He immediately began practice at Ponca, Neb., but four months later came to Wood county, and for a short time was in the office of Dr. Snyder, of Bowling Green. On December 24, 1892, he located at Portage, where he has since built up a good business.

Dr. Fisher was married in Portage, August 16, 1894, to Miss Henrietta L. Teller, who was born in Portage township; September 29, 1870. In his political views, he is a Democrat, and his religious belief connects him with the Evangelical Lutheran Church. His ability, laudable ambition and well-directed efforts have already secured him a good business.

**J. W. PENNELL.** The paternal great-grandfather of Mr. Pennell emigrated from Wales to America, and settled in Pennsylvania, where he died. His son, the grandfather of our subject, carried on farming in that State during his life, and in Beaver county, Penn., William Pennell, the father of J. W., was born in 1816. He was a merchant and hotel-keeper by occupation, and died in Meadville, Penn., in 1865.

The mother of our subject was, before her marriage, Miss Cynthia Thatcher, her ancestors being residents of New Jersey, and of old New England stock. She was born in Beaver county, Penn., in 1821, and died in 1882. By marriage with Mr. Pennell she became the mother of seven

children: Elizabeth died when eighteen years old; Madison lives in Trumbull county, Ohio; John died in infancy; J. W.; Ellen is the wife of W. Beadman; George, residing at Zanesville, Ohio; Anna, the wife of Washington Harris, of Beaver county, Pennsylvania.

J. W. Pennell was born in Mercer county, Penn., July 13, 1845, and came with his parents to Ohio when a lad. When seventeen years old he returned to his native State, and began work in the oil fields of Butler county. From there he went to West Virginia, and subsequently came to Wood county. During all this time he has been engaged in the oil-producing business, and has held various responsible positions with leading oil companies. In the year 1895 he struck one of the best wells found in Wood county during the year, and has been very successful in all his ventures in that line.

Mr. Pennell was married in Marietta, Ohio, April 19, 1869, to Miss Eugene Douglass, who was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, December 1, 1850. Of this union seven children have been born: William, who is foreman of the Palmer Oil Company, at Bairdstown, Ohio, married Miss Mattie Baird, and they have one child, Merle; the others are Frank, who is also with the Palmer Oil Company; Clyde, Lamott, Nellie, Cleveland and Burt.

Mr. Pennell is a leading Democrat, and was treasurer of the Democratic County Central Committee for three years. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and Knights of the Maccabees, and is very popular in the community as a thorough gentleman, and a man of high principles. At the present writing he is carrying on a restaurant, in connection with his oil business, which is largely patronized and well managed.

**HENRY F. BOWLUS**, partner of the well-known firm Hobart, Bowlus Co., of Pemberville, was born September 18, 1855, near Fremont, Ohio.

Henry Bowlus, the great ancestor from whom are descended the Bowlus families, was a native of Germany, who came to America in the Colonial period, about 1735, and settled in the Middletown Valley, Frederick county, Md. He had four sons—Jacob, George, Valentine and Nicholas—the youngest being then but five years of age. Nicholas Bowlus was reared on a farm in Frederick county, Md., where he became the head of a family of eight children—Jacob, John, Henry, Nicholas, Jr., Mrs. Beckaback, Mrs. Floyd, Mrs. Haller, and Mrs. Christ. Of these, Jacob, a distinguished pioneer minister of the United Brethren Church, and Henry a farmer,

came to Ohio, about the year 1828, and settled in Sandusky Tp., Sandusky Co. The children of Rev. Jacob Bowlus were: Jacob, David, Mary, Elizabeth, Margaret, and Susannah, all of whom became heads of families in Sandusky county. In 1828 Henry Bowlus located on a farm of 320 acres, which was then an unbroken forest, and helped clear up the famous "Black Swamp." He had a family of six children, namely: (1) Magdalene, wife of Daniel Young, who lived and died in Maryland. (2) Adam, who married Elizabeth Krohn, and remained in Maryland. (3) Sophia, wife of Jacob Thomas; she died in 1895, at the age of eighty-eight years. They had nine children—John H., Richard, Joseph, Lizzie, Maggie, Amanda, Charles, Alice, Anna; of these, the eldest, John H. Thomas, a millionaire, was the competitor of Calvin S. Brice, for U. S. Senator, in 1893. (4) Henry Bowlus, father of our subject, comes next. (5) Nicholas, who married Mary Donnell, and lived in Madison township, where he died in 1893. (6) Mahala, wife of Jesse Dorcas, living at Lisbon, Iowa. The father of this family was killed in 1832, by a kick from a horse.

Henry Bowlus, our subject's father, one of the early pioneers of Sandusky county, was born in Maryland, September 27, 1810. On November 20, 1833, he married Miss Catherine Keller, of Tiffin, Ohio, who was born February 14, 1811, and died October 20, 1846; their children were—Hanson R., Mahala, Martha, Catherine, Elizabeth and Caroline. The first four of these became heads of families in Sandusky county. On September 27, 1849, he married for his second wife Mrs. Rebecca C. Bowlus (*née* Williamson), of Maryland, born July 4, 1824, and died January 28, 1891; their children were—Warren A., who lives on the old homestead near Fremont; Anna C., wife of Cyrus Smith, of Gibsonburg; Henry F., our subject; and Robert, a farmer in Sandusky county.

Our subject's father has lived to see a great change in the Valley of the Sandusky. When he first came, there were more Indians than white people. The Wyandottes, Senecas and Tawas lived here, and used to assemble in great numbers every year when they went to Malden to draw their annuity from the government of Great Britain. There, seemingly, was no end of squirrels and other wild game. Mr. Bowlus followed farming and stock raising. About the year 1868, in company with his son, Hanson R., he operated a sawmill, furniture shop and planing-mill, about sixteen years, at Fremont. In politics he was first a Whig, then an Abolitionist, a Whig, and later

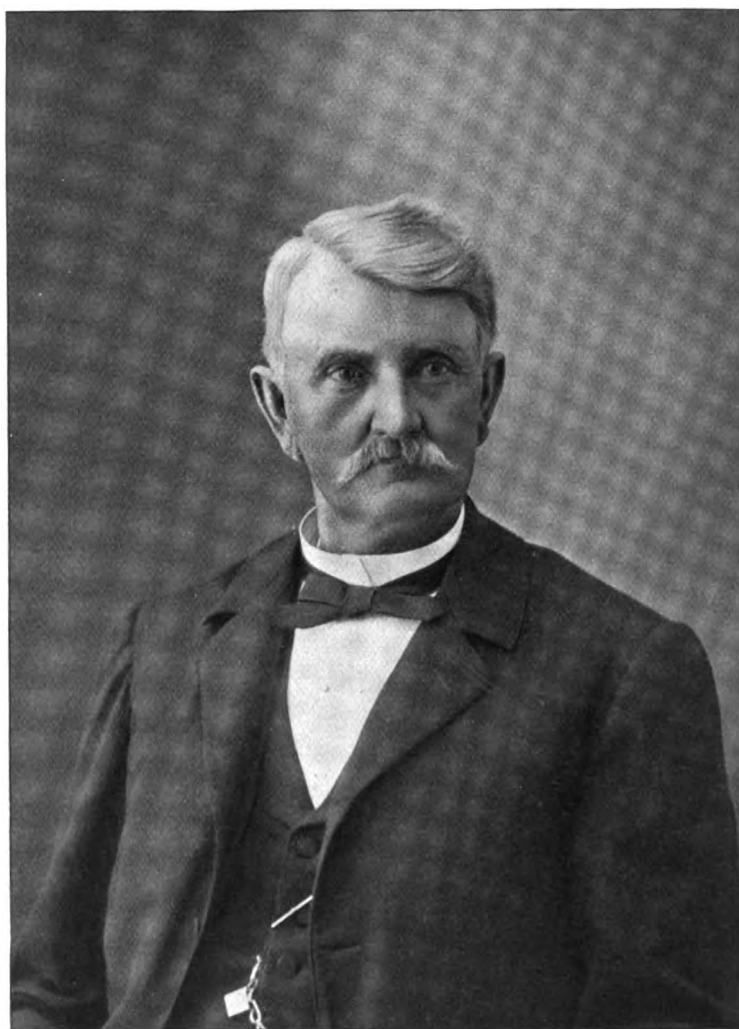
a Republican; strange to say, his father was a pro-slavery man. Before the Civil war he kept a station of the "Underground railroad," and assisted runaway slaves from the Southern States to escape, making their hearts glad, and sending them on their way to Canada. He has for many years been a member of the M. P. Church, near Fremont. Though now (1896) past eighty-six years of age, he enjoys life among his children and grandchildren, with a mind still active, and a memory undimmed.

Henry F. Bowlus, our subject, passed his early years at the old farm, and was educated in Adrian College, at Adrian, Mich.; but before he was twenty-one he came to Pemberville and became a partner with his brother-in-law, M. Hobart, in the hardware business. As the years have passed, and their trade increased, they have enlarged the scope of their business, until now they own one of the most extensive general stores in Wood county, their stock of various kinds, occupying three rooms 22 x 20, 22 x 85, and 50 x 50. They are owners also of the grain elevator, where they deal in all kinds of grain.

On June 18, 1879, Mr. Bowlus was married at Pemberville to Miss Mary Balmer, a native of Cumberland county, Penn., born March 20, 1853. They have three children: Harry M., Edith, and Romayne. While Mr. Bowlus holds a high rank in business circles, he is also prominent in all local movements of importance, and was one of the first to open up the oil field near Pemberville. His fine personal qualities give him marked influence in the community. In politics he is a Republican, and he and his wife are leading members of the Presbyterian Church. He was mayor of Pemberville for two years, and a member of the council for a number of years; has been superintendent of the Sunday-school, and is now an elder in the Church. He and Mr. Hobart are the oldest firm in Pemberville, and among the oldest in the county.

CHARLES R. ROSENDALE, M. D. Among the highly successful men in Wood county, it would be difficult to find one who has surpassed our subject in accumulation of property, as well as in services rendered to suffering humanity.

In early times in this county, when the swampy condition of the country made it a congenial abode for fevers, ague, malaria, etc., the physician was often called upon to attend those who fell victims to these dire diseases, where a ride of many miles was necessary through the forests. These journeys were frequently necessary at all hours of the night, and it can easily



*C. R. Rosendale M. A.*



be imagined that the lot of a pioneer doctor, such as was our subject, was no sinecure.

Charles R. Rosendale was born August 1, 1831, in Swanland, seven miles from Hull, in Yorkshire, England, the son of William and Jane (Brown) Rosendale, who had a family of seven children. When he was about nine years of age they decided to come to the United States, where they would find better opportunities for making a living. After a tedious voyage of many weeks they landed at Quebec, thence coming to Lorain county, Ohio, partly *via* Erie canal and lake to Cleveland, and from there by team to their destination. Forty acres of land in a primitive state, on which were some log buildings, were taken up, on which the first payment was made with money given Mrs. Rosendale by her father. The land was situated near the center of Grafton township, and here the family began their struggle for existence in the new country. The farm being small, and the family large, it became necessary for our subject, who was among the older children, to start out for himself, and when only twelve years of age he went to work for some of the neighboring farmers. For some years he lived in the vicinity of Wellington, Ohio, where he was engaged in farm work during the summers, in the winters attending the district schools. Industrious and ambitious, he learned rapidly, and was asked to teach, but declined. He attended the Elyria High School in addition to the district schools, and in this way laid the foundation for the scientific course to be his later in life.

While thus employed he was seized with typhoid fever, and after a long illness, through which he was cared for by kindly hands, he recovered, but found that his money, ten dollars in all, would prove sadly deficient in paying the expenses of his long illness. Dr. Smith, of Wellington, Ohio, who was his physician, had become much attached to the young man, and on his recovery urged him to take up the study of medicine. This he decided to do, and at the age of twenty began his reading with Drs. Smith and Johns, and subsequently with Dr. McKenzie, of Litchfield, Medina county, spending in all four years under their tutorship. He completed his medical studies at the Cincinnati Eclectic Institute, from which he was graduated in the spring of 1856. This schooling required money, which was supplied by friends, none of whom were relatives, whose only security was the honesty of our subject.

In the meantime Dr. Rosendale's parents had removed to Wood county and located near Eagle-

ville, in Bloom township, where in May, 1856, our subject came to recuperate after his exhaustive years of study. He had made up his mind to go west after he had fully recovered his health; but an incident occurring at this time served to change his plans. Just then a serious malady, known as dysentery or "bloody flux," was prevalent in Wood county, which had baffled many of the resident physicians. It being noised about that young Rosendale was a doctor, he was called upon to treat a man by the name of George Bronson, who was suffering from the disease. He had no intention at that time of practicing, but consented to take the case, and the rapid recovery of the patient from an ailment that often lasted for many weeks, frequently proving fatal, was so surprising as to stamp this young physician as a man of ability. He was soon after called into consultation by Dr. McLaughlin, of West Millgrove, and the impression made by him upon the patients was such as to secure requests for individual calls, which he answered, and which were followed by numerous entreaties for him to locate in West Millgrove. This Dr. Rosendale decided to do, and thus began one of the most successful careers ever experienced by any physician in Wood, or surrounding counties. From that time, and for thirty-five years following, he never knew any such thing as lack of business, being sent for from far and near, his success being in keeping with his extensive clientage.

In the early part of his career, before he became well known, he experienced, as many other professional men have, the inconvenience of lack of capital. Desiring at this time to purchase another horse, as excessive riding was telling on the one he owned, he was offered a fine four-year-old animal, owned by Jackson Lee, for \$100. The Doctor wanted it badly, but did not have the money, and his note with security was suggested. He could not find any man to go on this note, so wrote to friends in Lorain county, who promptly forwarded the money. To-day he could without any trouble get security for a thousand times that amount.

In October, 1857, our subject was married in Tiffin, Ohio, to Miss Rebecca Wade, who was born in Seneca county, a daughter of Abner Wade, a farmer of that county. Nine children were born of this union, namely: Charles E., November 27, 1858, died when four years old; Harry B., October 17, 1860, died when eighteen months old; Wilbur W., June 28, 1863, lives in Perry township; Watson S., September 10, 1865, died in infancy; Fred C., born May 6, 1867; Tunison T., born May 12, 1871, is a physician in

Fostoria, Ohio; Clara M., born January 16, 1874, is now Mrs. L. Marsh, of Prairie Depot, Ohio; a son, who died in infancy, unnamed; and Chester A., born October 27, 1882, is at home with his father. Mrs. Rosendale for five years before her death, which took place in 1885, was a sufferer from paralysis, having had three strokes. She was a consistent member of the Congregational Church, a Christian woman and a kind mother. For his second wife Dr. Rosendale married Miss Charity Arthur, of Bowling Green, Ohio, who bore him one child, Earl A., born April 7, 1889. She died July 2, 1890, and was buried in Bowling Green cemetery. Her death was greatly mourned, as she had proved a most devoted and loving mother to her step-children, with whom she was a great favorite, and who found her a faithful friend. The Doctor is robust and exceptionally well preserved, and he still continues to practice for those who refuse to surrender his services as their family physician. No physician in Wood county has been more successful as a practitioner, and none has a larger circle of warm friends.

Our subject has for a number of years been interested in the real-estate business, during this time buying and selling hundreds of acres of land. He has given each of his sons a large farm, retaining for himself about 825 acres of land, and owning some of the most valuable business and resident properties in Fostoria, which latter are estimated to be worth over \$100,000. There are few men whose business interests are as extensive, and yet kept in as good shape as those of Dr. Rosendale. He is a shrewd financier, and personally looks after his affairs, so that in case of his sudden demise no danger of complications will arise.

In politics Dr. Rosendale is a staunch Democrat, and takes an active interest in the success of his party, although he is not what would be called a politician. He has served several terms as treasurer of Perry township. Several years ago he became a member of the Masonic order at Fostoria, and is a Master Mason. The Doctor has traveled very extensively over the world; but unlike many another tourist he did not visit Europe until he had seen the interesting and wonderful in America, and he was thus prepared, when abroad, to interest those whom he met with stories of the scenery of this country. In June, 1889, he spent some three months in England and France, visiting the Exposition at Paris, and the scenes of his early youth in England. He went to the same Sunday-school in which he was taught as a boy, and saw the same pond of clear water which he once fell into from

his horse while watching the reflections of tree tops. This trip was greatly enjoyed, and brought back many pleasant memories.

LEWIS WILBER, deceased, who during life was one of the best known and most highly esteemed residents of Center township, was a native of Ohio, born in Huron county, March 17, 1836, a son of Stephen Wilber, a farmer of that county, who died when our subject was quite young. After attending school for a short period, Lewis began work on a farm for his uncle, Mr. Meede, where he remained for several years. Then, for four years, he worked for wages as a farm hand in Huron county. There he later rented forty acres of land from a Mr. William, which tract he operated for three years. The year 1860 witnessed his arrival in Wood county, where he purchased forty acres of land in Plain township, to the cultivation and improvement of which he devoted his time, until his enlistment for service in the Union army during the Civil war.

In 1862, at Tontogany, Mr. Wilber became one of the "boys in blue," joining Company D, 111th O. V. I., and remained with that company until the close of the struggle, after which he returned to Huron county, where he made his home for two years, as his father-in-law had sold his farm in Wood county. He suffered much from sickness contracted during his service in the army. In 1867 he returned to Wood county, and this time bought eighty acres of land in Center township, of which a part had been cleared. He made many improvements upon his place, which to-day stand as monuments to his thrift and industry.

On March 11, 1852, in Huron county, Ohio, Mr. Wilber was married to Miss Catherine Knapp. The bride was a native of that county, born December 11, 1833, and to them were born six children, all of whom are still living—Emerson, born December 23, 1857; George E., born August 23, 1861; Rosie A., born September 26, 1864; Bird and Birth (twins), born November 30, 1866; and Clara, born May 15, 1870. Emerson and George now operate the home farm, and Bird was married August 1, 1894, to Miss Augusta Reniger.

Mr. Wilber was a refined and intellectual gentleman, who occupied a remarkably high position in the estimation of the people of the community, and was known far and wide as one of the leading representative men of Center township. He was greatly interested in educational work, and served for many years as school director, while he also held the office of supervisor of his town-

ship for several years. His political support was unswervingly given the Republican party. The family adheres to the faith of the United Brethren Church. His death was caused by consumption, contracted during the army service, and he passed away on January 15, 1884, leaving a large number of friends, as well as his immediate family, to mourn his death. Mrs. Wilber, a most estimable lady, still resides upon the farm left her by her husband, and has the love and respect of all who know her.

M. A. IRELAND, the genial and popular proprietor of the "Crystal City Restaurant" at Bowling Green, was born in Maumee City, Ohio, October 7, 1849.

His grandfather, John Ireland, came to Ohio, early in the present century from the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, where his son Michael, our subject's father, was born September 20, 1801. The family first located at Salt Lick, on the Ohio river, and later at Bellefontaine. At the age of twenty Mr. Michael Ireland started in business for himself, and went to Detroit, Mich., with a drove of stock, traveling along the old "Hull's Trail." Returning to Ohio, he settled at Maumee City, where for some years he worked in a hotel. He subsequently became a contractor in lime, stone and timber, and later engaged in the grocery business. He farmed the island in the river, near Maumee City, and shortly afterward removed to Topeka, Kans., purchasing a large tract of land near that city. He married Miss Mary Elinshousen, who was born in Germany in 1816, and reared a family of six children, of which our subject is the eldest. The others were Madison, now residing in Idaho Springs, Colo.; Edwin, living in Kansas City, Mo.; William A., killed by an explosion in one of his own mines in Colorado, at the age of thirty-two; Capitola, the wife of W. L. Townsend, of Idaho Springs, and Charles, also a resident of that town.

Our subject spent his youth in Maumee City, working with his father and attending school. He finished his education at the Central Ohio College, located there, and then learned the trade of shaping scythes, which he followed for about a year. The family removed to Kansas at this time, and he was engaged for the next six years in traveling with a government surveying expedition. He has often seen ten thousand head of buffalo at one time, and the party would shoot them down simply to see how many they could slaughter. Returning to Maumee City, he worked for a time in a wagon shop, and then took a load of horses and mules to

Buffalo, Troy, and, other places in New York. After this trip he bought a half interest in the wagon shop, which he held for ten years.

In the meantime he was married to Miss Adelia Yonker, who was born in Bowling Green, January 6, 1856. Five children were born to this union: Munson C., June 16, 1875; May L., Ethel, William, and Donald D. On August 12, 1885, Mr. Ireland removed with his family to Idaho Springs, Colo., where for two years he was engaged in contracting and building, erecting some of the finest structures there. The oil fields of northwestern Ohio, suggested another form of business enterprise, in which he engaged for some time, but in 1892 he opened the "Crystal City Restaurant" at Bowling Green, which he has conducted ever since with constantly increasing patronage. His mother died in Kansas in 1873, and his father has of late years made his home with him.

In spite of his ninety-four years, Mr. Michael Ireland is mentally and physically active, walking with a light, brisk step which many younger men might envy. His memory is remarkable. He recalls the murder of the last white man killed by the Indians on the Maumee river, and many other events of note in the history of the State. In his early days he was an Old-line Whig, and attended the famous mass meeting at Fort Meigs in 1840, where Gen. Harrison spoke. Our subject is a Republican in politics, and a member of the K. of P., the P. O. S. of A., the American Mechanics, and the Woodmen of the World.

MINER WADSWORTH, M. D., who is successfully engaged in the practice of medicine at Hoytville, is a native of the Buckeye State, born April 14, 1854, at Wood Grove, Manchester township, Morgan county.

His father, Daniel S. Wadsworth, was a native of Maryland, and when eighteen years of age moved to Morgan county. Having attained his majority, he was married in Noble (then a part of Guernsey) county, Ohio, to Elizabeth Dye, a native of Guernsey county, and they located on the old homestead in Morgan county. There he resided until 1887, when, with his family, he moved to Smith county, Kans. He became extensively and successfully engaged in stock raising, and was a prominent citizen of the locality, until his death, which occurred January 21, 1896, when he was aged seventy-four. He was buried near Portis, Kans. Mr. and Mrs. Wadsworth were the parents of the following named children: Miner and Vincent, who died in childhood; Mary



Ann, who died in Morgan county, Ohio, at the age of forty; Wyley W., a school teacher in Oregon; Malinda, wife of Pearley P. Paxton, of Portis, Osborne Co., Kans.; Miner, subject of this sketch; and Dye, at home.

The Doctor began his education in the district schools, and on the old home farm spent his childhood days. At the age of eighteen he entered the public schools of Scio, Harrison county, where he pursued his studies one year, then followed school-teaching in both Morgan and Wood counties, following that pursuit two years. In 1876 he arrived in Wood county, and, after teaching two terms in Jackson township, took up the study of medicine, and carried on a small drug store at Hoytville. He studied medicine for a time, after which he attended medical lectures as a student in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Keokuk, Iowa, from which he was graduated February 28, 1882. He is now established in a good practice at Hoytville, where they have a comfortable home.

The Doctor was married at Hoytville, January 14, 1888, to Miss Katie Hager, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio.

**WESLEY MCINTIRE.** The citizens of this section of the country combine in their lives the enterprising, progressive characteristics of the West, and the stability and thoroughness of the people of the East, owing perhaps to their nearness to both sections. Our subject is a worthy type of Ohio's representative citizens. He was born near Tiffin, Seneca county, July 24, 1857, and is a son of Hiram and Lucetta (Zimmerman) McIntire, the former born in Wayne county, Ohio, April 10, 1832, the latter in Seneca county, March 10, 1837. The grandfather, John McIntire, emigrated from Scotland to America, and in Wayne county married a lady of Irish birth. One of their sons, prominent in Abolition work, used his home as a station on the "Underground railroad."

When a young man, Hiram McIntire learned the trade of a millwright. He was left an orphan at the age of thirteen, and for one year lived with an older brother; but not liking the treatment he there received, he tied his little wardrobe in his handkerchief, and with sixty-five cents in his pocket, ran away. He went to Green Springs, Sandusky county, and there learned his trade, which he followed for some years. While at that place he was married October 2, 1856, and immediately after went with his bride to Fort Seneca, where he worked in a sawmill. He afterward purchased a mill, which he operated

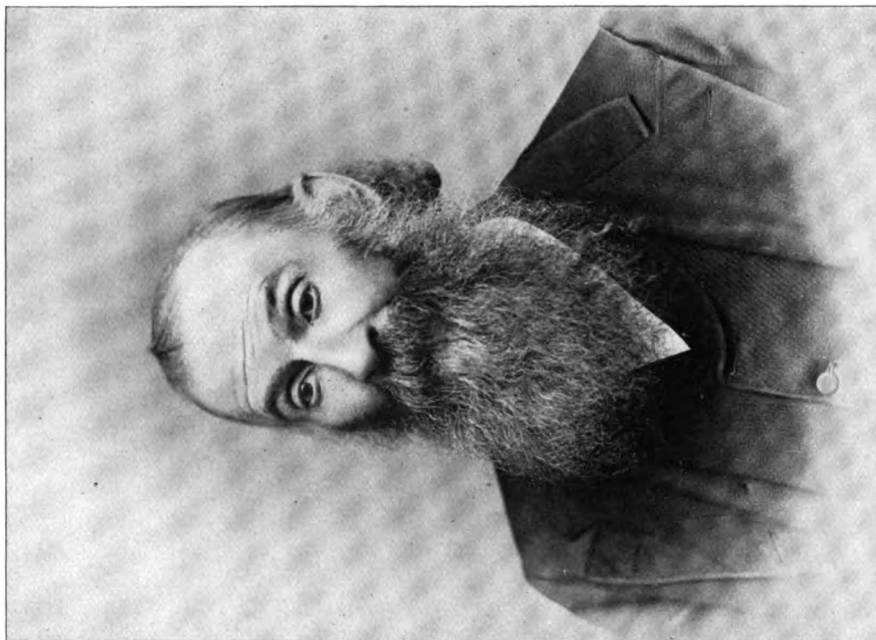
for a year, when he removed to Winter Station, and carried on a mill there until April 1, 1861, when with his family he came to Liberty township, Wood county. Here he purchased five acres of land on which stood a frame residence, and after selling that property he bought eighty acres of wild land, clearing the tract and erecting thereon a log cabin, into which his family moved before there were either doors or windows. In 1882 this was replaced by a more modern structure that is now occupied by a brother of our subject. The father died there February 19, 1893; the mother passed away eight months previous. Their children were Wesley; Francis Marion, born November 2, 1858; Arthur, who was born December 22, 1860, and was drowned at the age of two years; and Anna, who was born May 3, 1869, and died at the age of eight years.

Mr. McIntire, the subject of this sketch, was reared in Liberty township, received a common-school education, and worked on the home farm until his marriage. On May 14, 1882, he wedded Miss Ida Carnacom, who was born in Liberty township, July 13, 1861. They began their domestic life on a forty-acre farm given him by his father, and in 1892 he erected his present commodious home which is brightened by the presence of three children: Valeria Odessa, Francis Elmer and Lloyd. In politics, Mr. McIntire is a Republican, and is now serving as town constable. His time, however, is largely given to his business interests. He owns the farm on which he lives, has a half interest in eighty acres of land left by his father, and a half interest in the royalty received from thirteen oil wells. In connection with his brother, he is at this present writing also engaged in the breeding of blooded horses, and they have a fine five-eighths of a mile track on which they train and break colts. Socially, Mr. McIntire is connected with Whitney Lodge No. 589, I. O. O. F., of Portage, and is a charter member of the Forresters Lodge at Rudolph. In religious connection he holds membership with the Disciples Church of Rudolph.

**FRANCIS M. MCINTIRE**, a prominent farmer and stock dealer of Wood county, was born in Sandusky county, Ohio, November 2, 1858, and is a son of Hiram and Lucetta (Zimmerman) McIntire. He was a child of two and a half years when his parents came to Wood county, and his childhood days were passed on his father's farm, while his education was obtained in the district schools. He secured a teacher's certificate, but



**MRS. LUCETTA McINTIRE.**



**HIRAM McINTIRE.**



ill health prevented him from entering the profession. At the age of sixteen he left school, and worked on the home farm until his marriage. When in his twenty-first year he engaged in farming for himself, as well as in assisting in the cultivation of the old homestead.

On August 7, 1881, Mr. McIntire was united in marriage with Miss Isadore Mercer, a daughter of Abraham and Harriet (Rice) Mercer. He erected a residence on his father-in-law's farm, and afterward moved this dwelling to a tract of thirty acres owned by his wife. In the spring of 1883 he began the breeding of blooded horses, and has continued this business with excellent success. In August, 1893, he admitted his brother Wesley to a partnership in the business, and he built a five-eighths mile track for training purposes. On April 1, 1896, he purchased his brother's interest in the horses, leased his one-half interest in the farm for five years, and is now owner of the stock farm. In 1892 he sold the land belonging to his wife, and removed to the old McIntire homestead, which had been inherited by himself and brother on his father's death. On February 16, 1893, he purchased 120 acres of improved land in Eaton county, Mich., and in the following February added forty acres. He has taken many premiums at the county fairs with his fine horses, and has one of the finest stock farms in the county.

To Mr. and Mrs. McIntire have been born five children, their names and dates of birth being as follows: H. Leroy, August 30, 1882; Harley, February 7, 1887; Algernon, November 8, 1890; Leo, July 16, 1893, and Mabel, November 15, 1895. Mr. McIntire takes quite an active interest in politics, has served as supervisor for two years, and in 1895 was elected justice of the peace. Socially he is a member of Whitney Lodge No. 589, I. O. O. F., of Portage, and a charter member of Lodge No. 57, Court Sheridan, Ancient Order of Forresters, in which he is one of the trustees. He is a popular young man, of genial disposition, and in the community where he has so long resided has many friends.

GEORGE W. BORTLE, deceased. The subject of this sketch, formerly a prominent agriculturist of Grand Rapids township, was born January 4, 1851, in Weston (now Grand Rapids) township, where his parents, John and Louisa Bortle, were among the early settlers. The father was born August 8, 1816, and died December 13, 1856. The mother, Louisa (Arnold) Bortle, was born November 12, 1827, and now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Addie Hodge, at Kenton, Ohio.

George W. Bortle was educated in the district schools in the neighborhood, and assisted his father on the farm during boyhood. His first independent work was done on the Wabash and Erie canal, on which he was employed for several years. Later he engaged in farming, and in 1876 he moved upon the farm of eighty-eight acres which belonged to his widowed mother, one-half of which his mother gave to him, and the other half she gave to her daughter, Addie. On this our subject planted a good orchard, erected a fine barn and made many other improvements. On December 31, 1874, Mr. Bortle was married to Miss Annie E. Gillmore, who was born November 25, 1848, a daughter of George and Mary A. Gillmore, who were well-known pioneer residents of Weston township. One child, John H., born April 16, 1876, blessed this happy union, and who is now the manager of the homestead, and his widowed mother's pride and solace. He attended the district schools of Grand Rapids township in youth, and although only eight years old at the time of his father's death, he early learned to lighten his mother's cares and responsibilities, and was a great comfort to her the few years she remained with him.

George W. Bortle was a man who held the respect and esteem of all who knew him; honest, industrious and progressive, his death, which occurred December 29, 1885, cut short a life of quiet usefulness, which could be illy spared. Mrs. Bortle, a lady of rare executive ability and business judgment, continued the work of the estate left to her, and through her good management she purchased the half of the former eighty-eight acres from her sister-in-law, Mrs. Addie Hodge, and on which she built a comfortable residence and added many other improvements. Having poor health for the past two years, Mrs. Bortle died February 19, 1896, leaving John H. Bortle, the only heir, in full possession of the beautiful home. On October 1, 1896, John H. Bortle was married to Maude McClure, whose birth occurred August 17, 1879.

DAVID W. KEYS, one of the progressive young agriculturists of Grand Rapids township, is a native of Wood county, born January 19, 1858.

His father, the late George Keys, a highly respected citizen of the same township, was born in the State of Delaware, February 27, 1812. He came from that State to Fairfield county, Ohio, where, in 1850, he was married to Miss Sarah Deal, who was born in Rockingham county, Va., August 24, 1817. They were engaged in farming while they remained in Fairfield, and in

1853, they moved to Wood county, where they bought seventy-four acres of wild land, which they cleared and improved, spending many days at the hard toil which prepared his fertile lands for production. To this union were born five children, three of whom died in infancy. Mary J., our subject's surviving sister, was born September 11, 1856; she married John Phillips February 25, 1877, who is a well-known farmer of Grand Rapids township.

David W. Keys attended the district schools during boyhood, and assisted his father upon the farm for a number of years. After the death of the latter, which occurred July 12, 1879, he took charge of the homestead for his widowed mother, for whom he cared tenderly until she, too, passed away on August 26, 1894. Since that time Mr. Keys has operated his half of the farm, and on it made many improvements of a substantial nature. On February 23, 1889, he was married to Miss Catherine Courtney, of Grand Rapids, who was born October 8, 1861. They have no children living. Both are greatly esteemed by their neighbors and acquaintances for their sterling qualities of character. Mr. Keys takes no part in politics. He attends strictly to his own business affairs, and his high reputation for good common sense gives proof of his wisdom in so doing.

HOWARD CORY is one of Perry township's most prominent farmers and citizens, as well as a descendant of one of its earliest pioneer families. In Section 22, that township, his birth occurred April 18, 1859, and he is a son of Ambrose and Amanda (Kelley) Cory. In the spring of 1832, the paternal grandfather, Samuel P. Cory, removed with his family to Melmore, Seneca Co., Ohio, by the way of the Erie canal to Buffalo, N. Y., by the lake to Sandusky, Ohio, and thence by team. The father started on foot to look up a location, and in Perry township, Wood county, entered eighty acres of land, which was still in its natural state. He erected a cabin, and in the fall of 1832 the family located here. He was born in 1793, and at the time of his death, June 26, 1846, he was comfortably situated. He took considerable interest in politics, voting with the Democratic party, and among other offices, served as the first justice of the peace of Perry township. By his marriage with Surviah Foster, he became the father of the following children—Louisa C., who became the wife of Dr. M. Dana, and died in Fostoria, Ohio; George D., who died on the home farm in Perry township; Ambrose, the father of our subject; Orrin J., who was both a farmer and a

painter, and departed this life in Fostoria; Mary E., who was the wife of A. J. Morgan, and died in Freeport, Ohio. The mother of this family lived to the ripe old age of eighty-one, and was buried by the side of her husband in Fostoria.

Ambrose Cory was born in Susquehanna county, Penn., May 29, 1825, and was only seven years old when he arrived in Wood county, where he attended the district schools near his home. He completed his education by two terms' attendance at the Norwalk Academy. At the age of twenty he began teaching in Hancock county at fifty cents per day, and taught in all six terms of school. His father died a few weeks before he reached his majority, and he then started out in life for himself, renting a farm near Melmore, Seneca county, for two years.

In Hancock county, on February 14, 1854, was celebrated the marriage of Ambrose Cory and Miss Amanda Kelley, who was born in Wayne county, Ohio, September 22, 1829, and is a daughter of Thomas and Catherine (Lorah) Kelley, who located in Washington township, Hancock county, in the fall of 1831. In the spring of 1854, Mr. Cory purchased 200 acres of land in Perry township, of Abraham Weaver, for which he went in debt, and on which he lived for seven years, but in 1871 he removed to Section 31, Jackson township, Seneca Co., Ohio, buying twenty acres, which is now within the corporation limits of Fostoria. The following year he there built his substantial brick residence, where he still lives, though he later bought 160 acres of land in Perry township, this county, which he improved, but still made his home in Fostoria. He now has eighteen acres in that city, while five acres are just outside the corporation. He held many offices of honor and trust in Perry township, is a highly respected citizen of Fostoria, and takes quite an interest in the success of the Democratic party, for which he casts his ballot. In the family of three children our subject is the eldest, and is followed by Kate S., who was the wife of Charles Schaufelberger, and died in Hastings, Neb., October 24, 1893; and T. Harry, a painter and paper-hanger of Fostoria.

When only three years old, Howard Cory was taken by his parents to Fostoria, in the public schools of which city he acquired his literary education, while on his father's farm in Perry township he received his instruction in agricultural pursuits. Two years previous to his marriage he built a house upon his present farm of eighty acres in Section 26, Perry township. Only twenty acres at that time had been cleared, but

now seventy acres have been placed under the plow, and yield to him golden harvests for the labor expended upon them. The place is well drained and supplied with an excellent set of farming buildings, all of which he has erected. The summer of 1883 he spent in Sully county, S. D., where he took up 160 acres of land, which he yet owns.

In Jackson township, Seneca county, Mr. Cory was joined in wedlock on March 6, 1884, with Miss Sylvia Cox, a native of that county, and a daughter of Aaron Cox, a farmer. They have one child, Fred, born October 15, 1888. Until 1891, Mr. Cory was a Democrat, but since that time he has been an enthusiastic supporter of the doctrines of the People's party. Religiously, he and his wife are connected with the Methodist Church of Fostoria.

W. O. JOHNSTON, a representative and leading farmer of Perry township, is a fair specimen of the sturdy agriculturists, who have so largely assisted in the development of Wood county, and who are drawing from the soil the important elements of their future fortune. His homestead, which embraces eighty-eight acres of rich and fertile land, lies in Section 27, where he first saw the light of day January 18, 1849, and is a son of Thomas and Mary (Cove) Johnston.

The father, who was of Irish parentage, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, in 1810, and was a member of the large family of John Johnston. When twenty-two years of age he went to Fostoria, Ohio, and entered land in Hancock county, having at that time \$300 which had been given him by his father. About 1833, he bought eighty acres of land in Section 27, Perry township, all in its primitive condition. He was a very rugged man and a hard worker, and during pioneer days owned several tracts of land in Hancock county, which he would clear and then sell. At the time of his first marriage he was employed on the farm owned by Charles W. Foster, for whom he worked four years, and later came to Perry township. He lived to be nearly seventy-three years of age, dying at Fostoria, in July, 1883. For many years he was a member of the I. O. O. F., in politics was a Republican, and served as a trustee of Perry township. He was a man of sound judgment and good common sense, and by his well-directed labors secured a comfortable competence.

At Fostoria, Thomas Johnston was united in marriage with Mary Myers, by whom he had seven children, but five died before reaching adult age. Elizabeth is the wife of Peter Fay-

lor, of Montcalm county, Mich. John, who was a member of Company H, 49th O. V. I., was shot in the left temple, and carried the ball for two years, when it dropped through into his throat. His death, in October, 1880, was occasioned by his wound. For his second wife Mr. Johnston wedded Miss Mary Cove, a native of Stark county, Ohio, and a daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Cove. After her father's death in Stark county, her mother came to western Ohio, and departed this life at Fostoria. Our subject is the eldest of seven children born of the second marriage, the others being Aiden L., who died in 1860; Charles E., of Toledo, Ohio; Hetty A., now Mrs. Frank Culbertson, of Fostoria; Mary E., who is engaged in the insurance business in that city; Thomas L., a glass worker of Fostoria; and George E., a telegraph operator of that place, who died March 4, 1893. The mother of this family is still living, and makes her home in Fostoria.

In the usual manner of farmer boys, our subject was reared to manhood, remaining at home until his marriage, with the exception of a few months in 1872, spent at Denver, Col., where he witnessed many thrilling scenes. On January 10, 1875, in Perry township, J. R. Phillips performed a wedding ceremony that united the destinies of Mr. Johnston and Miss Emily Brandeberry, who was there born July 29, 1855, and is a daughter of James and Jane (Bates) Brandeberry. To them have been born two children—Blanche, now Mrs. A. J. Baird, of Perry township; and Blake, at home.

Mr. Johnston began his domestic life upon a rented farm in Section 23, Perry township, and then for nine years rented another place in the same township. About 1883 he purchased forty acres of land, which form a part of his present valuable farm of eighty-eight acres. He uses his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, has been trustee of his township, and has held several school offices. As a friend, Mr. Johnston is an ardent and consistent one, and, as a neighbor, does all in his power for those around him.

TIMOTHY HAYES, "The Wizard of Fort Meigs," was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, July 16, 1822. The historic ground named above has been in the Hayes family as lessees, or owners, since 1841. It was here that Harrison and his patriotic pioneer followers hurled back the British and Indians, and gave the death blow to tyranny and barbarity in the United States. It was here, too, that in 1840, during the campaign of "Tippe-

canoe and Tyler, too," was gathered the mightiest host of people ever assembled at any political mass meeting held in this, or any other country, to do honor to their chief, the hero of Fort Meigs—Gen. William Henry Harrison, the Whig Presidential candidate of that year.

This historic spot, famed in the annals of history, would long since have been wrecked had it not been for the gentleman whose name opens this sketch, and his brothers, whose names appear hereafter. But under their careful watching, not a plowshare has disturbed a grave of the sacred dead whose dust sanctifies this hallowed spot, and makes it dear to every American heart; not a spade has desecrated the embankment that protected the patriots from the English shells. Mr. Hayes takes just pride in the ground he has helped to preserve. As the tourists and travelers, who seek to view the historic spot, find an Irishman—a bachelor—the proprietor and owner, and encounter his tall, angular figure walking over the fields, but see no public monument, they realize that this is indeed the "Wizard of Fort Meigs," whose word has stayed the vandalism of agriculture and the ravages of time, and preserved intact one of the Nation's most noted battle fields.

Timothy Hayes is the son of James and Margaret (Fitz Gerold) Hayes, both of whom were born in Tipperary. The father died in November at about seventy years of age. The mother departed this life at Fort Meigs in 1848, when about sixty years old. Their children were: Michael, who was born in 1814, came to America in 1837, and first went to Illinois, and then to Perrysburg. He was a contractor by occupation, doing considerable work on canals, and assisted in building the Maumee and Western Reserve Pike. In 1841 he settled on a farm at Fort Meigs, where he lived until his death, January 1, 1894; Johanna, the second child, died in Ireland; Bridget is the wife of James Carey, Turner Junction, Ills.; Timothy is our subject; Anastasia died in this country; Thomas, who was born in 1827, came to America in 1848 (he spent four years, from 1859 to 1863, in California and then returned to Wood county. He married Miss Mary Ann Daily, who was born in Wood county, and died after bearing one child, James C., who is agent for the Ohio Central railroad, at Dowling). The second wife of Thomas was Miss Ellen Riley, a native of Long Island, N. Y., and they have seven children: Thomas, Timothy, Michael, John, Margaret, Ellen, and Mary; the seventh child of our subject's parents was Ellen, now the wife of Matthew Riley, of Chicago; Margaret is

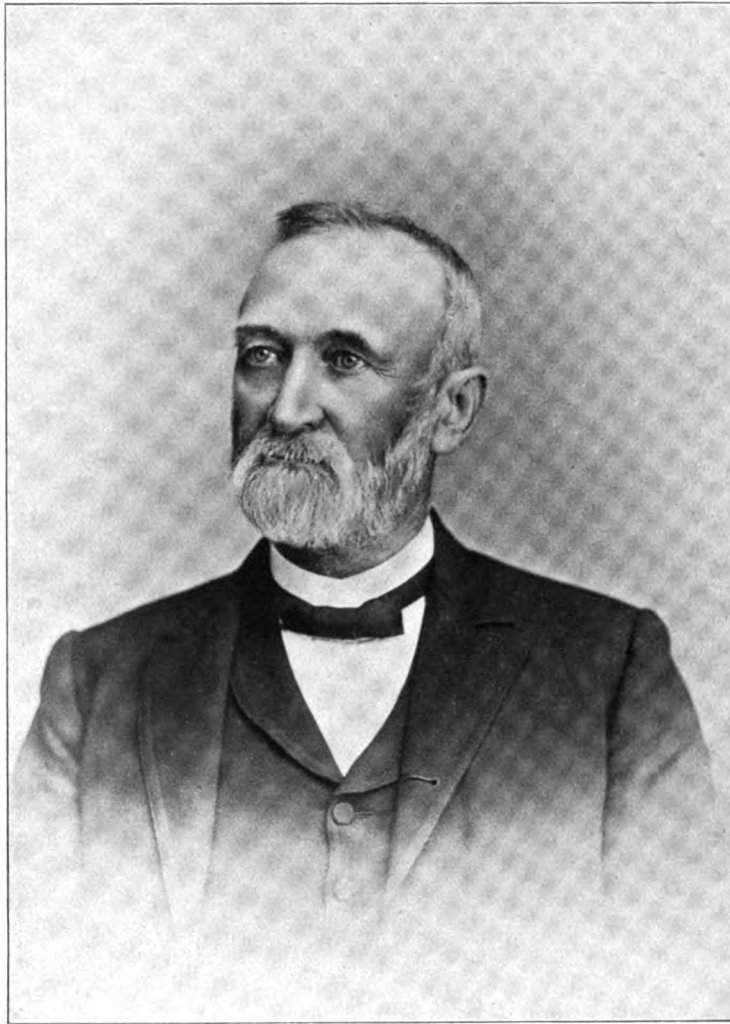
the wife of Felix Conley; the ninth child died in Ireland.

Timothy and his brother, Thomas, with the latter's family, all live in the same house on Fort Meigs. They are both Democrats and members of the Roman Catholic Church. The brothers bought Fort Meigs on July 5, 1864, since which time they have been its owners.

WILLIAM S. RICHARD, editor and proprietor of the *Bloomdale Derrick*, of Bloomdale, is one of the most thoroughly representative and best known citizens of Wood county, where probably no other has a wider acquaintance.

Mr. Richard is a native of Ohio, born December 16, 1835, in Ashland (then Richland) county, a son of Jacob and Rebecca Richard, and there received his education up to the age of fourteen years. He and his brothers were all hardy, industrious and intelligent lads, well adapted to the arduous task of clearing up the new Richard home in the woods, and assisting the neighbors in similar work. In addition to this, our subject, who was a keen sportsman, earned not a little money (a scarce commodity in those days) by the sale of pelts taken from wild animals, some of which he would trap, bringing others to the ground with his unerring rifle. Even now, though past the sixtieth milestone on the highway of life, he follows his sport with all the enthusiasm of his younger days—but it is simply sport now, without any thought of revenue, that leads him "into the haunts of Diana." Since 1876, with but few exceptions, Mr. Richard has been one of some hunting party or another, starting from Bloomdale for the game haunts of northern Michigan or Colorado, where several enjoyable weeks are spent. But this is a digression.

To return to his boyhood, we have said that our subject was fourteen years old when he first set foot in Bloom township, and, after working about the new home a year or two, and attending school, he commenced teaching at Eagleville, Ohio, a profession he followed for several years, earning the well-merited reputation of being a highly successful instructor. Of a naturally studious nature, possessed of brilliant intellect, and somewhat in advance of other boys of his age, he was ambitious enough to increase his store of learning by a course of study at the academy then being conducted at Republic, Ohio, under the scholastic management of Prof. Schuyler. His attendance here, however, was brought to a somewhat sudden termination owing to his eyesight becoming impaired, which necessitated a long rest from study. After the winter of 1866—



*W. J. Richard*  
*H*





67 he abandoned school teaching, and confined himself exclusively to the occupation of farmer and auctioneer, which latter business he carried on some thirty years with the same degree of success he met with in other undertakings. In 1889 he became editor and proprietor of the *Derrick*, a lively newsy paper published weekly at Bloomdale. He is also manager of and a large stockholder in the Gas Center Milling Co., of Bloomdale, and is identified with many other enterprises of the village, at the same time carrying on his farm with characteristic energy. During the war of the Rebellion he served his country three months in Company E, 144th O. V. I., during which time the regiment was stationed at Wilmington, Del., doing guard duty. He enlisted May 2, 1864, and was honorably discharged in the following August.

On October 11, 1860, Mr. Richard was married, at Perrysburg, Ohio, by Squire Ross, to Miss Delilah Bailey, who was born in November, 1841, in Mahoning county, Ohio, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Simon) Bailey, who moved to Bloom township when Mrs. Richard was a girl. She, too, was a school teacher in her youth, having taught two terms, her salary ranging from \$8.00 to \$13.00 per month, which in those days was considered very fair emolument. After marriage the young couple commenced housekeeping in Eagleville, where Mr. Richard owned a small home, and there resided until July 29, 1866, when, Mr. Richard's father's health failing, they removed to the old homestead in Section 25, Bloom township, at that time comprising eighty acres of land, the residence thereon being a log house that years before had been built by Joseph Urie. On the death of his father, in 1871, our subject contemplated trying his fortune in the West, probably in Iowa; but, rather than leave his aged mother, and the old homestead to be sold, one brother having already sold his share, he concluded to remain at home. He bought in the farm, and with true filial affection cared for his widowed mother the rest of her days, in which he was no less dutifully assisted by his amiable wife, a task that demanded much patience, consideration and care, as the invalid for several years was very infirm. She passed from earth May 6, 1881. In 1880 Mr. Richard built an elegant residence on the farm, which by that time had been increased to 110 acres, and is now one of the best improved properties in Bloom township. In October, 1891, he removed with his family into the village of Bloomdale, and they have since made their home there. In February, 1895, he completed his present elegant brick resi-

dence on Vine street, where, metaphorically speaking, he reclines at ease "under his own fig tree," having succeeded, with the assistance of his life partner, and by assiduous perseverance, industry and economy, in accumulating a comfortable competence.

Children, four in number, have been born to this honored couple, a brief record of them being as follows: (1) Carrie E., born November 1, 1863, in Eagleville, was married September 17, 1884, to Dr. R. B. Hubbard, and they live in Sandusky, Ohio; they have one child, Vira D., born December 21, 1888. (2) Harry E., born November 1, 1865, in Eagleville, was married October 25, 1885, to Carrie E. Rosendale; he died September 8, 1890, and was buried in the cemetery at Bloom Chapel; he left one son, Stanley, born April 5, 1889. (3) Hollis W., born July 31, 1872, died October 5, 1890, and is buried in the cemetery at Bloom Chapel; he was a promising boy, exceedingly bright, and was beloved by every one. (4) Cora, born October 1, 1881, is an accomplished young lady, still at home. Mrs. Richard is proverbial for her hospitality and philanthropy, a typical Christian woman, tender-hearted and sympathetic, a devoted wife and loving mother. She is a member of the Church of Christ, as is also her husband.

A staunch Republican, Mr. Richard manifests a keen interest in the success of his party, in which he is an oft-consulted advisor and counselor in his part of the county. He has filled with zeal and ability various offices of honor and trust, and for many years served as justice of the peace. "Squire Richard," as he is familiarly known, has done a considerable amount of legal business, and many hundreds of couples has he joined in the bands of matrimony, "for better, for worse; for richer, for poorer." Socially, he is a member of Urie Post, G. A. R., at Bloomdale. He is a well-read man, an omnivorous student in political economy, physics, metaphysics, etc., all receiving deep research and thought, and, withal, he is possessed of shrewd, sound common sense and excellent judgment. A well-spent, abstemious life makes him bear his three-score years with all the cheerfulness and elasticity of a man half his age. May his shadow never grow less!

HENRY LAMBRIGHT, one of the substantial farmers of Perry township, was born in Richland county, Ohio, February 11, 1832, son of John and Elizabeth (Good) Lambright.

The father of our subject was born near New Lancaster, Md., March 24, 1805. His father, whose name was also John, came to Richland

county before the war of 1812, in which he served as a soldier. During his absence in the army, the Indians made a raid through the county, destroying lives and property, and his family, with others, took refuge in a blockhouse on the present site of Mansfield. The family of this ancestor comprised ten children, of whom John, Jr., was the first to die. He was reared in Richland county, and when twenty-four years of age married Miss Elizabeth Good, who was born in Perry county, Ohio, February 5, 1808, daughter of John Good, a farmer. Her parents removed from Perry to Richland county, and later to Seneca county, where they spent the remainder of their lives.

In the fall of 1835 our subject's parents moved to Jackson township, Seneca county, where the father entered 120 acres of land, all of it in a primitive state, covered with timber through which wild animals roamed in great numbers. In this pioneer home they reared their family of four children, who were as follows: Mary A., married Jacob Rinebolt, and died in Seneca county; Henry, our subject; Susan married George Sours, and died in Seneca county; John was a private in Company B, 57th Regiment, O. V. I., and was drowned at Paducah, Ky., in 1862. He had been confined for some time in a hospital, and was *en route* to join his regiment, but being still very weak fell overboard from the steamboat and was drowned. The father and mother made this farm their home until their deaths, which took place when the former was eighty-one years and six months, and the latter sixty-five years old. Both were members of the Lutheran Church, and were very faithful in their attendance on its services. The father was a Democrat originally, but later became a supporter of the Republican party. He was a large, powerful man, an excellent manager, and became quite well-to-do, although his wife was sickly for more than twenty-five years, and he had many obstacles to contend with.

Our subject had no opportunity to attend school until he was fourteen years old, and then his advantages were very limited. The school was such as was maintained at that early day by subscription, the school-room a very poor building, and the course of study was of no higher order than the surroundings. As he was the eldest son, his help was greatly needed by his father in a new country, and work was too plentiful to allow him much time for either recreation or study. Game was plentiful, but he was an industrious boy, and spent but little time in hunting or trapping, as many of his fellows did.

Mr. Lambright lived with his parents until his

marriage, February 17, 1856, with Miss Margaret Johnson, which event took place in Seneca county, the ceremony being performed by Henry Stahl, a justice of the peace. Mrs. Lambright's parents, Henry F. and Margaret (Sprout) Johnson, came from Guernsey county, Ohio, to Seneca county, where Mrs. Lambright was born September 14, 1836. Her father was a mechanic, and worked at various trades, among other things making shoes for his family. He was a great hunter of all kinds of game, and kept his table well supplied with the results of his rifle. He was in limited circumstances, and had a large family of fourteen children in all, of whom ten grew to maturity. Margaret was obliged to assist in the support of the others, and earned considerable money by weaving and spinning for the neighbors.

After his marriage Mr. Lambright located on a farm of eighty acres belonging to his father, which he rented for two years, then purchasing it for \$1,200, for which he gave his notes. Here he resided until he came to Perry township in 1865, when he bought 120 acres in Sections 27 and 34 for \$5,500, going in debt over \$2,000. The only building on this land was a small frame house, but since that time many improvements have been made, and it is now a valuable piece of property. In 1880 Mr. Lambright erected a large and handsome brick house and here he and his estimable wife dispense the most generous hospitality to their large circle of friends and acquaintances. He now owns 154 acres in Perry township, and eighty acres in Jackson township, this county, and is one of the wealthy and substantial farmers of this section, an honest, upright man, very industrious and in all respects a most worthy citizen. The family is held in high esteem throughout the community.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Lambright are four in number: Samuel F., born October 16, 1857, married and has two children; John W., born May 12, 1859, is a farmer in Montgomery township, married Hattie Raney, and they have three children; Daniel H., born September 3, 1864, died June 25, 1879, and was buried at Fostoria; E. G., born November 4, 1870, is a farmer in Jackson township, this county, married Miss Ella Keefer, and they have one child. Mr. Lambright has always been a staunch Republican, and has served as township trustee for several years. He has served also as school director, and takes an active interest in the cause of education. Both he and his wife are members of the Union Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has held office ever since his first connection with

that body. He is one of the most liberal contributors to the Church, and is always ready to assist in any benevolent or other worthy enterprise.

Mr. Lambright was in his younger days a member of Company I, of the 49th Regiment Home Guards. During the Civil war they were called to Johnson's Island, where they did guard duty for a time, thence went to Washington, D. C. Here Mr. Lambright hired a substitute for 140 days, and returned home.

HENRY CLAGUE, a prominent agriculturist of Webster township, was born near Cleveland, Ohio, June 17, 1836. His parents, James and Mary (Collister) Clague, were natives of the Isle of Man, and, in 1826, settled in Cuyahoga county, Ohio, where they reared a large family.

Our subject received a good education in his youth, supplementing the instruction of the district school by a little over three years at Baldwin University. He assisted his father upon the farm until 1861, when he enlisted in Battery G, 1st Light Artillery, O. V. He took part in all of the battles fought by the army of the Cumberland, including those of Shiloh, and Stone River (where he was wounded), and the siege of Atlanta. He received an honorable discharge in December, 1864, at Chattanooga, Tenn., whence he returned to Cleveland and remained until 1866, when he returned to Wood county and engaged in the lumber business with his brother Thomas. On his arrival here he bought 140 acres of choice land near Fenton, which he has improved, and made one of the finest farms of its size in that vicinity.

In May, 1883, he was married, in Cleveland, to Miss Georgiana Harrison, who was born in Buffalo, N. Y., March 29, 1848. She is a daughter of Thomas Harrison, a well-known foundryman of Cleveland. Two children were born of this marriage: Arthur, August 13, 1886, and Howard, August 16, 1888. In politics, Mr. Clague is a Republican, and he is a member of the G. A. R.—Benedict Post, of Pemberville—and while in Cleveland was a member of the I. O. O. F. His wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Luckey, and she and Mr. Clague take a generous interest in every movement for the public welfare.

ADELBERT L. PETTEYS belongs to one of the families that have long been connected with Ohio. He was born in Huron county, February 18, 1850, and is a son of Eli W. Petteys, who was born in New York, in 1824, and was brought to

Ohio by his parents during his boyhood. The grandfather, John Y. Petteys, purchased a farm in Huron county, and there carried on agricultural pursuits for many years. In the Empire State he had married Miss Allen, and had five children—Hannah, widow of M. D. Tyler, of Tontogany, Ohio; Harriet, who became the wife of George Spicer, and at an early day removed to Wisconsin; her death occurred near Red Wing a few years later; Daniel H., who died in Gage county, Neb.; David, who died in Tontogany, Wood Co., Ohio, and Eli W.

The father of our subject was married in Norwich township, Huron county, Ohio, to Caroline A. Barber, a native of New York, and located on a farm where he lived until removing to Lucas county, Ohio, in the "fifties." He afterward came with his family to Wood county, but in a short time went to Erie county, locating near Bellevue. He afterward moved to Huron, Erie county, and subsequently to Milan township, Erie county, and in the spring of 1864 came to Wood county, Mr. Petteys purchasing 120 acres of land in Washington township. After two years, he removed to Tontogany, where he continued three years, then traded his property there for a farm in Washington township—a farm which had previously been owned by Gen. Custer's father. The father of our subject lived on this place for a few years, and then conducted the "Ackerman House," of Tontogany, for a year, when he removed with his family to Toledo. About four years later he took up his abode upon a 160-acre farm in Jackson township, which he had previously purchased, and at once began to clear the land and place it under cultivation. In 1889 he removed with his wife to Weston, where they spent their remaining days. The father died while visiting at the home of Mrs. Ada Maybee, of Toledo, January 19, 1893, and the mother survived him only ten days. They now sleep side by side in Lawnwood cemetery, Toledo.

The children of the family are Adelbert L.; David, who died in infancy; one, who died unnamed; Ada F., wife of Frank Maybee, of Toledo; Hattie D., wife of George Ackerman, of Toledo; and Clara, wife of Dr. I. S. Townsend, of Toledo, Ohio.

Mr. Petteys, of this sketch, attended school in Huron and Wood counties, completing his education in Tontogany, Ohio. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, and then served a one-year's apprenticeship to the tin-smith's trade in Clyde, Ohio. Returning to Tontogany, he took charge of the hardware store of S. W. Whitmore, which he conducted two

years, when he began to work at his trade in Waterville, Ohio. While there he was taken ill, and returned home. On his recovery he opened a tin shop in Tontogany, which, however, he sold after a few months, and went on a trip for his health through Wisconsin, Iowa, and parts of Kansas and Missouri, finally reaching De Witt, Neb. Liking that place he worked at his trade there through one season. The following winter he spent at home, but in the spring again went to De Witt, where he worked for a few months. Again he returned to Ohio, and after four years spent in farming once more concluded to remove with his family to Nebraska, where they remained two years, our subject working in a hardware store.

On the expiration of that period, Mr. Petteys returned to his native State, and lived on one farm for three years. In 1888 he located on forty acres of land which he had purchased of his father, and which he cultivated until 1892, when he sold out and purchased sixty acres a half-mile west of his present home. After his father's retirement to private life, he removed to the old homestead, where he yet resides.

Mr. Petteys was married in Tontogany, Ohio, November 22, 1874, to Miss Sarah C. Tuller, who was born August 12, 1850, and is a daughter of Edwin and Catherine (Kuder) Tuller. Her father died August 29, 1896, at the age of seventy-five years. He was formerly a lawyer with an extensive practice. He had been a second time married, his last wife who survives him, having borne the maiden name of Nellie Paul. Mrs. Petteys is the second in order of birth in a family of six children, and was reared in Washington township, Wood county. She has one child, Charles Claude, who was born in Washington township, October 30, 1880, and is now a student in the Custar High School.

Our subject is a stalwart Republican in politics; his wife belongs to the Disciples Church, while, socially, he is connected with the Knights of Pythias lodge, of Custar. He is now numbered among the substantial citizens of the community, and has been the architect of his own fortunes. His perseverance and capable management have brought to him financial success, while his upright life has gained him the confidence and good will of many friends.

EDGAR L. KINGSBURY, a grocer of Perrysburg, was born in Hartford, Conn., February 28, 1845.

The Kingsbury family has long held an honored place in the history of New England, where the first of the line in America settled at an early

period. John Kingsbury, the grandfather of our subject, was a lifelong resident of Connecticut, and was engaged in agriculture and at the cooper's trade. His son, Lyman Kingsbury, our subject's father, was born in Hartford, Conn., April 14, 1800, and was married to Miss Almira Brown, a native of the same place, born June 12, 1806. Her grandfather Brown (given name forgotten) was a Scotchman by birth, and at the time of the Revolutionary war was the owner of a craft in which he gave what aid he could to the Colonial government. His ship was seized and confiscated by the British; but nothing daunted, the lover of freedom joined the land forces, and fought until independence was secured. For many years after his marriage our subject's father remained in his native place, following farming as an occupation, and in 1854 he moved with his family to the "Western Reserve," settling in Lorain county, near Elyria. He was a Democrat in politics, and he and his wife were members of the Episcopal Church. She passed away April 18, 1867, and he died October 23, 1873. They had four children: Horace, born January 21, 1836, died May 18, 1873; Edgar L. (1), born January 17, 1838, died January 4, 1844; Willard, born March 30, 1842, died September 16, 1852, in Connecticut; and Edgar L. (2), the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Kingsbury was only nine years old when his parents came to Lorain county, and his education was secured principally in the district schools there. At the age of twenty-two he came to the Maumee Valley, and cleared a farm in Defiance county, where for some years he followed agricultural pursuits. Becoming interested in the lumber business, he went to Bridgeport, Mich., remaining there four years, afterward returning to Defiance county. In 1877 he disposed of the farm, and came to Perrysburg, where he opened the grocery which he has since conducted with well-merited success. In politics he is a Republican. At the breaking out of the Civil war he first enlisted, as a recruit, in Company I, 9th O. V. I.; but owing to his youth he was not mustered into the service, although taken to Virginia, remaining there from November, 1861, to May, 1862. He then returned to Ohio, and re-enlisted, this time in Company I, 84th O. V. I., Capt. J. H. Winder's company, and Col. W. Lawrence, which regiment was for ninety-days' service, but served for about four months in Maryland and Virginia. While with his regiment Mr. Kingsbury was taken ill with typhoid fever, and was sent to hospital at Cumberland, Md., and left for sometime after the regiment was



*E. L. Kingsbury*



mustered out. There, his mother, who had traveled to Cumberland, came in order to care for him in his sickness. For a year and over, after his arrival home, he was unable to perform any kind of labor, and by the time he recovered, the war was ended.

On September 15, 1869, Mr. Kingsbury was married in Toledo, Ohio, to Miss Maria L. Hilton, who was born November 30, 1846, in Defiance county, Ohio. They have no children of their own, but adopted a little six-year-old girl, Mabel Vance Hilton, daughter of Eber E. Hilton, a brother of Mrs. Kingsbury. Mabel was reared to womanhood as the own child of our subject and his wife, was educated and became a graduate of the Perrysburg school. On September 26, 1894, she was married to Charles L. Maddy, and one child, Edgar Hilton, was born to them; they make their home in Perrysburg, where Mr. Maddy is a dealer in grain, and has an elevator.

Mrs. Kingsbury was the daughter of Eber and Elizabeth R. (McMaken) Hilton, the former of whom, a farmer by occupation, was a native of Defiance county, Ohio, born about the year 1815, and died in 1848. He was a son of Joshua Hilton (also a farmer), a native of Maine, and a very early settler of Defiance county—the only “highway” at the time of his coming being the Maumee river, all merchandise, etc., being brought up that stream in small boats. Eber Hilton and Elizabeth McMaken were married in July, 1843, at Fort Wayne, Ind., and they had three children: Joseph J., who was a soldier in the Civil war, and died, in 1863, in Johnson's Island; Maria L. (Mrs. Kingsbury); and Eber E., a civil engineer in Plattsmouth, Neb. Some time after the death of the father of this family, the widowed mother married William D. Haymaker, and by him she had three children: Kidder V., Carrie (deceased), and Mary. Mr. Haymaker died, and his widow is now living in Defiance, Ohio. She was born in Butler county, Ohio, in 1821; her mother was a native of Maine, and her father was a soldier in the war of 1812.

TAYLOR HALE, one of the prosperous farmers and esteemed citizens of Perry township, was born in Washington township, Hancock Co., Ohio, July 9, 1841, to Robert and Ruth (McRill) Hale, the former of whom was a native of Jefferson county, and latter of Ashland county, Ohio.

The paternal grandfather of our subject, Randall Hale, was an early settler of Hancock county, where he carried on farming for many

years, and reared a family of five sons and three daughters, of whom Robert was next to the youngest son. Robert became the father of three children, namely: Mary A., who married John Baker, and died in Montgomery township; Taylor, our subject; and Elisha, who was a soldier in Company H, 49th O. V. I., and was wounded at the battle of Stone River, dying nine days later; his remains were brought home and interred in Olive Branch cemetery. The father of our subject died when the latter was only two years old, leaving his widow with three children, of whom the eldest was but four years of age, and with no property except a small farm of twenty acres. The heroic mother struggled along, keeping her little family together by hard work, weaving and doing other work as it came in her way, and succeeded in rearing them carefully to manhood and womanhood. She was one of those brave souls of whom the pioneer days saw not a few, and the story of whose lives of hardship and privation, and courageous sacrifices, account for the manly and successful men of whom Ohio can boast such a large proportion. This excellent woman lived to the good old age of seventy-eight years, and now sleeps in Olive Branch cemetery, in Washington township, Hancock county.

Taylor Hale obtained the best education afforded in the district schools of his day, and devoted his time after leaving school to the cultivation of the farm for his mother, until the Civil war was well under way, when he felt it his duty to respond to his country's call for more men to aid in putting down the Rebellion. On February 9, 1865, he enlisted at Perry Center in Company G, 189th O. V. I., under Capt. Dennis. This regiment was sent at once to Huntsville, Ala., where they remained on guard duty until the close of the war. During this time Mr. Hale was never absent from his post. On September 28, 1865, he, with his comrades, was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., and discharged at Columbus, Ohio, when he returned home.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Zeruah, daughter of Jonathan and Margaret Leonard, took place in Hancock county, October 15, 1868, and of this union two children were born: William, a farmer in Perry township, and Emma, now Mrs. Charles Kelley, of Hancock county. At the time of his marriage, Mr. Hale owned eighty acres of land in Section 32, Perry township, which he had bought out of his own earnings, and on which the family had been living for some time. He went to housekeeping on this place in a round-log cabin which his mother had built there, and which stood in a dense forest. From



this wild land he has succeeded in making a fine farm, and has added to it from time to time until he now owns 166 acres, and is classed among the best and most successful agriculturists of the township. He is one of the oldest residents, also, having lived upon this farm for forty-eight years.

Mr. Hale's first wife died October 2, 1873, and was buried at Fostoria. On March 15, 1877, he was united in marriage with Miss Rachel Beightle, who was born in Jackson township, Seneca county, August 21, 1848. Her parents, Martin and Maria (Weightman) Beightle, were natives of Pennsylvania, where her father carried on farming. She was one of ten children. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hale: Bertha, January 19, 1879, and Elva, February 11, 1883.

In politics Mr. Hale belongs to the Republican party, but he is strongly in sympathy with the Prohibitionists, as he is an earnest advocate of temperance, and uses his best endeavors to root out the evils of the liquor traffic. He has been a trustee of Perry township two terms, and has frequently been elected supervisor. He has been a school director of District No. 6. He is a trustee and class-leader in the Olive Branch Methodist Church, of which he has been a member since twelve years of age, and to which his wife also belongs. Mr. Hale is highly respected and esteemed as an upright Christian man and an excellent citizen.

**AARON PHILLIPS.** The Phillips family is of German origin. The great-grandfather of our subject, Valentine Phillips, was born in the Highlands of Germany, in 1720. His wife was Mary Phillips. He came to America, and settled near where Phillipsburg, N. J., now stands. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, as was also his son Jacob, who was born in New Jersey in 1758, and who married a Miss Sarah Louk, of Philadelphia.

Adam Phillips, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania in 1794, and died March 20, 1857. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was under General Harrison at Fort Meigs. In 1818 he was married to Catherine Huff, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1797, and died October 6, 1871. They were married in Tuscarawas county, Ohio, where they lived seven years, then moved to Pike township, Stark county, and in April, 1833, came to Wood county, arriving on the 11th, and entered 420 acres of land in Center township, part of which is now occupied by the county infirmary. When the township was formed from Portage, the first meeting after

organization was held in the cabin of Adam Phillips, who gave the name to the township. There his children grew up, and each child received a piece of land. He was a Whig in politics, and religiously was an exhorter in the Lutheran Church. To him and his wife were born thirteen children. They were: Daniel, who died in Wood county; William, born October 31, 1821, lives in Wood county; Eliza, the widow of Stewart Anderson; Moses, who went to California, and is probably dead; Mary, who died unmarried; Susan, who married John Shiner, and died in 1862; Aaron, our subject; David, who resides in Toledo, was in Company F, 25th O. V. I., for one year; Noah, who was a member of Company H, 67th O. V. I., entered the army in 1861, was taken ill and died. Four of the children died in infancy.

Our subject was reared on his father's farm, where he remained until twenty-two years old, attending school in a log school-house for two terms. He was married December 11, 1856, to Miss Anna Crom, whose birth occurred in Center township, Wood county, January 7, 1838. He is a fruit grower, and was born in Pike township, Stark Co., Ohio, March 2, 1832. Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, as follows: Levi C., born December 22, 1857 (he married Emma Duley, and they have five children, Frank, Alma, Earl, Herbert and Adel. Levi is an engineer on the M., K. & T. railroad, in Texas); Mary B., born March 8, 1859, died September 1, 1859; Daniel L., born July 24, 1860, married Ella B. Gray, and they have one child, Harvey A.; Daniel lives in Texas; Martha J., born October 3, 1863, died August 15, 1865; Elsie E., born June 24, 1870, died September 1, 1872; George W., born January 30, 1874, died June 30, 1887. Our subject, after his marriage, settled on a tract of wild land which he improved, and where he lived until 1865, when he sold it. When the Civil war broke out, Mr. Phillips enlisted, August 17, 1861, and served until honorably discharged September 12, 1864. He was in the army of the Cumberland, and took part in the battles of Shiloh and Mill Springs. He was taken ill, sent to the hospital, and discharged for disability, when he went home, remained there a while, then re-enlisted and participated in the battles of Buzzard's Roost, Jonesboro, and the siege of Atlanta. His company led the charge at Jonesboro. He fought close to the works, and was knocked down by the concussion of a shell.

After selling his farm, at the close of the war, he went to Michigan, where he bought a farm in

Lenawee county, and lived there until 1870, when he moved to Carroll county, Mo. He located in various places at different times, among them being: Fulton county, Ohio; Tuscumbia, Ala.; Nebraska; Colbert county, Ala.; Portage, Wood Co., Ohio; and finally settled in Bowling Green. He is a member of the G. A. R., and is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Baptist Church.

Our subject's wife grew up and was educated in Wood county, and, like her husband, belongs to the pioneer stock of Wood county. Mr. and Mrs. Phillips live in a beautiful home in Bowling Green, where they cultivate fruit, making a specialty of berries. They are hospitable, and are greatly esteemed by their many friends throughout the county.

John Crom, the grandfather of Mrs. Aaron Phillips, was a pioneer from Pennsylvania and Ohio, finally locating near Beaver Creek, in Wood county. Her father, Daniel Crom, was born May 10, 1805, and died May 10, 1864. Her mother, who was a Miss Barbara Oberdorf, was born in 1809, and died February 9, 1892. They were married in 1828, and of the thirteen children born to them the following are mentioned: Elizabeth, Margaret, John, Anna, Joseph, Aaron, Simeon, and Martha.

Mr. Phillips states that on the formation of Plain and Liberty townships Dr. Manville gave the name to Plain, and that John Groves, who is yet living, aged ninety-six years, named Liberty township.

DICKERSON BOWLES, a farmer of Milton township, was born, November 12, 1836, in Cambridgeshire, England, a son of John Bowles, whose birth occurred in the same country, February 21, 1809. The father was a farm laborer by occupation, and was married, in Cambridge, England, to Jane Dickerson, who was born February 14, 1809. They came to America in 1852, sailing from Liverpool, and took up their abode in Monroeville, Huron Co., Ohio. Four years later they came to Wood county, and the father purchased a farm in Milton township, which he improved, and on which he lived until his death, which occurred in December, 1876. His wife survived him, dying in February, 1892. They had a family of ten children, namely: Anna and William, deceased; John, a farmer of Milton township; Dickerson; Sarah, who died in England; Susan, wife of John W. Chappel; Elizabeth; James; and Charles and Arthur, both deceased.

Our subject attended school in England, and

came with the family to America, continuing his labors on his father's farm until 1856, when he went to Iowa, and for a short time engaged in the cultivation of rented land. At the expiration of that period he returned home, and continued under the parental roof until 1866. During the war, however, he enlisted, at Napoleon, Ohio, in Company I, 68th Regiment, O. V. I., under Capt. Poe, and participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Metamora, Raymond and Champion Hills, and was with Sherman through the Atlanta campaign. He was wounded at the battle of Champion Hills, and again, August 10, 1864, before Atlanta, and after his recovery marched with Sherman to Savannah. He was honorably discharged December 19, 1864. He then returned home, and purchased a farm in Milton township.

On February 14, 1866, Mr. Bowles was united in marriage with Miss Jane Anness, who was born in Cambridgeshire, England, January 12, 1846. Four children graced this union: Daniel, a farmer of Grand Rapids; Arthur, who aids in the operation of the home farm; Walter, and Albert. In politics, Mr. Bowles is a stalwart Republican. He is a member of the Evangelical Church. Industrious and energetic, his business interests are well conducted, and his duties of citizenship are discharged with the same fidelity which marked his army service.

THOMAS ORDWAY, the well-known contractor and builder, of Bowling Green, has identified his name in a lasting way with the growth and prosperity of that town, and many of its finest residences and business blocks stand as evidences of his skill and workmanship.

His father, Amherst Ordway, was born October 15, 1815, in Vermont, and came to Ohio in early manhood, locating first at Milan, Erie county, where he was engaged in contracting and building until 1854, when he removed to Householder's Corners, Wood county, and remained about five years. He then came to Bowling Green, purchasing a large tract of land, which since his death, October 29, 1880, has been known as Ordway's Addition. He built the first sawmill and gristmill at Bowling Green, and was a leading promoter of many public improvements. He was a Republican in politics, and an active worker in the temperance cause. He married Miss Roxanna Goodell, who was a native of Huron county, being the first white child born in Townsend township. Her birth occurred January 24, 1817, and she died May 6, 1876. Of their seven sons, four served in the army during the Civil war, two losing their lives in the defense of the Union, name-

ly: Andrew, who died at Athens, Ala., and Hiram, who was killed at Jonesboro, Ga. James returned to Bowling Green after three years of service, and is now a contractor and builder there. Nehemiah spent six months at the front, and then returned home, where he now resides. Of the five younger children, Emma, the widow of W. A. Whitaker, Thomas, our subject, and Sylvester, live at Bowling Green. Frederick resides at Akron, Ohio, and Alice, the youngest, is the wife of Wesley Fox, of Chicago Junction, Huron county.

Our subject was born February 5, 1849, near Milan. He received his early education in the district schools near his father's farm in Wood county, and in the high school at Bowling Green. He worked on the farm until the age of twenty-seven, after which he followed the carpenter's trade as a workman until about ten years ago, when he began to take contracts for buildings, and also to construct residences for sale. Among the contracts undertaken are those for constructing the Central school, the East school, and the finishing of the South school building. He has constructed about two-thirds of all the business blocks in the city, some of which are the Royce bank building, Chris. Lehmann's building, the Cuning and Whitehead building, the Lincoln block, the Mowrey block, and the First National Bank building. Although Mr. Ordway is very quiet and unassuming in manner, he has a reputation for great firmness and persistence in any enterprise once resolved upon, and this, with his well-tryed ability and integrity, has won for him the entire confidence of the community. He was married in 1880 to Miss Eloria Mounts, who was born in Sycamore, Ohio, in 1859. They have three children, Amherst, Katie and Donald. Politically, Mr. Ordway is a Republican, and he is a member of the I. O. O. F.

T. S. BRANDEBERRY, who is successfully engaged as a butcher and in the meat market business in Jerry City, was born in Bloom township, on April 15, 1846, and is a son of William and Anna (Clark) Brandeberry. On the home farm he was reared to manhood, during which time he received a fair English education in the common schools of the neighborhood.

On February 21, 1864, although not quite eighteen years of age, he manifested his loyalty to his native land by enlisting in the Union army at Fostoria, Ohio, becoming a member of Company H, 49th O. V. I., with which he served until December 28, 1865. After the surrender of General Lee, the regiment was sent to Texas,

and there remained until mustered out at Victoria, that State. Our subject received his discharge at Columbus, Ohio. He was never wounded, but on account of illness was confined for three months in hospitals at Chattanooga and Nashville.

On his return home, Mr. Brandeberry worked for his father for a time, and was also employed by his uncle, Isaac Brandeberry, of Perry township, Wood county. In Bloom township, on May 21, 1868, he led to the marriage altar Miss Lucinda E. Fry, a native of Westmoreland county, Penn., and a daughter of Jonas Fry, a farmer. To them have been born four children, one of whom died in infancy; the others are: Carrie E., wife of Reuben Echleberger, of Bloom township; Alwilma, wife of Wallace Simon, of the same township; and Milton O., at home.

After remaining upon his uncle's place for several months, Mr. Brandeberry returned to Bloom township, purchasing thirty-eight and a quarter acres in Section 35, and on the place erected good buildings and made other necessary improvements. There he resided until April 4, 1883, when he bought fifty acres in Section 22, which he still owns. He immediately commenced the improvement of his land, which is now in an admirable state of culture, and has become a valuable piece of property, owing to his careful tillage and the neat buildings upon the place. In January, 1895, however, he removed to Jerry City, where he has since conducted a butchering business.

Mr. Brandeberry does not care to take an active part in politics, but always stands by the principles for which he fought, and casts his vote with the Republicans every time. He is a leading member of Bronson Post No. 85, G. A. R., of Jerry City, and attended the Encampment at Louisville, Ky., in 1895, and also the dedication services at Chickamauga, Ga., in September of that year.

ORRIN STEARNS (deceased). The subject of this sketch, a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Montgomery township, May 9, 1841, and was the fourth son and fifth child of Justus and Sarah A. (Davis) Stearns, mention of whom is made in another part of this volume.

Mr. Stearns received a common-school education, and was reared as a farmer's boy. On September 23, 1861, he enlisted in Company B, 55th Regiment, O. V. I.; on June 1, 1864, was promoted to corporal, and on July 8, 1865, was further promoted to the rank of first sergeant. He was mustered out July 11, 1865, at Louis-



*Chris Steiner*

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*Orrin Stearns*

*Portrait by J. H. Long*



ville, Ky. While home on a veteran's furlough in 1864, he was married, on February 4, in the "Hays House," Fostoria, to Miss Sarah A. Brandeberry, the ceremony being performed by J. V. Jones, a justice of the peace. Mrs. Stearns was born in Perry township, April 25, 1846, and is a daughter of Isaac and Nancy (Fish) Brandeberry, the former of whom was born in Richland county, and the latter in Columbiana county, Ohio.

In the spring of 1866 our subject came to his farm, which he had bought in the fall of 1865, and where his widow now lives. It then consisted of 120 acres, on which stood an old frame house and another frame building. Mr. Stearns had saved \$1,500 from his army pay, and his wife was given \$2,000, so they started in life in comfortable circumstances. In 1876 he built one of the best brick residences in Perry township. Mr. Stearns died, October 23, 1888, from a lingering illness contracted while in the army, and he was buried in the Fostoria cemetery. While not physically strong, he was able to attend to his work, was an excellent business man, dealing extensively in stock, and retired from active life fourteen years previous to his demise. He was a representative citizen and a stanch Republican, and served as director of the Infirmary and as trustee of Perry township. Kind-hearted, he was always ready to assist the needy and deserving, and his death was a great blow to the community. He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he held various offices, and to which he was a most liberal contributor. Socially, he belonged to the I. O. O. F., and G. A. R., at Fostoria, and was buried by the latter organization with all its rites and ceremonies.

Since her husband's death Mrs. Stearns has taken charge of the farm, which now consists of 230 acres, and is one of the best in the county. She is a woman of considerable business ability, and has improved the place in many ways. She is a devout Christian, and a liberal contributor to the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she has been a member since fourteen years of age. While Mr. and Mrs. Stearns had no children of their own, many others have been given a home with this admirable couple, who took great pleasure in such philanthropic work.

ANDREW JOSEPH, the popular manager of one of the departments in the mercantile firm of A. Froney & Co., at Bowling Green, was born September 17, 1866, in Troy township, this county.

George Joseph, his father, was born in Baden,

Bavaria, January 10, 1812, and came to America in early manhood, locating in Wood county, where he met his future wife, Miss Sophia Hettinger, a native of Sencefeldt, Baden, born December 26, 1823, who came to this county with her parents when she was a child. After their marriage, September 12, 1841, they settled upon a farm in Troy township, three miles northeast of Pemberville, where they lived fifty years, but they have now retired to Pemberville to pass the evening of their lives. They are prominent members of the German Lutheran Church. Their golden wedding in 1891 was a notable occasion, their ten children, all living, making an interesting group. Of those living, May, the eldest, is the widow of M. Hauber, of Freeburg, Ill.; Julia is the wife of David Bingle, of Scotch Ridge; Henry resides in Freeburg, Ill.; George Jr., at Wahoo, Nebr.; John lives at Wahoo, Nebr.; Louie resides in Center township; Frank is a resident of Luckey; and Emma is at home with her parents.

Andrew Joseph, the youngest of this family, was reared upon the farm, and acquired his early education in the district schools near by. In 1891 he came to Bowling Green, and now has charge of the upper floor of the store of A. Froney & Co., managing the cloak, drapery and carpet departments. In this capacity he has shown unusual ability, and proved himself entirely worthy of the trust reposed in him. He is also the fortunate owner of a tract of oil land now being developed by him, in company with others, under the partnership name of Bankey, Joseph & Moore.

In politics Mr. Joseph is a Democrat, sharing in this the conviction of his father, who has been for many years a firm supporter of the principles of that party. The subject of our sketch is prominent in the social circles of Bowling Green.

J. D. STEARNES, a worthy representative of the old and prosperous family of that name which is well-known throughout Wood county, is a successful farmer of Perry township, where he stands high in the regard not only of his immediate community but also of all citizens in the county who have had business or social relations with him.

Mr. Stearnes is the third child of Justus and Mary (Hall) Stearnes, and was born September 1, 1854. His first schooling was obtained at Sugar Grove, in Perry township, and was the best that could be afforded by the district schools in those days. He has seen many changes since then in the methods of education, and has used his influence in the betterment of the schools of



his locality. No one in the county is a warmer friend of education, or has done more in its interests, than Mr. Stearnes, and the advantages now enjoyed by the children of Perry township are in a great measure due to his untiring efforts in their behalf.

Mr. Stearnes was reared upon a farm, and early in life showed such business ability that he was intrusted with matters of great magnitude for one of his youth, and he managed them with discretion and excellent judgment. He remained upon his father's farm until one year after his marriage, and in 1876, removed to the farm on which the "Old Stone House" stands and which is still his home. This old mansion, his first residence, is one of the land marks of Perry township, and was built in 1840 by a Mr. Brown. Mr. Stearnes purchased 117 acres here of his father, and at once moved onto it, his entire possessions being conveyed to the place in three loads, such as a one-horse sled could carry. The land was wet, and but little draining had been done, and, with his poor team and still poorer equipment, our subject found an up-hill task before him. His energy and industry were, however, equal to the emergency, and by constant labor and untiring perseverance, as well as good management, he succeeded in bringing it under a fine state of cultivation. He has at present 160 acres of excellent land, and in 1892 built one of the finest pressed brick residences in Wood county. His barns and outbuildings are also of the best, and the entire place bears evidence of careful thrift and labor. Mr. Stearnes has done considerable ditching by contract throughout the county, and, since the discovery of oil and gas in this section, has done a large amount of work in teaming, etc., for the oil producers.

Our subject was married September 2, 1875, to Miss Sarah Kyes, who was born August 21, 1855, in Freedom township, this county. Her father, Samuel Kyes, was a native of Lorain county, Ohio, and was a farmer by occupation. He served as a one-hundred-days' man in the war of the Rebellion. His wife, mother of Mrs. Stearnes, was Mary, daughter of John Fish, who died in 1864. Their children were as follows: Sarah, wife of our subject; Caroline, wife of Everett E. Householder, living near Hoytville, Ohio; and Mary A., wife of Albert Addelsperger, of Seneca county, Ohio. On the death of his first wife Mr. Kyes was again married, his choice being Mrs. Mary A. Silverwood, who bore him two sons. Of these, William lives in Bowling Green, Ohio, and Samuel was killed by a falling tree when a lad of seventeen. The father died

in Center township, Wood county, when nearly sixty years of age. Mrs. Stearnes was only nine years of age when her mother died, and the children were scattered among different families, she working for her living until her marriage. She is a most estimable woman, and is a good wife and mother. The following children have come to bless the union of our subject and his wife: Nellie, born June 27, 1876; Alice, who died when three years old; Samuel, born May 11, 1880; Albert B., born December 17, 1882; Sarah A., born April 9, 1885; and Pearl, born June 17, 1888.

Mr. Stearnes has always been an ardent Republican, and is a leading member of his party in Perry township. He has served three years as township trustee, and has been a director of School District No. 5 for some nine years. In both these offices he has done much for the growth and welfare of his township, and is looked upon as one of its most valued citizens. By the will of his father, Mr. Stearnes was made one of the administrators of his estate, consisting of over 300 acres of land and \$10,000 of personal property. He is a member of No. 445 Lodge, K. of P., at West Millgrove, and both he and his wife belong to the Rathbone Sisters, of Bloomdale.

J. M. BAUM, one of the prominent and representative men of Ross township, is engaged in general farming and gardening in Section 33, where he located in 1872, at that time purchasing a partially improved farm of forty acres. He also devotes some attention to fruit-raising, in which he has been quite successful. He is a native of Ohio, born in Northfield township, Summit county, on Christmas Day, 1833, and is a son of Thomas and Mary (Purkey) Baum, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania. As early as 1801, however, he accompanied his father, George Baum, to Columbiana county, Ohio, where the latter, at that time, purchased 160 acres of land of the government at \$1.25 per acre. The city of Salem is now built on the same. George Baum was a native of Germany, and was born November 17, 1754. At the age of seventeen he sailed for America, but, on account of bad weather, he was six months on the voyage. He landed at Philadelphia, and was "sold" to a man for three years, to pay his passage, the sum being twelve dollars. In 1783 he was married to Mary Higgin, a native of Pennsylvania.

Thomas Baum was married in Columbiana county. In 1821 he became a resident of Northfield township, Summit county, where he purchased a farm eighteen miles from Cleveland,

paying three dollars per acre for same, and there his death occurred December 24, 1862. His wife departed this world on her birthday, June 28, 1855, at the age of fifty-eight. They reared a family of six children: John enlisted in the 111th Regiment, O. V. I., in Williams county, Ohio, and served nearly three years; he died in that county, November 16, 1865. Mrs. Sarah Powell makes her home in Northfield township, Summit county. Mrs. Mary White resides in Jennings county, Ind. Mrs. Martha Horner lives at Akron, Ohio. Mrs. Elizabeth Silver also makes her home in Jennings county, Ind. A. M. Baum completes the family list.

During his boyhood and youth our subject attended the district schools of his native county, and assisted his father in clearing up and developing his land. In 1853 he married Maria L. Wetherill, who was born in Vermilion, Erie Co., Ohio, and is a daughter of William and Sarah (Boughey) Wetherill, the former a native of England, the latter of Erie county. The father was one of the first settlers of Plymouth, Huron Co., Ohio, where he opened up a farm; but his death occurred in Ross township, this county. The mother has also departed this life. To our subject and wife two children have been born: William T., who is married, and resides in Ross township, and Rosetta A., wife of Horace Rideout, of the same township.

In politics Mr. Baum is a Democrat, and takes considerable interest in all the campaigns of that party. He served as the first justice of the peace of Ross township, and acceptably filled that office for six years. Being very fond of hunting, he used to come to Wood county as early as 1855, when game here was quite plentiful, and engage in that sport. He has always taken a deep interest in everything for the good of the county, and was one of the promoters of the Woodville stone road.

JOHN SCHON, a native of Germany, was born in the village of Hontheim, Kreis Wittlich, Beyerker Trier, on the Rhine, April 26, 1836. His father, Casper Schon, who was a farmer of that locality, married Anna Simmons. They spent their entire lives in that village, and to them were born the following named children: Hobartus and Barbara, both now deceased; Margaret, Christina, Mathias, Annie, Mary and Peter, all six deceased; Casper, a farmer of Milton township; and John.

The last named was reared as a farmer boy, and acquired his education through attendance at the common schools between the ages of six

and thirteen years. At the age of twenty-three he entered the German army, and served for three years. At the place of his nativity, in the year 1862, Mr. Schon was united in marriage with Barbara Steffens, who was also born in that village, and in 1866 they came to America, sailing from Rotterdam to Liverpool, where they spent sixteen days. They were then obliged to return to Rotterdam, on account of the illness of their eldest child; but after two days they took passage on the sailing vessel "Disburk," which reached New York four weeks later. From there they at once came to Wood county, and Mr. Schon purchased twenty acres of wild land in Milton township, on which he built a plank house; then turned his attention to the development of a farm. In 1882 he sold that property, and purchased eighty acres of land on Jackson Prairie; but subsequently he bought his present farm, comprising seventy-eight acres. For this land he gave \$5,000, and has since made many excellent improvements upon it, so that he now has one of the most highly developed and desirable country homes in Wood county.

The children born to John and Barbara Schon were: Casper, who died at the age of three years; John, a wagon maker, of Michigan; Annie, wife of John Pouff, of Ohio; Frank, a blacksmith, of Milton, Ohio; Mary, wife of Charles Koch, of Milton township; and Clement, of Illinois. The mother of these died in 1873, and was laid to rest in the Catholic cemetery at Custar. In 1875 Mr. Schon was again married, his second union being with Margaret Schmitz, a native of Germany, born February 2, 1841, and who came to this country in 1873. By this marriage there were six children: Joseph, now of Lorain county, Ohio; Margaret and Nicholas, both at home; Peter, who died in infancy; Peter, the second of the name; and Lena, who died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Schon are members of St. Louis Catholic Church, of Custar, toward the building of which he was a liberal contributor.

ANTON SCHUSTER, a well-known saloon-keeper of Grand Rapids, was born March 4, 1849, in Wirfus, Rhine Province, the only child of Frank and Sophia (Wolf) Schuster. The father was a native of the same place, born September 8, 1810, and came to America in 1863, locating on a farm in Cuyahoga county, Ohio, where he died April 18, 1864. The mother died when our subject was but a child. For his second wife Frank Schuster married Anna M. Wolf, by whom he had five children: Nicholas, now a resident of Custar; Jacob, a farmer in Milton township; Will-

iam, who died in childhood; one daughter, who died in childhood; and Peter, now living in Milton township with Anna M. Schuster, his mother.

Anton Schuster came to America with his father, and remained in Cuyahoga county until 1870, when he went to Keokuk county, Iowa, and there remained for two years. On his return to Ohio he settled in Custar, where he followed the trade of carpenter eight years; then moved to Weston, and engaged in the saloon business. After two years there he transferred his business to Grand Rapids, where he has since resided. He has prospered, and has built a fine brick business block there. In 1883, Anton Schuster married Miss Mary B. Shamberger, a native of Lucas county, born October 2, 1864, and died July 27, 1884. On November 17, 1885, Mr. Schuster for his second wife married Elizabeth F. Long, who was born December 25, 1858, in Lucas county, and four children have blessed this union: Clare Cecelia, deceased; George C.; Omer F., and Zgro Ross. In politics Mr. Schuster is a Democrat, and he is a leading member of the Roman Catholic Church, of which his parents were also adherents.

RUBELLUS J. SIMON, M. D., the leading and scholarly physician of Pemberville, was born on a farm in Bloom township, Wood Co., Ohio, August 9, 1846, being the next to the eldest son of Levi Simon, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume.

Our subject is one of ten children, whose names with dates of birth are as follows: Mycönus N., March 3, 1845; Rubellus J. (the subject of this sketch); Damiette, December 18, 1847 (she married Frank Ledyard, of Bloom township, and died August 23, 1884); Jerusha, October 10, 1850 (she died November 10, 1872); Belenia, August 6, 1852 (she married D. A. Deal, and died November 11, 1884); Poliander, July 22, 1856 (a remarkable child, and at the time of his death August 30, 1863, was intellectually equal to many of double his years); Montibello and Mettilene (twins) March 28, 1859 (the former now a farmer and dairyman of Bloom township; the latter died September 4, 1863); Phœbe E., June 11, 1861 (an unusually gifted child, possessing mental development far beyond her age at her death, December 30, 1877); and Elma O., February 19, 1863 (now Mrs. Jacob Fischer, of Helena, Montana).

The boyhood years of our subject were spent at his father's farm. His early education was obtained under the direction of his parents, both of whom had been teachers, and were well fitted to train him for a life of usefulness and honor.

At sixteen he entered the Poland Union Seminary, becoming a student in that institution the same year that Gov. McKinley completed his studies there. After nine months in the seminary, he received a teacher's certificate, and entered that profession, teaching the Mackey school, in Bloom township. For several terms he taught there and in other districts, then entered the Findlay High School, where he continued his studies for eight months. Later he taught in the grammar school in the same institution for three terms, after which he entered Oberlin College, expecting to fit himself more thoroughly for the profession of a teacher.

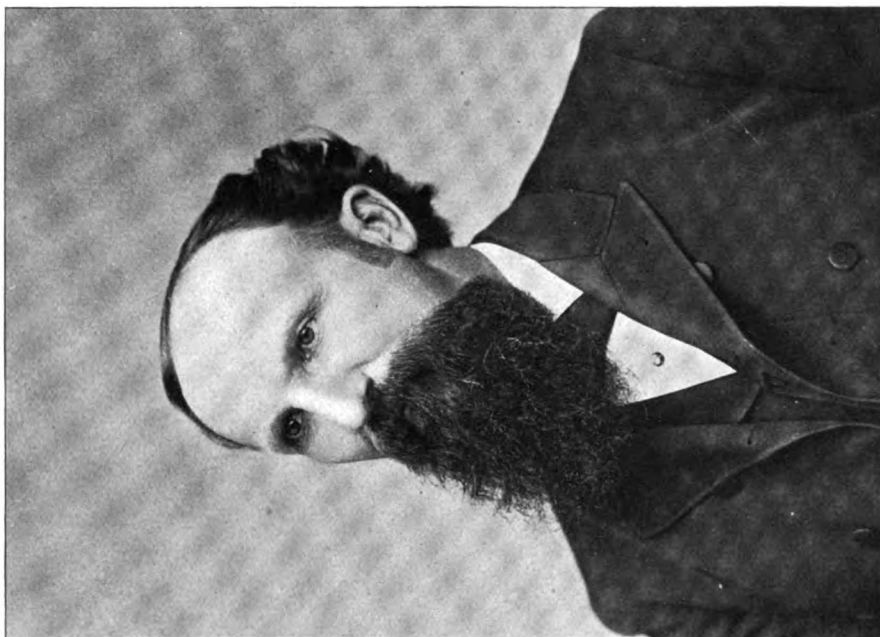
Two years were spent in study at Oberlin College, but meantime his ambition changed. Noticing that most of those who devoted their lives to teaching remained poor, and having a desire to gain possession of some of this world's goods by honest exertion, he determined to abandon the profession upon which he had entered. However, he taught a few terms afterward, and in that way gained the means with which to prosecute his medical studies. Under Dr. S. B. Emerson, of Eagleville, he began to read medicine, then took a course of lectures at the Eclectic Medical College, of Cincinnati, after which he continued to study and practice with Dr. Emerson for a year and a half. Later he took another course of lectures at the same college, graduating May 13, 1873. In August of the same year he opened an office at Pemberville, and commenced the practice of his chosen profession.

On March 4, 1874, Dr. Simon was married to Mary A., daughter of Henry Mohr, of Eagleville. At that time he was in debt \$600.00, but success came to him quickly, and at the end of a year he was out of debt and owned a house and lot. From that time to this he has had a large practice, and has acquired a splendid competence. In addition to professional duties, he has done an extensive business in fire insurance, and is medical examiner for two of the leading life-insurance companies of the United States—the New York Life and the Mutual Life of New York. He is the owner of 180 acres of fine land in the oil regions, which alone represent a small fortune. His home is a beautiful one, and he also owns other property.

Formerly Dr. Simon was identified with the M. E. Church, but there being no Church of that denomination in Pemberville at the time he settled there, he became interested in the Presbyterian faith, assisted in the organization of the Church here, and was for eight years its only



Mary W. Simon



R. J. Simon M. D.



elder. He has served in that office up to the present time, and has always been one of the most active workers, not only in the Church, but also in the Sunday-school, of which he was formerly superintendent. For six years he has been a member of the board of education, during which time the new school building was erected. During his service of four years as a member of the city council, the new city hall was built. In fact, he has been one of the most influential residents of the place, and has been prominent in social, professional and business circles. He is a great lover of fine horses, and is proud of having a team that will not "take dust" from any other team in Wood county.

Dr. and Mrs. Simon have had four children, two of whom died in infancy, and one, Ina, when three months old. The only one living is Nina O., a bright and attractive child, now, fall of 1896, about four years old. In politics, the Doctor is a strong Republican, which is also the political faith of ninety-five *per cent.* of the entire Simon family, now numbering seven or eight hundred members.

CHARLES MERCER, a wealthy retired agriculturist of Bowling Green, was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, April 22, 1826, but has been for over sixty years a resident of Wood county, where his parents were among the pioneers.

His father, William Mercer, was born in Lancaster county, Penn., May 13, 1775. On the 8th of November, 1798, he married Miss Charity Pettit, a native of Lancaster county, born June 17, 1781. Her parents, Daniel and Martha Pettit, both lived to a good old age, the former dying in 1831 at the age of eighty-seven, the latter in 1827, aged seventy-six. For many years after their marriage they lived on a farm in Columbiana county, Ohio, but September 20, 1834, they settled in Wood county upon a tract of wild land purchased from the government, which has since been developed into a fine farm. They were prominent members of the Christian Church, to which all their descendants adhere. The father died March 2, 1839, the mother February 2, 1855.

Our subject was the youngest of thirteen children, of whom three are still living. The names with dates of birth and death are as follows: Martha, September 20, 1799, 1830 (married Andrew Pettit); Mary Ann, May 4, 1801, 1875 (married Enos Monehan); George, April 27, 1803, September 1, 1890; William, August 13, 1805, 1849; John, September 9, 1807, March 4, 1890; Daniel, October 10, 1809, August, 1885; Beulah,

November 27, 1811, April, 1887 (married William Pike); Caleb, born March 24, 1814, lives in Bowling Green; Charity, April 3, 1816, 1875 (married Samuel Taylor); Lucretia, May 12, 1818, December 17, 1847 (married Henry Groves); Abraham, July 8, 1820, lives at Rudolph, Ohio; Ellis Ann, born April 24, 1822, died at the age of two years; Charles, the youngest, is our subject. Beulah left a great many descendants in the vicinity of Des Moines, Iowa, and Charity left a large family in Lawrence county, Penn., and to the north of Enon Valley.

Our subject was but eight years old when he came to this county, and his education was obtained in the public school at Portage. He remained at the old homestead until 1888, when he retired from active work and came to Bowling Green to live. He was married in 1855 to Miss Jane Mominee, who was born in Lucas county, February 28, 1840, the daughter of Anthony and Angeline (De Mars) Mominee. Of the six children of Charles Mercer and wife, three are living. (1) Lenora, born August 3, 1856, died January 6, 1865. (2) Hiram, born December 31, 1857, died January 23, 1867. (3) Abram F., born August 1, 1855, lives at the old homestead. He was married February 26, 1879, to Miss Frances C. Frisbie, who was born in Wood county, November 10, 1859. They have had four children—Clayton, Elmer, Blanche and Leonard, of whom, the eldest died aged ten years. (4) Hamilton, born October 22, 1860, died January 7, 1861. (5) J. D., born March 27, 1863, lives upon a part of the old farm. He votes the Prohibition ticket, while his father and brother are ardent Republicans. He was married April 6, 1884, to Miss Rebecca Aller, a native of Geauga county, born May 5, 1863, and has three children—Lorenzo, Ina, and Hazel. (6) Alnetta, born May 6, 1870, was married January 2, 1891, to H. J. Rudolph, and lives in Rudolph, Ohio.

Mr. Mercer united with the Christian Church at the age of eighteen, and has been an active worker in its interests throughout his manhood.

Mrs. Mercer's grandfather, Louis Mominee, was born in 1740, in Quebec, Canada. In 1859, immediately after Montcalm's defeat, he came thence to what was at that time the Territory of Michigan, settling in Monroe county, near Monroe. In 1761 he married Leahr Freedom, and twenty-two children were born to them, of whom Anthony Mominee, Mrs. Mercer's father, was the twentieth. He was born January 15, 1785, in Monroe county, Mich., and died July 5, 1854. He served throughout the war of 1812, and during that struggle was taken prisoner by the Indians.

On February 17, 1817, he married Margaret Duso, and by her had two children. On June 4, 1821, he wedded Angeline De Mars, who was born October 11, 1800, and ten children blessed their union, seven of whom are yet living. The only son, Peter, enlisted in 1864, in Company A, 130th O. V. I., and served sixty days in the summer of that year. He is now a resident of East Toledo, Ohio. Of the six daughters, Angeline Ducat, Margaret and Matilda McCulloch, reside in East Toledo; Mary Edom, in Barry, Ill.; Elizabeth Ducat, and Jane, the wife of our subject, live in Bowling Green.

ANDREW J. RICKARD (deceased) was one of the most prominent and influential business men of Milton, and at the time of his decease was serving his second term as mayor of that city. Through his various commercial interests he proved an important factor in the upbuilding of the town, and no one is more missed in the community. He was born in Chautauqua county, N. Y., March 20, 1844. His father, Andrew Jackson Rickard, when a young man learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed in connection with farming during the greater part of his life. He married Hannah Rockwell, of Chautauqua county, where they resided until 1852, then they removed to Erie county, Ohio, the father renting a farm in Milan township. In 1862 he came by wagon with his family to Wood county, and settled on a farm near Bowling Green. In 1864, in connection with our subject, he purchased fifty acres of land in Plain township, on which stood an old log cabin which he made his home for a number of years. In 1880 he lost his wife by death, after which event he married Maria Porter, widow of Rance Porter. He is now living in a home in Milton, built for him by our subject.

Andrew J. Rickard, whose name introduces this sketch, was one of a large family, the others being Ellen, deceased wife of Henry Gross; Zinie, of Erie county, Ohio; George W., of Sandusky county, who was a member of Company D, 34th O. V. I., during the Civil war, and was captured at Harper's Ferry; Orange J., now of Henry county, Ohio; Elizabeth, wife of William Sheets, of Milton, who was a soldier of the 72nd O. V. I.; Isaac, who is living near Leipsic, Ohio; Philip, of Milton; John, of Weston; Liddy, who died at the age of seven years; and Nathan, who died in Milton Center at the age of thirty. Our subject attended school in his native county; but had to pay a tuition fee, and the teachers boarded round among the scholars. He was a lad of

eight when the family went to Erie county, Ohio, where he continued his education and was making preparations to pursue a college course when the Civil war broke out. In July, 1861, at the age of seventeen, he became a private, in Erie county, of Company D, 34th Ohio Regiment of Zouaves, under Capt. Furney. At Cincinnati the troops embarked on a vessel for West Virginia. At the battle of Princeton, under Gen. Cox, our subject was severely wounded in the leg by a revolver shot. He fell into the enemy's hands, and was sent to a Rebel hospital, where he lay for ten months, when he was paroled and joined his regiment as soon as able. His next battle was at Fayetteville, wherein he received a severe gunshot wound. He was taken prisoner at Rocky Gap, and sent to Andersonville, where he remained until September, when he was transferred to Savannah, Ga., and on the 12th of October sent to the stockades at Milan, Ga. There he was exchanged, and November 19, 1864, boarded a boat on the Savannah river. At Charleston, in the fall of 1863, he had re-enlisted as a veteran, and was finally mustered out at Wheeling Island, July 29, 1865.

Mr. Rickard then returned to Weston, and began work in a sawmill for Clark, McDonald, Richardson & Stone. In that place he purchased a home, for he had been married in the meantime. While home on a parole, after his release from Andersonville, he was wedded in Monroeville, Huron Co., January 17, 1864, to Emma Cole, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, August 31, 1843, and on the 9th of August, 1866, Alice, their only child, was born. She is now the wife of David Willier, a resident of Milton township, and has two children. Mr. Rickard traded his property in Weston for a sawmill in Milton, and began business in this place. His new property was afterward destroyed by fire; but with characteristic energy he rebuilt, and later bought out his partner, Mr. Whitaker, continuing alone for a number of years. For a time he conducted two sawmills, and was also the owner of a farm of 120 acres, but this he sold at the time the mill burned in order to acquire the capital with which to rebuild, after a second fire, in which he lost between \$6,000 and \$7,000 worth of property. In May, 1885, he purchased a drug store, and up to his death conducted a large and profitable business in that line. In addition he operated a planing-mill and sawmill, and was recognized as one of the most progressive and enterprising business men of Wood county, his success being all due to his own efforts. He died at his home in Milton

Center, January 16, 1896, of blood poisoning, and the funeral was largely attended by members of the several societies to which he belonged. He was affiliated with Neibling Post, G. A. R., of Weston, also the I. O. O. F. and Encampment, in both of which he filled all the offices, and for nine years was a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church of Milton Center. In political affairs he took an active interest as a stalwart advocate of Republican principles, and for a number of years served as township trustee, while, as already related, he was serving his second term as mayor of this city at the time of his decease. Fidelity to duty was one of the predominating traits of his character, and in all the relations of life he was found true and faithful to the trusts reposed in him, thereby winning the confidence and high regard of all. Generous and kind-hearted, he was ever ready to lend a listening ear, and stretch out a helping hand, to the unfortunate and the needy.

N. ALLEN ZIMMERMAN is a native of Pennsylvania, having been born in West Penn township, Schuylkill county, January 13, 1857, a son of Randolph and Hannah (Dunart) Zimmerman, also natives of that county, where they were married in February, 1856. In April, 1857, they removed to Medina county, Ohio, and the father purchased a farm in Homer township, but he afterward left that property and bought ninety-six acres, on which he lived until coming to Wood county nine years later. He here purchased 160 acres of wild land, but afterward sold eighty acres. His first home, a log cabin, was destroyed by fire September 9, 1872, and they lost all their household effects save one bed and a sewing machine. The father died on the old homestead, August 13, 1878, and the mother is now living in Michigan with her son, Gideon P., a farmer. Two children of the family are deceased: Lambert Alfred, who died at the age of two years; and Leanna Elnora, deceased, at the age of twenty-six years. The Zimmerman family is of German origin, and the grandfather of our subject, Samuel Zimmerman, was the first of them to cross the Atlantic to the United States. His parents died when he was very young, and when twelve years of age he came with the family by whom he was reared.

Our subject was three months old when his parents removed to Medina county, and he there began his education, afterward continuing his studies in Wood county, acquiring good school privileges. During the summer months he aided his father in the labors of the home farm, and

continued under the parental roof until his marriage, which occurred in Milton township, January 1, 1884, the lady of his choice being Miss Elizabeth J. Revenaugh, who was born in Vinton county, Ohio, November 29, 1861, a daughter of John and Catherine Revenaugh. They first located on the old homestead, but in October, 1884, removed to their present home, he trading his interest in the family farm for this property. The greater part of his eighty acres was wild and unimproved; but with characteristic energy he began its development, and soon placed it under the plow. Now well-tilled fields surround a comfortable residence and substantial barn, and the neat and thrifty appearance of the place indicates the careful supervision of the owner. To Mr. and Mrs. Zimmerman were born three children, one son and two daughters, the son being the eldest; he was born July 16, 1891, and died on the 20th of the same month. The elder daughter, born August 26, 1893, died on the 29th of that month. The younger daughter, Ruth Ethel, born February 26, 1896, yet survives. They also have a child known as R. O. Zimmerman, born October 31, 1886, whom they have raised from infancy. In his political views Mr. Zimmerman is a Democrat. His wife belongs to the Presbyterian Church, and both are highly esteemed people who have the warm regard of a large circle of friends and acquaintances.

JOHN KIMBERLIN, a well-known pioneer of Grand Rapids township, was born February 16, 1820, in Huntingdon county, Pennsylvania.

His immediate ancestors have been distinguished for their valor and patriotism. His grandfather, George Kimberlin, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war under Gen. Washington; his father, Henry Kimberlin, served in the war of 1812 under Harrison, making a fine record as a soldier. Henry Kimberlin was a native of Pennsylvania, born December 23, 1789, and was married there to Miss Sarah Brewau, who was born August 20, 1795, and by whom he had ten children, all of whom lived to adult age, viz.: Mary A., born October 2, 1816, married George Gilmore, May 6, 1841, and died July 13, 1875; Delilah, born April 21, 1818, married John Dull, December 7, 1843, and died May 4, 1888; John, our subject; Frances, born January 8, 1822, married George Older, August 25, 1860; George, born January 11, 1824, married Adaliza Olney, June 3, 1856, now a prominent citizen of Bowling Green; Jacob, born February 27, 1826, married Sobinah Guyer, November 10, 1853, and is a leading farmer of Grand Rapids township;



Amelia, born August 8, 1828; Eliza, born September 25, 1830; Catherine, born November 22, 1833, married John W. Brown, March 19, 1862, and they reside in Grand Rapids township; and Martha J., born January 2, 1836, and died October 2, 1846.

The family moved to Wayne county, Ohio, and four years later came to Wood county. Here the father bought a tract of wild land at the mouth of Beaver creek, which he cleared and cultivated with the help of his children. He died October 25, 1867, the mother June 20, 1878.

John Kimberlin obtained his early education in an old log school house in the vicinity, and assisted in farm labor until he attained his majority. After leaving the homestead he worked three years upon a neighboring farm, and then began business as a contractor and builder, in which he was engaged thirty years, building school houses, churches, sawmills, and many private dwellings, including some of the finest in the township. In May, 1864, he enlisted in the one-hundred-days' service in Company I, 144th O. V. I., Col. Hunt and Capt. McKee commanding, and took part in several of the engagements which make that year notable, among them the battle at Monocacy. His regiment formed part of the force which frustrated Early's designs upon Washington. On receiving his discharge, in the fall of 1864, he returned home and continued to follow his trade until 1878, when he and his two sisters bought the old homestead, consisting of 210 acres of land near Grand Rapids, and began to develop it into one of the finest farms in the township. He has built a handsome brick dwelling house with fine barns and sheds, and planted an extensive orchard. His attention is chiefly given to stock-raising, and he has one of the finest herds of Jersey cattle in the county, some of the animals being registered. His present success is the result of industry and frugality, and furnishes an encouraging lesson.

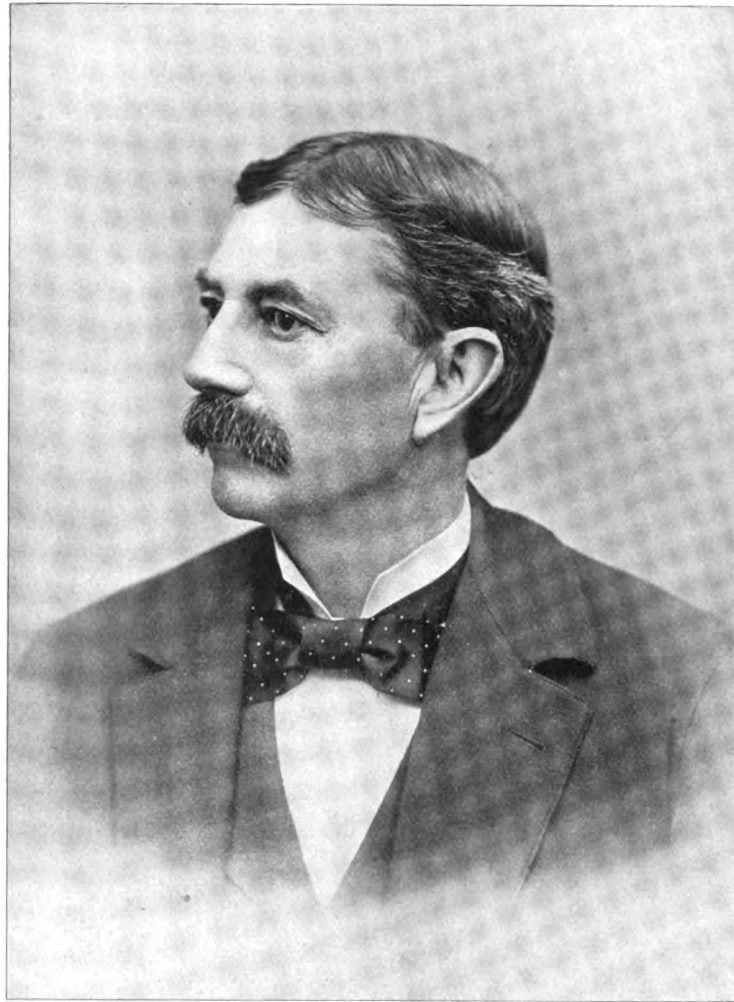
Mr. Kimberlin has never married, but lives happily with his two sisters, each of whom owns a third of the farm. He is a Republican in politics, and has always taken an interest in local affairs, serving at one time as township supervisor.

ANDREW J. MUNN, president of the Exchange Banking Company of Weston, and a leading oil producer of this region, was born in Center township, Wood county, Ohio, January 4, 1842.

William Munn, father of our subject, was a native of County Down, Ireland, born in 1800, and when a young man came to Wood county,

where with the exception of a few years passed in Macoupin county, Ill., he passed the remainder of his life. He had two brothers, who also came to this country, and one of whom went west, the other settling in New York and acquiring a fortune. William Munn kept an inn on the old Munn farm in Center township until his death in 1852, and his house was a favorite resort for the pioneers, who revelled in old songs and stories, and for the local politicians among whom he was a leader. He married Miss Nancy Boosinger, a native of Portage county, Ohio, and had two daughters, who died early in youth, and seven sons, as follows: Robert, deceased; George F., living in Portage; David, murdered in Texas on a sheep ranch; James, who died in Bowling Green; Andrew Jackson, our subject; Matthew, who lives at the old homestead, and William a resident of Bowling Green.

A. J. Munn received his early education in the public schools of this county. On June 20, 1862, he entered the 100th O. V. I. for three years or during the war, and was assigned to the 23rd Army Corps, Central Division. Immediately after the battle at Knoxville he was taken prisoner and sent to Lynchburg, Va., being retained there for a few days, then in Libby prison for three weeks, and in Belle Isle for six months. He and his companions escaped through a tunnel, but was captured while cutting loose a canoe. Mr. Munn was beaten over the head with a revolver, all were compelled to crawl back through the tunnel, and as each man's head emerged it was struck with a spade. While suffering and death reigned supreme in the prison, the captives were aggravated by a gang of thieves among their own numbers, who stole all articles of value which they could secure, and traded them to the Rebels. This gang Mr. Munn assisted in breaking up. Shortly after this was done, he and others were removed to the Pemberton Building, and later to Andersonville, where they arrived March 15, 1864, an attempt to escape from a box car while *en route* failing, partly because of the breaking of a saw. Mr. Munn and John Cain of the Pennsylvania Cavalry, Kilpatrick's Division, escaped soon afterward and traveled all night, but at daybreak, while passing a gristmill, they were seen and pursued by the entire neighborhood assisted by bloodhounds. Fortunately the latter followed the winding trail, and did not come up to them until they were in custody of men who fed them and sent them back to the prison in a buggy. The next escape was accomplished while assigned to carrying out the dead bodies from the prison. Twenty-four who made the attempt were re-cap-



*Andrew J. Munn*



tured, and, after a night around a camp-fire, were taken before the notorious Capt. Wirtz. He ordered all valuables to be taken from them; but as luck would have it the man who did the searching had an honest and sympathetic heart, and in Mr. Munn's case he reported that he found only two dollars, and, retaining the rest, he afterward expended it for food and other supplies for him. The prisoners were then formed in line and questioned as to their mode of escape, which they refused to reveal. They were threatened with 150 lashes each if they did not reconsider this decision, but while they were debating the matter a dispatch arrived telling how they had escaped. They were then ordered to march to a pile of thirty-two-pound iron balls, each man picking up one and carrying it to the blacksmith's shop, where it was attached to his ankle by a chain. This done, they were started on a run for the prison, the chains cutting deeper into their flesh at every step; but after they were out of Capt. Wirtz's sight they were permitted to take sticks, and, by tying strings to end of stick and in link next ball, carried the balls before them as they walked. They were compelled to hobble up to quarters every morning for inspection, but in a few days Mr. Munn managed to make an open link and detached his weight, replacing it when called to quarters. He finally managed to file the band off, and was ready for another escape. Ten dollars secured him a place on the detail which brought in wood, and, while out, his plan was favored by a terrific rain storm which made the guards return in haste to shelter.

Our subject had kept well in the rear, and giving his wood to his companions he ran to an outside building where a friend, Turner Winn, was detailed as cook. On his advice Mr. Munn secreted himself in a marsh near by to wait for a supply of food, but, although he remained immersed in the water for several hours, he missed his friend and was obliged to start hungry on his journey through the inky darkness and pouring rain. He walked all that night, only to find himself at dawn close to the prison walls, having traveled in a circle. His dismay can hardly be imagined, but he had no time to brood over his mistake, and starting south he met, four miles out, a negro who secreted him and brought him food. That evening our hero started across the fields in a northwesterly direction in a cold, drizzling rain, which chilled him to the heart. Almost despairing, he made several attempts to find shelter and rest in lonely houses, but found each one occupied by sleepers whom he feared to arouse. Just as he was about to throw himself

upon the ground and abandon all hope, he heard hogs squealing, and finding their pen he kicked them out of their warm nest and dropped down into it himself, losing consciousness the moment he fell. On awakening, he found the sunshine beaming upon him, and a white-haired negro calling the hogs to feed. When Mr. Munn rose up poor old "Father Buckhorn" stood speechless with astonishment until he learned that the stranger was a "Yankee soldier." "Lord bress you," he said, "I thought it was a new Christ come to earth." He was the overseer of the plantation, and taking Mr. Munn out into an oat field he made him a bed of straw, and soon the colored women supplied him with an abundance of food. The news that "Father Buckhorn" had found a "Yankee" in the hog bed spread far and wide among the negroes, and made that poor old slave the hero of the hour. From all directions the darkies crowded in to look upon the visitor, and they alternately laughed and cried as they made him repeat again and again the story of his adventures and the progress of the war. Their joy at seeing one of their long-hoped-for deliverers was pathetic, and such expressions as "God bress de Yankee generation; deys done come at last," were frequent. A Confederate uniform was found for him, and at night a haversack full of food was provided; but he was too weak to carry it, and a darkey offered to carry it, as he was going twenty miles north to see his wife. Hope and strength returning, Mr. Munn walked on through several nights without special incident, resting during the day, but when his food was gone he was again in perplexity. Shouts from a darkey meeting led him safely to a place where a friendly colored man cared for him, hiding him in a barn and giving him a new supply of food. Warned against going north, where the Rebel forces were concentrated, he took a new direction, and met varying fortunes, swimming rivers, walking miles in the bed of a small stream in order to leave no trace for the hounds to follow, and at times subsisting on huckleberries when no colored ally could be found. At one point the negroes warned him against following the road farther, as two neighbors kept bloodhounds who would know that he was a Yankee in spite of all precautions. He tried it, however, on a dark night, mounted on a mule, but the hounds at the first house made such an outcry that he dared not go on. He had many other narrow escapes, his gray suit serving him well on several occasions. Once, when desperate for food, he entered a house and told the lady who met him that he was a Confederate soldier; but

after some conversation learned that she was a Unionist, and then confessed his own identity. Her husband had gone away rather than fight against the North, and, as both were suspected, she was afraid to do much to help him. In a few hours a Rebel neighbor came in, but so good account did Mr. Munn give of himself that he departed satisfied, and the lady expressed amazement that even a Yankee should be able to invent such a story while he was telling it. When night came she sent him to a Union man near by, who was at first chary of his confidence; but he and his son finally accepted him as "genuine," and kept him up until a late hour telling them the news of the war, accurate intelligence seldom reaching the rural communities. He slept that night in a corn crib, as they were in fear of the Rebels, and the next morning while eating his "corn pone" he was told that the Unionists had taken Rome, Ga., sixty miles away, and had a post at Cross Plains, only fifteen miles from his stopping place. On reaching Cross Plains he found this incorrect. He was well treated there, however, by the negroes, dined in the yard of a stanch Rebel, and passed the pickets safely. He tried to keep to the mountains in order to avoid the relays and stations on the road to Rome; but having been told by a negro how to pass them safely, he tried to follow the road, but was pursued by a detachment from the next post. After swimming a creek and running a long distance, he fell down exhausted in an oat field, where he lay all night, listening to sounds of battle, by which he decided that the Rebels were retreating. The next morning, Monday, July 4, 1864, he made his way to the Union outposts. But his troubles were not yet over. The most vexatious incident of all his tedious wanderings came through his very accurate "make up" as a Confederate. He was arrested and placed in the guard house with other prisoners, and with difficulty obtained an interview with the colonel in command, who finally became convinced of his loyalty, and offered him a position on his staff. This was declined as Mr. Munn wished to rejoin his company, which he succeeded in doing a few weeks later, at Atlanta. With the regiment he remained until mustered out in September, 1865.

On returning home he engaged in the grocery business at Ottawa, later moving to a farm near Portage and establishing a grocery in that village, where he also served four years as postmaster. In June, 1883, he went to Cleveland and entered the commission business; but in 1884 came to Weston and opened a store for general merchandise, which he conducted eight years, and of

which he made a success. Following the arts of peace as energetically as he did those of war, he has been a leading factor in many enterprises. He was the chief organizer of the Exchange Banking Company of Weston, and has been its president from the start. With others, he engaged in oil producing, and now has an interest in twenty productive wells, and others in process of development, and holds a number of promising leases besides. When Mr. Munn was seventeen years old he received \$500 from his mother as his share of the paternal estate, and on this capital founded the prosperity he now enjoys. He bought eighty acres of wild land in Portage township, and has ever since dealt largely in real estate in Wood and Henry counties.

In 1866 Mr. Munn married Miss Louise J. Turner, of Portage, who was born in 1844. They have three children: Arthur, assistant cashier of the Exchange Banking Co.; Maude L., who married J. V. Baldwin, of Weston, and has one son, Andrew Edward; and Jessie M., the wife of Ambrose C. Vedder, of St. Augustine, Fla. (they have one son, Munn C. A. Vedder). Mr. Munn erected his pleasant home in 1892, one of the finest in the county. He is quite a traveler, and recently spent six months at St. Augustine, Fla., where he has a cottage. Socially he is a member of the F. & A. M. and the G. A. R. He was brought up a Democrat, but during the Civil war changed his political opinions, and is now a member of the Republican party.

MARION V. COX, a farmer of Milton township, was born in Crawford county, Ohio, near Bucyrus, April 2, 1847. His parents, George and Nancy J. (Young) Cox, were also natives of the Buckeye State, the former born in Harrison county, in 1816, the latter in Guernsey county, in 1826. They were married in Richland county, later removed to Crawford county, and about 1856 became residents of Morrow county. In April, 1861, the father enlisted in Company I, 65th O. V. I., and served until the close of the war. He afterward removed to Hancock county, and in 1871 came to Wood county, where he is now living a retired life in Weston; his wife died there in May, 1893. Their children were Marion V.; Martha, wife of Samuel Wikel, of Wingston; George, a teamster of North Baltimore; Ellen, wife of Jack Wall, of Wingston; Charles, a farmer of Oklahoma; Viona, wife of Albert Hessong, of Milton township, and Virginia, who died at the age of two years.

Our subject acquired a district-school education, and was reared as a farmer boy. In 1862,

when only fifteen years of age, he joined the Union army in Morrow county, and became a member of Company I, 85th O. V. I. At the end of six weeks he was transferred to the 87th Ohio Regiment, and was taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry, but not long after was paroled. Being now a paroled prisoner, he enlisted in Company C, 54th Battalion, Ohio State Guards, for service in the State. In 1863, although he was fully aware of the great risk he ran, as a paroled prisoner, to re-enlist for active service, yet he joined Company E, 21st O. V. I., in which regiment he participated in the battle of Tunnel Hill, and, on July 9, 1864, was wounded by a minie ball in the right arm, which kept him from duty for two months. He then joined his regiment in front of Atlanta, went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea, and was in the Carolina campaign. While at Columbus, Ohio, July 21, 1865, he was honorably discharged. Mr. Cox says he could relate many a heart-rending scene he was an eyewitness to during his war experiences. For a man of his age during the war, he saw a great deal of hard service.

Soon after his return home, Mr. Cox went to the lumber woods of northern Michigan, where he was engaged in making shingles for three years. He then returned to Findlay, Ohio, in 1869, and was there married to Miss Almira Feller, who was born near Findlay, May 26, 1850. They rented the old Foulk farm, in Hancock county, but after a year rented a farm in Wood county. On the latter place they lived for a year, and Mr. Cox then purchased his present place of eighty acres. This, however, he sold after a year, and for six years rented and operated the Samuel Case farm, in Liberty township. He then again purchased the farm in Milton township, and has made excellent improvements upon it, including the erection of an elegant and spacious dwelling. Industry and enterprise are numbered among his chief characteristics, and have been important factors in his success. Mr. and Mrs. Cox have a family of seven children: Rosie, wife of Ira Lance; Ina; Eldon; Clay and Clyde, twins; Blaine and Olive; they also lost one child that died in infancy. The parents occupy an enviable position in social circles, and have many warm friends. Politically, Mr. Cox affiliates with the Republican party; in religious faith he is an adherent of the United Brethren Church, and, socially, he is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His duties of citizenship are discharged with the same loyalty as when a soldier boy he followed the stars and stripes on Southern battle fields.

**WILLIAM FURRY.** Among the old pioneers and representative agriculturists of Lake township, there is probably no more prominent figure than Mr. Furry, who makes his home in Section 27. He is a native of Stark county, born in 1833, and is a son of Jacob Henry and Fannie (Butler) Furry, the latter of whom died August 20, 1885. The father's birth occurred in Pennsylvania, where he was reared and married, and in 1833 he took his family to Stark county, Ohio, but the same year came to Wood county, locating at Stony Ridge. He was employed for a time on the Maumee pike, and later entered land in Lake township, which he made his home until his death in 1866. He was one of the first members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Stony Ridge, and helped to build the first church erected at that place. He and his wife were faithful members of that Church until God called them to a better land.

Our subject is the third in order of birth in a family of nine children—five sons and four daughters—the others being as follows: Jacob enlisted in October, 1861, at Stony Ridge, in the 72nd O. V. I., and was discharged at Columbus, Ohio, August 21, 1862; he died at Pemberville, Wood county, in August, 1895. George resides at Stony Ridge. Mrs. James Whitmore lives at Haskins, this county. Mrs. Margaret Jennison died at East Toledo in 1890. Mrs. Catherine McCutcheon makes her home at Stony Ridge. John enlisted at Stony Ridge October 19, 1861, in Company E, 72nd O. V. I., for three years, and was mustered in at Columbus, Ohio; he served in the quartermaster's department until honorably discharged at Louisville, Ky., in 1865; his death occurred at Woodville, Ohio, in 1887. Mary is the wife of Martin Shook, of Stony Ridge. Charles makes his home at Gibsonburg, Sandusky Co., Ohio.

The childhood and youth of our subject were passed at Stony Ridge and in Lake township, where he was educated, and he remained under the parental roof until the outbreak of the Civil war, when, in 1861, he enlisted at Stony Ridge, in Company E, 72nd O. V. I., for three years. He was mustered into the United States service at Columbus, and was assigned to the Western army. He participated in the battle of Shiloh and the siege of Vicksburg, where he received a gunshot wound, and at the battle near Ripley, Miss., he was taken prisoner. After three months and a half confinement in Andersonville prison, he was sent to Florence, and later to Lawton, thus experiencing nine months of Rebel prison life. At Salisbury, N. C., he was honorably dis-

charged in 1865, and returned to his home in Lake township, Wood county, where it took him some months to recuperate. He has since made his home upon his present farm.

In 1865, in that township, he wedded Miss Hannah Akersberger, a native of Wood county, and a daughter of George Akersberger, an early pioneer of the township, who died in 1895, but upon the old home farm his widow still resides. Mrs. Furry died in 1868, leaving one child—Edgar George. For his second wife our subject wedded, in 1869, Miss Hattie Wicks, a native of Sandusky county. Her parents, John and Sarah (Hartzel) Wicks, were born in Union county, Penn., thence removed to Wayne county, Ohio, and later to Sandusky county, where they were numbered among the earliest pioneers, and in 1868 became residents of Lake township, Wood county, locating upon a farm. In that township the father died in 1887, and the mother in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Furry have had eight children: Jonas William, who is married and lives in Lake township; John James; Henry B.; Floyd A.; Palmer E.; Irvin E.; Ray R.; and Harry, who died in 1883, at the age of eighteen months.

For sixty-three years Mr. Furry has been a resident of Wood county, during which time he has witnessed its wonderful development, and has been of material assistance in its advancement. On his fine farm of sixty-five acres he is now engaged in general farming, and the place well indicates his careful supervision, enterprise and industry. He takes considerable interest in political affairs, always supporting the Republican party. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Stony Ridge, and are faithful workers in same.

JOHN HARTMAN, who is one of the substantial agriculturists and prosperous men of Wood county, was born in Perrysburg, that county, December 18, 1834, the eldest of the eight children of Jacob and Margaret (Lichtenberger) Hartman.

The parents of our subject were both natives of Germany, the father born May 24, 1808, in Wurtemberg, and the mother on March 12, 1812, near Strasburg. In 1834 they were married in Stark county, Ohio, and came to Wood county the same year, first locating in Perrysburg, afterward, in 1836, removing to Bowling Green, in which vicinity he carried on farming. The father died April 8, 1890; the mother is still living. Their children are as follows: John; Frederick, a farmer in Plain township; Josephine, wife of F. Nobles, a farmer in Center township; David, a farmer in Plain township; George, also a farmer

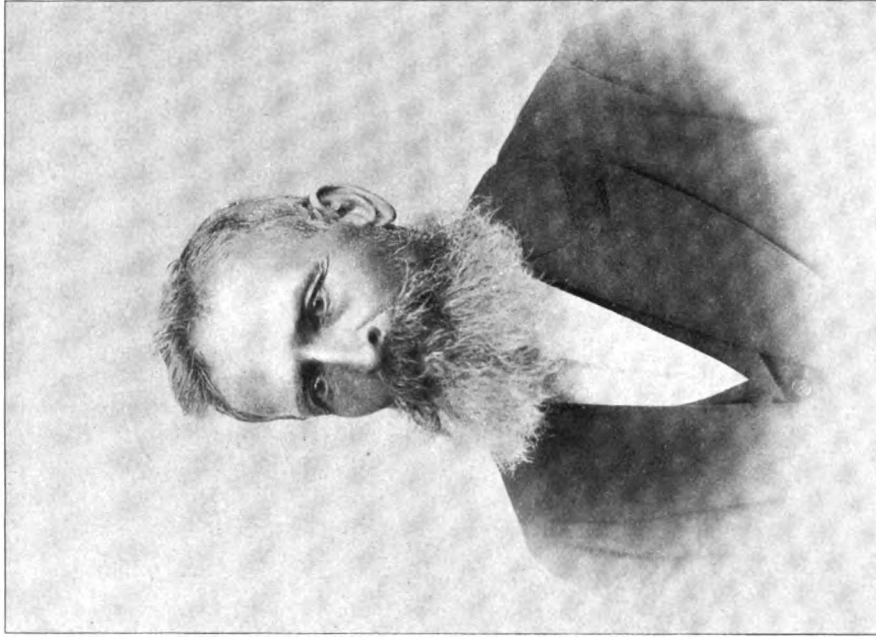
in Plain township; Elizabeth, who resides with her mother in Bowling Green; Electa, also living at home; and Leonard, living on the old homestead in Center township, Wood county. All of the sons are wealthy farmers, and have spent their lives in the vicinity of Bowling Green.

John Hartman was reared to manhood in Center township, and obtained the principle part of his education in the district schools, also attending two years at the Perrysburg High School. When sixteen years old he entered the employ of Lock & Peck, of Bowling Green, as clerk. In the fall of 1854, he studied one term in the college at Berea, and he taught school successfully for six terms. After his marriage, he settled on a farm in Plain township, where he has lived some thirty-eight years. He first bought eighty acres of wild land, and now owns 150 acres, all of which he has brought to a high state of cultivation, and by assiduous labor and careful attention to the details of his work he has become a wealthy man. His example is one that ought to encourage any young man to go and do likewise. When only eighteen years old he was thrown upon his own resources, and he has been the architect of his own fortune. Many of the settlers at that early day depended upon hunting, trapping and fishing for their livelihood, and as the advance of civilization gradually destroyed these means of subsistence, they eventually drifted out to the frontiers, or took up some other desultory method of making a living. Our subject, on the contrary, turned his attention to tilling the soil, and, as the country grew up around him, found a reward for his labors in the products of his fields, and the enjoyments of social life. To-day he ranks among the wealthy and honored citizens of the county who have aided in her growth and progress, and who take pride in the great development of her wonderful resources. He has kept a diary for twenty-three years, on one page recording the weather and directions of the wind, and on the other his business transactions and events of the day.

Mr. Hartman was married December 23, 1858, to Miss Estella Sholes, who was born in Huron county, Ohio, January 28, 1841. Her father, Alva Sholes, was of English descent, born December 11, 1815, in Genesee county, N. Y., son of John and Phœbe (Pond) Sholes, who were natives of eastern New York. In 1841 they migrated westward to Illinois, settling in Kane county, where they passed the remainder of their lives, engaged in farming. They had seven children: Solomon, Steven, Roxanna, Alva, Sylvia, David and Hiram. Alva Sholes came to Huron



*Estella Hartman*



*John Hartman*





county, Ohio, where he was married, December 6, 1839, to Eliza Jane Moore. They became the parents of five children, viz.: Estella (Mrs. Hartman); Leuthera (Mrs. James Mann), of Plain township; Dalinda (Mrs. Frederick Hartman), who died in 1873; Alice J. (Mrs. Dr. Manville), of Bowling Green; and Frank, on the old homestead. Alva Sholes came to Wood county in 1848, settling on a farm in Plain township, where he died in January, 1892. Politically he was a Republican. Mrs. Hartman's great-grandfather, John Moore, came from Germany to the United States with Lafayette, under whom he served as a soldier in the Revolutionary war.

Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hartman, namely: (1) Josephine is the wife of J. W. Underwood, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Bowling Green; they have two children—Estella and Esther. (2) Ernest is a graduate of the Cincinnati College of Pharmacy, and is a druggist at Weston, Ohio. (3) Eugene, born April 17, 1869, was educated at Fayette and Wauseon Normal Schools, and was a teacher in the public schools one term; he is now farming at home. (4) Winifred, born March 14, 1877, lives at home with her parents. Mr. Hartman is a Republican in political belief; has served as township trustee and as school director of his district, but he is no office seeker, preferring to devote his attention to his private interests.

JOHN LAYMAN, a pioneer agriculturist and lumberman of Webster township, was born November 1, 1839, in Berne, Switzerland. His parents, John and Martha (Jacobs) Layman, were both natives of that place, and were married there. In 1849 they came to Wood county, and purchased eighty acres of unimproved land in Webster township. Our subject's father was a man of great energy and practical ability, a Democrat in politics, and a consistent member of the Lutheran Church. He died in August, 1872, and his wife survived him until August 13, 1893. Their children were as follows: Barbara; Peter, a farmer in Webster township; Chris; William; John, our subject; and Anne.

Mr. Layman was ten years old when he came to America, and he remembers well the scenes and experiences of pioneer times, when Indians, wolves and mosquitoes kept the settlers in constant dread and discomfort. The first home of the family was a little log cabin, and they nearly starved at times. Their wheat had to be carried thirty miles to mill. When he reached the age of twenty-two, Mr. Layman enlisted in Company I, 111th O. V. I. (Capts. Yeager and Norris com-

manding). He took part in thirty-two hard-fought engagements, the principal ones being Stone River, Allatoona, Resaca, Lost Mountain, siege of Knoxville, Chattanooga, Cedar Rapids, Utoy Creek, Fort Anderson, Raleigh, and Atlanta. He was discharged at Salisbury, N. C., June 27, 1865. Returning home, he bought eighty acres of forest land near Luckey, and erected a saw-mill, which he operated for twenty years. In 1873, he was married to Miss Mary Smith, also a native of Berne, Switzerland. They have four children: Frank, Fred, Mary and Edward. In politics, Mr. Layman is a Republican, and he belongs to Benedict Post, G. A. R., of Pemberville. He and his wife are prominent members of the Evangelical Church at Luckey.

JAMES S. SALSBERY, who is numbered among "the boys in blue" of the Civil war, and now follows farming in Milton township, was born in Liberty township, Wood county, November 28, 1838. Jonathan Salsberry, his father, a miller by trade, was born in Coshocton county, Ohio, in May, 1786. He learned his trade in Pennsylvania, and was there married to Catherine Plott, a native of the Keystone State. They afterward removed to Ohio, locating on a tract of wild land in Liberty township, Wood county, where they lived until 1864, when the father purchased eighty acres of land in Milton township, and continued its cultivation until his death in 1883. His wife passed away several years previous. Their children were: Sibylina, wife of W. H. Cotton, of Milton; Salinda Ann, wife of Jonathan L. Wheaton, of Nebraska; Salathiel Edwin, of San Antonio, Texas; Cinderella Phœbe, deceased wife of Langdon C. Hubbard; Stanilaus Rudolph, late farmer of Milton township (now deceased); James S., our subject; Sabina I., deceased wife of Edward Remington; Samaria, wife of Thomas Hill, of Milton township; Samaritan Mortimer, of Norwalk, Huron Co., Ohio; and Salva, who died in infancy.

On the old family homestead our subject was reared. While in Liberty township he acquired his education in the old-fashioned log school house, with its fireplace and other primitive furnishings. In July, 1862, he enlisted in the Union army, becoming a member of Company B, 111th O. V. I. Going to the front soon after, his command was engaged in chasing Buell in Kentucky, and on November 16, 1863, he was taken prisoner and sent to Atlanta, afterward to Savannah, and thence to Richmond, where he remained until released, January 1, 1864. He then joined his regiment at Big Shanty, Ga. He

took part in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, the Atlanta campaign, also the siege of the city, and was once wounded by a minie ball in the right knee. He was discharged at Salisbury, N. C., and while at Cleveland, Ohio, June 27, 1865, he was mustered out. At once returning home, he resumed farming.

On November 11, 1866, in Milton township, Mr. Salsberry was married to Susan D. Castle, who was born near Sandusky, Erie Co., Ohio, August 31, 1847, and is a daughter of Thomas Castle, a farmer, who was born in Greene county, N. Y., in 1818. When a young man Mr. Castle went to Wyoming county, Penn., where he wedded Elizabeth Philo, who was born in that county, March 26, 1821. A year later they came to Ohio, locating on a farm near Sandusky, and in 1855 they arrived in Wood county, making their home in Milton township, where Mr. Castle died July 26, 1892. His widow is still living in Custar. Their children were: Anna, deceased wife of Stanley O. Shaw; Malbon W., who entered the army, and died at Graysville, Ga.; Mrs. Salsberry; Isaac, deceased; Sarah J., deceased wife of Barnett Older; David H., who was drowned at the age of seventeen months; Caroline, deceased wife of David Bredbinner; John F., a farmer of Jackson township; Alice C., wife of James Russell, of Isabel county, Mich.; and Henrietta, who died in infancy.

Upon their marriage, Mr. Salsberry and his wife located in Milton township. A year later they removed to Ironton, Mo., but after six months went to St. Francis county, Mo., where Mr. Salsberry purchased 100 acres of land, on which he lived for a year and a half. He then returned to Wood county, and after a short time took up his residence in Custar, where he engaged in clerking for two years. He next rented land for a few years, after which, in 1883, he purchased fifty acres, twelve of which were cleared. In 1892 he erected his present commodious and comfortable home, and in 1891 he built a large and substantial barn, which was destroyed by fire, August 26, 1895. To him and his wife have been born three children: (1) Elmo Earle, born April 27, 1868, in Missouri; he was married, October 19, 1891, to Fannie E., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Fellers, farming people of Henry township, and to them was born, October 18, 1892, a daughter, named Pearl; Elmo E. Salsberry is now teaching school in North Baltimore. (2) Elda B. (also a school teacher), born November 5, 1871, in Milton township; he was married, September 11, 1890, to Nora B., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Winfield

Barber, farming people of Milton township, and to them have been born three children, their names and dates of birth being as follows: James W., February 25, 1892; Opal M., April 12, 1893; Malbon E., February 5, 1894. (3) Roland was born November 26, 1880, and is attending school in Custar. The parents are active members of the Disciples Church, and in politics Mr. Salsberry was a Democrat until the breaking out of the Civil war, when he became a staunch Republican.

A. J. HARMAN, a straightforward and industrious farmer, is a descendant of one of the old and respected families of Montgomery township, where he was born in Section 30, September 7, 1868, and is the youngest child of William and Mary (Kyser) Harman. He acquired his education in the district schools of the neighborhood—his first teacher being Erasmus Musser—and received a careful home training, remaining a member of the parental household until he had attained the age of eighteen years, when he entered the stave mill at Prairie Depot belonging to Smith, Hathaway & Co., where he was employed as fireman and at running the engine.

In that village, April 21, 1888, Mr. Harman married Miss Amanda Amos, the ceremony being performed by Steve Angus. The lady is also descended from a respected pioneer family of Wood county, who were early settlers of Portage township, where she was born October 18, 1868. However, she accompanied her parents, George and Sarah A. (Jackson) Amos, to Montgomery township when a small child, and was there reared. Three children grace the union of our subject and his wife: Mabel M., born October 31, 1889; Hazel L., born February 27, 1891; and Pearly J., born February 3, 1895, and these compose an interesting little group.

After his marriage, Mr. Harman rented four lots of his father in Prairie Depot, where he resided until the fall of 1889, when he located upon the home farm in Montgomery township, and there continued until his present comfortable home was erected in 1893, where they removed on October 5. He has twenty acres of rich and productive land, upon which he has placed many substantial improvements, and no happier or pleasanter home can be found anywhere. For nearly two years he was a pumper for the Hazelwood Oil Company, in which position he remained until January 31, 1896, when he took charge of the oil property for the Stitts, Pool & Harris Oil Co. He is a steady-going young man, destined to become a substantial farmer, and

bears an excellent reputation throughout the community, where he has always made his home. In political sentiment he is a stalwart Democrat, ever casting his vote in support of the principles of that party.

**A. B. MILLER.** The subject of this sketch stands second to none among the prominent citizens of Jerry City. The place of his nativity is Upper Paxton township, Dauphin Co., Penn., where he was born March 30, 1816; he was christened Amos, but later for convenience took the initial B, and is now known as A. B. Miller.

His parents, Daniel and Magdalene (Kanaga) Miller, were of Swiss extraction, their ancestors having come from Switzerland many generations ago, locating in Lancaster county, Penn., during its pioneer days. Our subject was nineteen years of age when the family left the Keystone State, making the long journey, by way of Pittsburgh, to Scipio township, Seneca county, where the father had previously purchased 182 acres of land and erected a cabin. He and his wife came in a carriage, while our subject drove a one-horse wagon containing bedding and provisions, and his brother Simon drove a four-horse team hitched to a covered wagon. It was two years after the parents left their home in Pennsylvania before they located in Seneca county, as they had stopped at Mrs. Miller's father's farm in Stark county, Ohio, there making a temporary home while the father looked up a suitable location. His death occurred in Seneca county at the age of sixty-eight years and nine months, while his wife had reached the very advanced age of ninety-three years and three months, at the time of her death. She was a woman of the greatest vitality, always active up to the time of her death. In the family were five children, namely: Simon, who died in Seneca county when nearly eighty years of age; Elizabeth, who became the wife of George Shaffner, and died when past the age of sixty years; A. B., of this sketch; Fannie, who died in Pennsylvania at the age of thirteen; and John K., of Seneca county.

The early education of our subject was such as the subscription schools of Pennsylvania afforded at that early day, when manual labor was considered of more importance than literary studies. His boyhood and youth were passed on his father's farm, and one of the first important steps toward the establishment of a home of his own, was his marriage which took place in Bucyrus, Ohio, February 23, 1841, his bride being Miss Nancy Shaffner, who was born in Dauphin county, Penn., September 21, 1822. She was

the next to the youngest in the family of nine children, three sons and six daughters, born to Martin and Sarah (Flischer) Shaffner. While a resident of Pennsylvania, her father followed tanning; but on locating in Crawford county, Ohio, in 1828, he took up farming, which he followed until his death at the age of eighty-four. The mother of Mrs. Miller died in 1824, after which Mr. Shaffner was three times married, and became the father of twenty-one children, one of whom died in infancy, but the others all lived to adult age, the youngest dying at the age of nineteen.

The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed by the advent of twelve children, namely: William H., who served for three years during the Civil war as a member of Company H, 101st O. V. I., and is now living in Portage township, Wood county; Isaiah S., a resident of the same township; John W., a merchant of West Millgrove, Ohio; Mary M., wife of John Johnston, Jr., of Portage township; Sarah E., wife of John Reese, of Bloom township; Martha J., now Mrs. Levi Butturff, of Crawford county, Ohio; Amanda, who died at the age of six years; Annie M., who became the wife of John Todd, and died in Portage township; Amos A., who died in infancy; Nannie, who died at the age of eighteen years, was the wife of Cyrus Johnston; Ida A., widow of Henry Brown, of Jerry City, Ohio; and a son who died in infancy. The family is one of prominence, and its members have become useful and respected citizens.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller began housekeeping on an eighty-acre farm in Seneca county, partially cleared, where they made their home until February, 1864, when they came to Section 10, Portage township, Wood county, buying 160 acres of land. There they continued to reside until March 4, 1880, since which time they have found a pleasant home in Jerry City, though they still own fifty-eight acres in Section 32, Portage township. For over fifty-five years they have traveled life's journey together, strengthening each other during the trials and vicissitudes of life, but are now resting after their labors, surrounded by a loving family and many warm friends. Both are earnest Christians, being members of the Radical United Brethren Church. For many years Mr. Miller was a Republican, but now supports the Prohibition party.

**JAMES SMITH,** deceased. The subject of this sketch, formerly a well-known citizen of Bowling Green, was born in the North of Ireland in the year 1815. He came to America when twenty years of age, and for two years lived in New

York City, but finally located at Little Falls, Herkimer Co., N. Y., where he remained thirty years engaged in merchant tailoring. He married a native of Little Falls, Miss Phally Dennis, who was born August 15, 1824, the eldest daughter of Cornelius and Betsy (Simmons) Dennis. They were natives of Connecticut, but came to New York in early youth, where they met and married. Mr. Dennis was a prominent resident of Little Falls, a millwright by trade. He lived to the age of eighty, but Mrs. Dennis died at the age of forty years. Of their four children, Mrs. Smith is now the only survivor. The others were Thomas, a resident of New York State; Mary, who died in childhood, and Eleanor. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Smith continued to reside at Little Falls, where children were born to them as follows: Edmund, born June 30, 1847, died in childhood; Clarissa, born July 20, 1849, who married George West, and died June 19, 1872, leaving one daughter, Mabel, now Mrs. Strouse, of Fostoria, Ohio; George, born June 5, 1853, who married Miss Maggie Tisseur, and died August 11, 1892, leaving three children—Floyd, Lamine, and Marie; Julia A., born March 29, 1858, who married Frank H. Boughton, of Bowling Green, and has three boys, Walter, Solon and LeRoy. Two great-grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Smith—Phally and Clara Strouse—live with their parents at Fostoria.

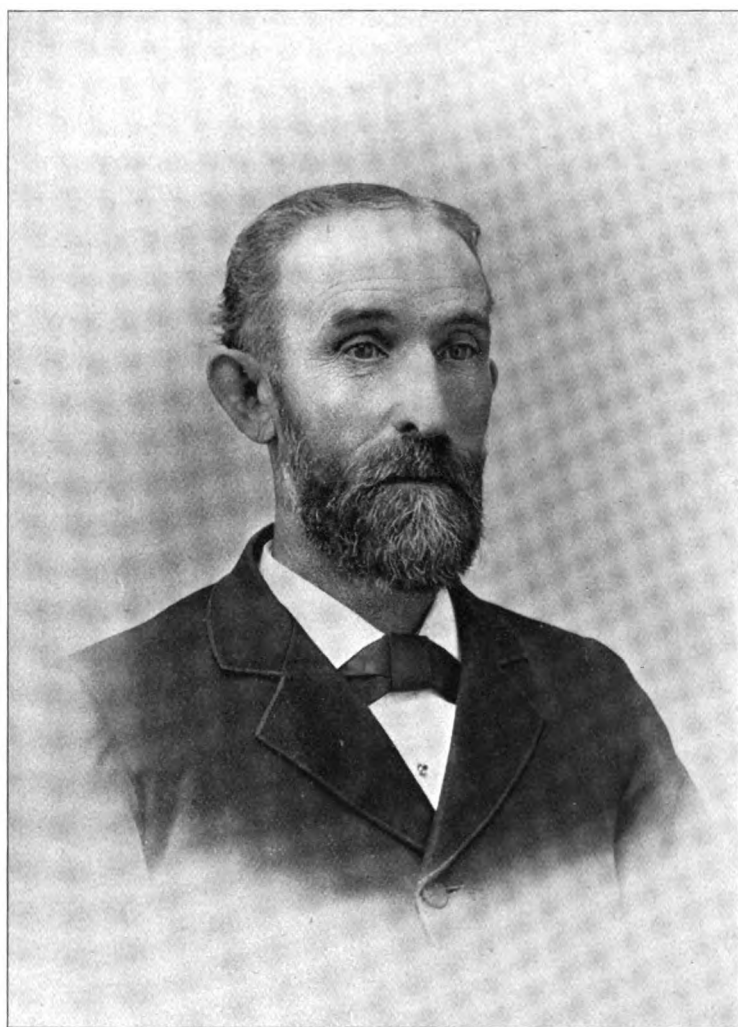
After thirty years of active business life at Little Falls, Mr. Smith moved with his family to Bowling Green, where he had made some profitable investments, and spent the remainder of his days there in retirement. Politically he was a Democrat, and although he was never a politician, he took an intelligent interest in all public movements. His death occurred in 1883, and since that time Mrs. Smith has lived in her own home, only two blocks from her daughter, Mrs. Boughton. Her few remaining relatives take delight in her occasional visits. She has been a member of the Presbyterian Church for twenty years; but her age prevents her from taking an active part in Church work.

MRS. MARY CRANKER WILLIAMS, of Perrysburg, the widow of Alfred Gillette Williams, who was for many years a leading business man of Wood county, is a member of one of the oldest families of her vicinity.

Her parents, Peter and Margaret (Meagley) Cranker, were honored pioneers of Perrysburg, where our subject was born November 13, 1840, and grew to useful womanhood, receiving an excellent education, and early taking a prominent

part in social, religious and philanthropical circles. On December 30, 1866, she was united in marriage with Mr. Williams, a man in whom all the sterling uprightness and courage of his Welsh ancestry was revealed in daily life. He was born in Steuben, N. Y., November 21, 1832, but his parents moved to Adrian, Mich., in the following year, and there he remained up to the age of seventeen. Having decided upon a mercantile calling, he served an apprenticeship, by clerking some years, in Fayette, Ohio, and Grand Rapids, Mich., and afterward traveled as a salesman for a firm in Maumee City, gaining valuable experience of which he made good use in later years. In 1860 he came to Perrysburg, and, in partnership with his brother, engaged in the dry-goods business, in which they built a substantial and profitable trade. After some years he withdrew from this firm and devoted his time to other enterprises, notably the oil industry. He was also extensively engaged in the manufacture of wooden-ware, and in the interest of his business he traveled extensively. His efforts in every line were rewarded with success, but his generous nature made him a liberal dispenser of the wealth which flowed in his busy hands.

A devout and consistent member of the M. E. Church, to which he gave faithful service as steward, trustee, class-reader and Sunday-school teacher, he was also a ready financial supporter in every emergency. Religion was not with him a form; it was an essential part of his life. In early manhood, while at Maumee City, he had experienced a deep spiritual awakening which left no doubt within him as to the transcendent value of the higher life. It was his delight to serve the cause of the Church in any capacity, and when elected in 1891 as lay delegate from the Central Ohio Conference to the General Conference, he regarded it as the greatest honor of his life. In politics he was a Republican, though his father was a Democrat, and for several years he served on the school board, but was no office seeker. Socially he was a Master Mason. He passed away October 17, 1892, after a short illness, in full assurance of the faith of Christ. Only the day before his death he exclaimed, his face radiant with happiness, "Oh, I have received such a blessing this week." He left three sons, Alfred R., born September 5, 1868, who married Clara Chappuis, and has two children—Alfred Russell, Jr., and Elbert J.; Ernest Roy, born June 11, 1879, and Arthur G., born October 8, 1882, both of whom live with their mother at the family residence on Second street, a home where



Yours Sincerely  
A. G. Williams



all that could minister to culture and refinement is gathered. Mrs. Williams, always a ready helpmeet to her husband in his philanthropies, still continues the work in which he delighted, and gives freely of her means and sympathies to every worthy movement.

MRS. JANE DAVIS conducts a general mercantile establishment in Dunbridge, and well deserves mention in the history of the county. She was born in Webster township, March 6, 1848, and is a daughter of Hugh and Jennie (Davidson) Stewart, both of whom were natives of Scotland. She attended school in Webster township, and remained at home until 1872, when she became the wife of William Davis. Of their marriage were born six children—Anna M., who was born July 11, 1874, was educated in Dunbridge and in Ada, Ohio, and was for two terms a school teacher, but now occupies the position of stenographer with the firm of Royce & Coon, of Bowling Green; Margaret J., born August 16, 1876, is at home; Frederick W., born August 19, 1878, and Maurice, born October 19, 1880, operate the home farm; Mary E., born October 13, 1882, and Daisy V., born December 9, 1884, complete the family.

Mrs. Davis remained on the farm until 1884, when she removed to Dunbridge and established the store which she still conducts, being one of the first citizens of the place. In addition to the care of the store she manages a farm of ninety-six acres in Webster township, which she owns, and which she has placed under a high state of cultivation. She possesses excellent business and executive ability, is enterprising and progressive in her business methods, and by her true womanliness and helpful spirit has won the respect of all with whom she has been brought in contact. She is certainly a most estimable lady, and is now a valued member of the Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of Rebekah.

ERASTUS MUSSER, one of the successful educators of Wood county, was born in Section 25, Portage township, April 28, 1849, and is a son of Samuel Musser, a native of Columbiana county, Ohio. His paternal grandfather, Michael Musser, became one of the prominent pioneers of Portage township, where he died in 1852, and his remains were interred at Millgrove.

Samuel Musser, the father of our subject was reared and educated in the manner of most farmer lads, and, after his marriage, located on the farm where he still resides. In the spring of 1836 he came to Portage township, and here

married Miss Hulda Tefft, a daughter of Ezekiel Tefft, a native of Rhode Island, and they became the parents of five children: Erastus, subject of this sketch; William, of Portage township; Mercy, now Mrs. James Waugh, of Webster township, Wood county; Ezekiel, a mason and farmer of southwestern Kansas; and Albert, who died while young. In 1856 Mrs. Musser passed away and was buried in Millgrove cemetery. For his second wife, Mr. Musser wedded Abbie Mader, who was born in Richland county, Ohio, May 27, 1836, and to them were born five children, namely: Rosetta, who died in childhood; David W., of Portage township; Hulda J., wife of William Dicken, of Montgomery township, Wood county; Charley, at home; and one daughter who died in infancy. The father died January 6, 1896, at the age of eighty-four years, and is interred in the cemetery at Millgrove. He thoroughly represented the pioneers of the community, as he aided in its development and contributed generously to promote its prosperity. By the aid of his sons he transformed his wild uncultivated land into a highly improved farm. In him the Democratic party had one of its most earnest supporters.

The school days of Erastus Musser were mostly passed in District No. 7, Portage township, his first teacher being Marilla Lamson, and there he acquired a good education. Being reared on a frontier farm, he soon became familiar with the arduous tasks incident to such a life, and received a thorough training as an agriculturist. Since the age of twenty-three, however, he has engaged in teaching, being employed in Portage, Bloom and Montgomery townships, Wood county, and has proved himself a capable and reliable instructor. He has taught every winter, and missed but few summer terms. A man of genuine worth, and more than ordinary intellectual attainments, he enjoys the respect and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact. He is identified with the Democratic party, and on that ticket was elected assessor of Portage township for two years.

GEORGE KIMBERLIN. Few men, indeed, are there who live out the period of man's allotted years here on earth, practically with one people, who can look back over an official life of nearly a third of a century, and say that, without an exception, the offices sought him, and not he them. Such is the record of the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch, and who is now passing the evening of a well-spent and useful life in a comfortable home, as a retired farmer



and citizen of Bowling Green. Born January 11, 1824, in Huntingdon county, Penn., of parents Henry and Sarah (Brewau) Kimberlin. Our subject on his father's side descended from German ancestors.

George Kimberlin, the paternal grandfather, was a member of Washington's bodyguard during the Revolutionary war, after which he settled in what is now Bedford county, Penn., and died in Huntingdon county, same State. He was an orphan, and, with the exception of his nationality and the few facts above mentioned, nothing is known of his family or of his early life. The paternal grandmother was a Miss Wagner, who also died in Huntingdon county. They left a large family, of whom the following are mentioned: John, who became a Methodist minister and removed to New York State; George, who died young; Henry; Michael (deceased), who was a resident of Wayne county, Ohio; and David, whose death occurred in Wood county.

Henry Kimberlin, father of our subject, was reared in Huntingdon county, Penn., and took part in the war of 1812, entering from Pennsylvania, and being located at Fort Meigs. Just before the battle by Tecumseh he was taken ill with chills, having been subject to the ague, and was left in the rear, but insisted on going into battle. After the close of the war he went back to Pennsylvania, but in the spring of 1827 removed to Wayne county, Ohio, and in 1831 he came to Wood county, locating on the river just below Grand Rapids, where he died about 1867, at the age of seventy-eight years. He was an Old-line Whig, later a Republican. He was a member of the United Brethren Church, in which he was a local preacher, and was noted among the pioneers as the one who preached the greatest number of funeral sermons. While a man of only a meager education, he was a deep thinker, possessed good hard sense which made him practical in business affairs, and a most useful citizen among the pioneers. His name frequently occurs on the records of the early history of the county. He was one of the justices of the peace who served in Weston township during the period between 1831 and 1841. Sarah, his wife, died in 1878 at the advanced age of eighty-three years. To their marriage had been born ten children, named: Mary Ann (deceased), who was the wife of George Gilmore, of this county; Delilah, who was married to John Dull, and who also died in Wood county; John, now living near Grand Rapids, at the age of seventy-five years; Francis, the wife of George Older, a resident of Michigan; Amelia and Eliza, unmarried; Catherine, the

wife of John W. Brown, of Grand Rapids; Martha Jane, whose death occurred at the age of eleven years; Jacob, now of Grand Rapids; and George.

George Kimberlin, the subject of this sketch, coming to a new country when a lad, had but meager educational advantages, receiving only such instruction as was usual to the pioneer children of that day. At the age of twenty-five years he received one year's training in the schools of Perrysburg, which, followed by subsequent reading and self application, made him a well-informed and practical business man. His early life was passed on the farm of his father, whom he assisted in the general work incident to pioneers of Wood county. In 1856 he was married to Miss Adaliza Olney, a native of Saratoga county, N. Y., born March 25, 1829, and daughter of Benjamin and Lucy (Emerson) Olney who were one of the pioneer families of Wood county, and whose history appears in the sketch of Samuel R. Junkins, of Bowling Green. Mrs. Kimberlin, who was a woman of many Christian virtues, was identified with the Baptist Church. Her death occurred at Bowling Green, January 15, 1892. There were no children born to the marriage.

After his marriage Mr. Kimberlin settled on a farm near Grand Rapids, this county, where he continued in agricultural pursuits until the fall of 1871, when he entered upon the duties of treasurer of Wood county, to which office he had been previously elected. His election was for a period of four years, which term he served out, and a vacancy occurring in 1881 he served another year by appointment. While a resident of Weston township he had for fourteen years been the township clerk; was real-estate assessor of the township in 1870; and in 1890 served similarly in Plain township. So well, and with such care did Mr. Kimberlin serve the people of the township and county in transacting the business intrusted to his care, that, when his term of office had expired, they were loath to give him up, and his successors to the office of treasurer made him their deputy for ten years. Even this did not suffice, for he has been called to assist in the several county offices at periods from that time to the present. He brought to these various branches of county's business, intelligence, fitness, and a popularity that rendered him a most useful and safe official, and a satisfactory one. Possessed of a patriotism inherited from an ancestor of the war of the Revolution, and from his father, a soldier of the war of 1812, Mr. Kimberlin in the dark days of 1864 left the plough in the

furrow, shouldered his musket, and went to the front to bear an honorable part in the campaign of the command. He enlisted in May, 1864, in Company I, 144th O. V. I. He became second lieutenant of that company, and took part in the bayonet charge at Monocacy, Md. He was discharged in September of that year (1864).

Mr. Kimberlin is one of the most widely known and highly respected citizens of Wood county, and a thoroughly representative business man of the community, in which he has mingled so many years. He is identified with the Baptist Church, and in politics is a Republican. He possesses a fine, well-improved farm of nearly 150 acres in Grand Rapids township.

A. R. MATHEWS, who has served as agent at Webb for the Pennsylvania railroad since his appointment, on January 5, 1876, is probably the oldest employe on the division, and his long-continued service certainly indicates his faithful discharge of duty. He is a native of Ohio, born in Ashland county in 1836, and when five years of age was taken to what is now Bryan, Williams Co., Ohio, by his parents, George and Margaret (Hamilton) Mathews. The father was born in Pennsylvania, and was married in Ashland county, this State, where he followed his trade of blacksmithing until his removal to Bryan, in 1841. There he began the cultivation and improvement of a farm, but was not long permitted to enjoy his new home, as he died in the year 1844, leaving two children—our subject, and his brother George, who enlisted in Williams county in 1862, in Company D, 38th O. V. I., and veteranizing served until the close of the war, during which he was twice wounded. He still makes his home in Williams county. In 1847 the mother became the wife of Henry Caszett, who by his first union had four sons—Adam, who was in the three-months' service during the Civil war, and now makes his home in Michigan; Franklin and Kerry, also residents of the same State; and John, who died in Williams county, Ohio. By her second union the mother of our subject had two children—Andrew P. and Deborah, both of Isabella county, Mich. Her death occurred on the old home in Williams county, in 1860.

In that county our subject was reared to manhood, and the first school he attended was taught in the old log court house of Bryan. On leaving home, in 1854, he went to Boscobel, Wis., where he was employed at rafting lumber down the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers, and during his stay of seven years also went south. He returned to Williams county in 1860, and the fol-

lowing year at Stryker, Ohio, enlisted in the three-months' call, serving with Company E, 14th O. V. I. He later re-enlisted for three-years' service, this time becoming a member of Company E, 38th O. V. I., and was mustered in at Camp Dennison. He participated in the battles of Phillips, Laurel Hill, Cary's Ford, Wild Cat, Ky., Lyons Cross Roads, Nashville, Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, Iuka, Tuscumbia, and then went on the march to Louisville. Later he was in the engagements at Milledgeville, Stone River, Chickamauga, Chancellorsville, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, and at Chattanooga became a veteran of the same company and regiment. He went with Sherman on the celebrated march to the sea, was in the Carolina campaigns, and took part in the grand review at Washington, D. C., after which he received an honorable discharge at Cleveland, Ohio, in June, 1865, and returned to his home in Williams county. For four years he had faithfully followed the old flag on Southern battle fields, enduring all the hardships and privations of army life, but was ever found at his post of duty.

In 1865, in Defiance, Ohio, Mr. A. R. Mathews led to the marriage altar Miss Mary Hanna, who is a native of that county, and four children have come to bless their union—J. W., who is married, and is a telegraph operator of Toledo, Ohio; Orlando R., who is also married and is telegraph operator for the Nickel Plate railroad at Bellevue, Ohio; Mrs. Fannie M. Hathaway, of Pemberville, Ohio; and Mamie C., wife of Frank Berndt, of Troy township, Wood county.

After his marriage, Mr. Mathews engaged in farming in Williams county until 1871, at which time he removed to Genoa, Ottawa Co., Ohio, where he was in the employ of the firm of Webb and Brown, in their washboard manufactory. He was then sent by that firm to Webb Station, Wood county, where he helped to construct two mills, and, in connection with railroad-ing, also kept boarders for some three years, having as many as forty-four mill hands as well as transient boarders. In 1873 he came to Troy township, where he built a house on railroad land, it being the first dwelling erected at Webb. His present fine residence was erected in 1882. Besides his duties as station agent he is also engaged in the cultivation and improvement of his farm. He bought eighty acres of heavily timbered land in Lake township, Wood county, which he at once began to clear and develop, making it one of the best places in the locality. In politics, Mr. Mathews is an ardent Republican,

and for seventeen years served as postmaster at Webb, when he resigned, and in 1895 the office was discontinued. He has taken an active part in promoting the welfare of the community, and always lends his aid to every worthy enterprise.

**THOMAS JUNKINS.** The subject of this sketch, who is known and revered throughout Wood county as the oldest living pioneer of Weston township, where he has resided for sixty-two years, was born in Fayette county, Penn., April 27, 1822.

Samuel Junkins, the father of our subject, was born in Maine, of Scotch and Irish parentage, and when a young man went to Pennsylvania, where he engaged in the manufacture of brick. He was there married to Nancy Smith, and four children were born to them, as follows: Clarissa, the widow of John Pugh, of Weston; Thomas; Julia Ann, the wife of Henry Bernthistle, deceased, and Samuel, deceased. The family afterward removed to Guernsey county, Ohio, where the father died in 1829, when our subject was but seven years old. The mother, with her children, returned to Pennsylvania, and in Washington county was married to John Rice. They then came back to Ohio, in 1833, in company with John McKee and a man by the name of Storts—there being three families in all. They settled in Weston (now Grand Rapids) township, Wood Co., Ohio, where the father of Mr. Rice had taken up land. Here Mr. Rice died in the fall of 1833. His widow subsequently removed to the farm owned by John McKee, where she remained until 1838, in which year she moved on the Carson farm, where she died in 1851.

Thomas Junkins had only a limited education, and after the death of his step-father, although a mere lad, he had to go to work in order to help support his widowed mother. His boyhood was spent in clearing up a portion of the McKee farm, and a greater part of the Carson farm. Here he spent seventeen years of hard work, and he recalls with gratitude the kind and encouraging words given him by Alexander Brown, who in those days of toil and hardships acted as a father, and cheered the boy in his daily toil. In 1843 Thomas Junkins bought 160 acres of land, being the S. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 29, Weston township, where he still resides. On this he placed many improvements, and in 1877 built his present fine residence, most of the lumber used in its construction being obtained from his own timber. For forty years the subject of our sketch resided on this farm, during which long period of time, and even longer, not a single death in the house-

hold, or family occurred (although they reared a family of six children), Mrs. Junkins being the first to pass away, her death occurring in 1895, forty-two years from the time of her marriage. This is a remarkable record, for which Mr. Junkins expresses his sincere gratitude.

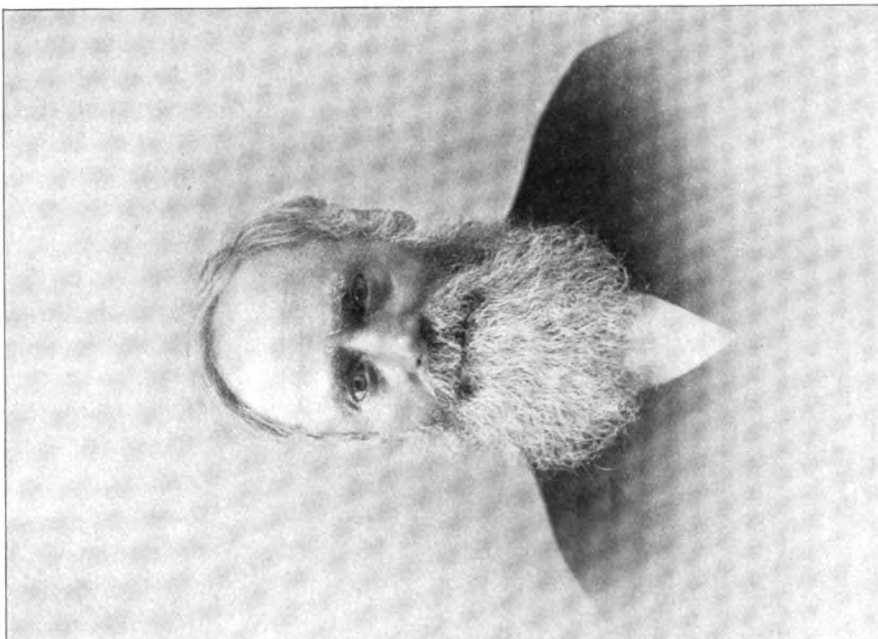
About the year 1847 our subject bought 160 acres of land on Hull's Prairie, at seventy-five cents per acre, which comprised the ground on which the railway station now stands. This he sold for \$2,000, and then bought 320 acres from Mr. Bucklin, in Milton township, for which he paid \$2,080. Eighty acres of this he sold, and eighty acres of this farm he exchanged for a part of the Ward farm, and the remaining 160 acres he gave to his two sons, Eber W. and Charles L. (eighty acres each), while to Raymond S. he gave a part of the Ward farm. Mr. Junkins has always been a great lover of fine stock, having in his younger days been an extensive breeder of fine Shorthorn cattle, and to him much credit is due, for, through his enterprise, his neighbors and the citizens of Wood county, generally, have reaped rich returns from the improved stock they were enabled to secure, and did secure, from him. Owing to advanced age, and the depreciation of the cattle industry, Mr. Junkins has abandoned the business.

When the Civil war broke out, no citizen was more ready to assist the government in its efforts to sustain the Union than the subject of this sketch, and in 1863 he enlisted and was mustered in at Cleveland as a member of Company F, 86th O. V. I., under Col. Charles Lennert and Capt. Squires. He was present at the capture of Morgan, and at the battle of Cumberland Gap; served for eight months, and was mustered out at Cleveland in 1864. As a result of his soldiering he has ever since been afflicted with deafness.

Mr. Junkins was married October 7, 1853, at Weston, to Elizabeth, daughter of Jacob Long, who was born October 15, 1827, and who died February 5, 1895. Six children blessed this union, namely: (1) Alzina Adelaide, born July 24, 1854, married April 7, 1874, to James Blackburn; (2) Charlotte Alma, born July 3, 1856, married to William Walters; (3) Eber W., born August 10, 1858, is a farmer in Milton township; (4) Raymond S., born July 28, 1861, is a farmer of Weston; (5) Charles L., born September 25, 1863, is a farmer in Milton township, and (6) Perry C., born August 31, 1866, has the management of the homestead of 218 acres. Among the reminiscences of early days, Mr. Junkins relates that, in 1850, he in company with Aaron P. Treadwell, who was known as "Live Yankey,"



MRS. ELIZABETH JUNKINS.



THOMAS JUNKINS.



and "Jim" Crago, drove 150 head of cattle from Weston township, Wood Co., Ohio, to Bridgeport, Conn., the trip occupying several months' time.

The death of his beloved wife, which was the first one to occur in the family, as above related, was a severe blow to Mr. Junkins. They had been companions for nearly half a century, and she had been to him a faithful helpmeet, sharing his burdens, and by her loving care making his home a blessed retreat from the cares and trials of life. She was a devoted mother, counting no sacrifice too great, if by it she could secure the welfare and happiness of her family. Thoughtful of their comfort, and anxious for their future, she trained her children to become useful citizens and an honor to the parents who did so much for them; and now that she has gone to her reward they "rise up and call her blessed." In his political preferences, Mr. Junkins is a Republican, and for three terms he held the office of supervisor. In religious faith, he attends the Universalist Church, and is a consistent Christian. Socially, he belongs to the G. A. R. Post at Weston, and April 28, 1870, was made a Master Mason in Grand Rapids Lodge No. 289, F. & A. M., Grand Rapids, Ohio, of which lodge he is still a member. He has resided on his present farm since 1855, though he bought it in 1843, and is known and beloved throughout the community, of which he may be called "one of the old land marks." His life has been one of useful endeavor, marked by integrity of purpose, upright dealing and a belief in the Fatherhood of God, and the brotherhood of humanity; and, now that for him the shadows are lengthening, he can look back over the eventful years with the consciousness of work well-done, and a trust that the future will bring him the reward promised to those who are faithful to the end.

**RICHARD PRIEST.** Among the leading farmers of Troy township is the subject of this sketch, whose name stands high on the military records of the Civil war, as well as in the annals of Wood county. By perseverance and industry in this locality he has gained a foothold in the world. He is a self-made man, having reached his present prosperous condition by his continual struggles from youth. He is pleasantly located on a tract of five acres in Section 28, Troy township, adjoining the village of Luckey. On his arrival in Wood county, in 1854, he located in Webster township, where he owns sixty-four acres of fertile and highly cultivated land.

Mr. Priest was born in Little Milton, Oxford-

shire, England, in 1842, and is a son of James and Harriet (Wyatt) Priest, both natives of the same shire, and on coming to the New World located in Webster township, Wood county, in 1854, but later removed to Perrysburg township. In the former township, however, the father died in 1881, and his wife passed away in February, 1893. In their family were seven children—John, a resident of Webster township, who was in the one-hundred-day service during the Rebellion; Richard, of this review; Charley, of Webster township; William, who was born in this county, and also makes his home in Webster township; Mary, who died in Wood county; Mrs. Ann Walker, of Michigan; and Mrs. Rachel Flowers, of New Zealand.

Our subject was about twelve years of age when he left his native land and came to Wood county, and being reared upon a farm has always followed that vocation. While quietly assisting his father, the Civil war broke out, and, filled with patriotic ardor for his adopted country, he enlisted at Perrysburg in August, 1862, becoming a member of Company D, 111th Regiment O. V. I., for three years or until the close of the struggle. He was assigned to the army of the Tennessee, and participated in the following battles—Stone River, Huff's Ferry, Lenoir, Campbell's Station, siege of Knoxville, Ft. Saunders, Dandridge, Strawberry Plains, Blain's Cross Roads, Rocky Face, Resaca, Pumpkinvine Creek, Burnt Hickory, Lost Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Nickajack Creek, Chattahoochee River, Decatur, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Utoy Creek, Jonesboro, Stone Mountain, Allatoona, Duck River, Franklin, Nashville, Ft. Anderson, Town Creek, and Raleigh. He was twice slightly wounded, and received an honorable discharge at Salisbury, N. C., and was paid off at Cleveland, Ohio, in July, 1865.

In Perrysburg township, Wood county, Mr. Priest was married, in 1867, to Miss Mary Fletcher, a native of Medina county, Ohio, and a daughter of John and Mary Fletcher, both born in England. On coming to this country they first located in Medina county, but their last days were spent in Webster township, this county. Seven children grace the union of our subject and his wife—Mrs. Celina M. Myers, of Fostoria, Ohio; Mrs. Emma Limbach, who makes her home with our subject; Robert H., of Dunbridge; Ada, now Mrs. Noss, of Luckey; Ella J.; Clara G.; and Ruth R.

Mr. Priest is a strong adherent of the principles of the Republican party, and in Webster township served as a member of the school board.

Both he and his wife are genial, hospitable people, whose pleasant ways have greatly endeared them to the entire neighborhood, and are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He takes quite a prominent part in Grand Army circles, belonging to Pemberville Post No. 26, G. A. R., and has attended the National Encampments at Columbus, Milwaukee, Detroit, Boston, Washington, Indianapolis and Louisville.

**CALEB ROOT.** This gentleman is accredited with the ownership of one of the best farms in Troy township, in Section 13, where he located in 1857. It comprises 130 acres, and was then partially improved. It is now well supplied with good and substantial farm buildings, and the machinery is fully in keeping with the enterprise of the proprietor, who also owns another excellent tract of 112 acres on the north side of the ridge, in Section 1, Troy township; also eighty acres in Section 12, and seventy-five on the south side of the pike, making in all nearly 400 acres of rich and fertile land. Besides general farming he also engages in stock-raising, having some fine animals on his place, and this branch of industry proves a profitable source of income. Upon his land are seven good oil wells, which have an abundant flow.

Mr. Root came to this county from Milan township, Erie Co., Ohio, the place of his nativity, having there first seen the light on October 27, 1831. In 1821, soon after reaching his majority, his father, Hiram Root, who was a native of Connecticut, located in Erie county, where he married Parthena Tillotson, who was born in the Empire State. In Milan township, that county, his father opened up a farm, which he operated until his death in 1868, and there his wife also died at the ripe old age of eighty-two years. In their family were five children who grew to maturity—Orrin, who died in Erie county in 1882; Eunice, wife of Elias Hughes, of Huron county, Ohio; Eliza, wife of Elisha Hughes, of Erie county; Caleb, of this sketch; and Mrs. Mary Huyck, who makes her home in the West.

The subject of this review was brought up a farmer, receiving his education in the schools of Erie county, where he remained until twenty-five years of age, when he came to Wood county, and located upon his present farm. In his native township he was married in 1857, to Miss Martha Jane Nichols, who was born in Oxford township, Erie county, and was a daughter of Enoch and Catherine (Horton) Nichols, both natives of New York. At an early day they had made a settlement in Erie county, where they departed this

life. Mrs. Root was called to her final rest in 1888, leaving four children, namely: Mrs. Etta Hanson, of Woodville, Ohio; Arthur, of the same place; and Horton and Erma, twins, who are both at home. In 1889, in Troy township, Mr. Root was again married, the lady of his choice being Miss Anna Marsh, who was born in Lake township, Wood county, where at an early day had located her parents, Luke and Sarah Marsh. Her father is now deceased, and her mother makes her home upon the farm in Lake township. Two children bless this union, Edward and Grace.

Mr. Root uses his right of franchise in support of the men and measures of the Republican party, and by his fellow citizens has been called upon to fill the offices of town clerk and justice of the peace of Troy township, where he has made his home for almost forty years, during which time he has taken an active interest in the advancement of the locality. His pleasant, courteous manners have attracted to him many warm friends, and he has the respect of all with whom he comes in contact.

**C. D. STEARNES,** a son of Justus and Mary (Hall) Stearnes, and who resides in Perry township, is in no whit behind his brothers in "push," energy or capacity, for any amount of labor necessary to accomplish the desired result. He perpetuates the characteristics of the family for thrift and prosperity, and is a wide-awake, up-to-date man, public-spirited, and a citizen of whom any community might be justly proud. His integrity has never been questioned, and his good management has brought him merited success.

Mr. Stearnes was born June 14, 1856, in the "old stone house," which stands in Section 14, and was his father's residence for many years. It now belongs to J. D. Stearnes, one of the sons. During his youth our subject attended the district schools of his locality, and then learned the rudiments of agriculture under his father, whose excellent ideas on the subject he has since practiced with beneficial results. At various times he assisted his father in carrying out contracts for ditching, but most of his time until his marriage was spent on the farm.

On February 7, 1878, Mr. Stearnes was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth (daughter of William and Anna (Van Nemon) Courtney), who was born in Hancock county, Ohio, April 13, 1858. This union has been blessed with the following children: Sylva, born January 22, 1879; Jay J., born October 5, 1880; William A., born February 9, 1882; Orrin C., born Novem-

ber 23, 1883; and Joseph H., born September 10, 1886. After his marriage Mr. Stearnes bought from his father 107 acres of land in Section 14, Perry township, and moved a former school house onto it, as there were no buildings of any kind thereon, and there made his home until December 1, 1884, at which time he returned to the old homestead, working a portion of his father's farm for the succeeding five years. He then went back to his first farm, where he resided until August, 1891, at that time taking up his residence on the old Thomas Beach place, which he purchased in 1891, and where he now lives. He has remodeled the house, built a good barn, and otherwise improved the place. He has recently bought the E. O. Meaks place of forty acres in Perry township, and now has 224 acres of land, and is considered one of the best and most progressive farmers in the township. In politics Mr. Stearnes is a staunch Republican, and he is ever ready to work for the interests of his party and for the good of the community. He served one year as assessor, and was a constable for two or three years, filling these offices with much ability and to the satisfaction of the public.

S. E. WAGONER, a progressive and enterprising farmer, and assistant postmaster at Stony Ridge, was born on October 17, 1856, on the farm where he still resides in Lake township. His parents, Joseph and Eliza (Conrad) Wagoner, are both natives of Pennsylvania, and the father is a son of Samuel and Catherine (Shook) Wagoner, who were also born in Pennsylvania, and about 1849 came to Lake township, Wood county, where they passed their remaining days.

The subject of this biographical notice received his education in the schools of Perrysburg township, Wood county, and was reared upon the home farm. In early manhood he commenced agricultural pursuits for himself, but has also been connected with other lines of business, being interested in the manufacture of tile at Stony Ridge. His fine farm of fifty acres in Lake township is one of the best in the locality, the fields are well tilled and the whole appearance of the place indicates the thrift and energy of the owner.

On March 31, 1896, Mr. Wagoner was united in marriage with Miss Carrie E., only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Metzger, of Troy township, the ceremony having been performed by the Rev. John Born, of St. John's Lutheran Church, at Stony Ridge, the marriage taking place at the residence of the bride's parents.

Mr. Wagoner takes quite an interest in political affairs, voting with the Republican party, and at present is serving as assistant postmaster of Stony Ridge. The cause of education finds in him a warm friend, and as a member of the board of education he does much for its advancement. He has also acted as supervisor of Lake township, and been a member of the board of election. Religiously he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially belongs to Fort Meigs Lodge No. 774, I. O. O. F.

J. C. WITMORE, a successful farmer and a self-made man of Perry township, was born September 1, 1839, in Franklin county, Penn., son of Jonathan and Catharine (Cover) Witmore.

When a boy Jonathan Witmore was bound out to a Mr. Cridler, and learned the shoemaker's trade. After serving his apprenticeship he followed his trade, and often worked nearly all night, sleeping but an hour or two. He received two shillings a day at day labor. In the fall of 1850 he and his family of six children came to Wood county in a large covered wagon, "Pennsylvania style," spending seventeen days *en route*. They located in Perry township, on eighty acres of land in Section 1, for which the father paid \$1,025. He had nearly \$1,000, but as utensils were needed he spent part of the money for them, and went into debt for his farm, which was then in its primitive state.

Mr. Witmore was married twice in Pennsylvania, his first wife bearing him two children, one of whom died in infancy; the other, Malinda, married John Myers, and died in Wood county, Ohio. For his second wife he wedded Catherine Cover, by whom he had seven children, viz.: One died in childhood; A. B. is a farmer of Perry township; J. C. is our subject; Henry E. is a resident of Hancock county; Jacob is a German Baptist Brethren minister in McPherson, Kans.; David is a farmer in Webster township; Martha married Jackson Seaman, of Toledo, and died in Fostoria in 1891. For his third wife Mr. Witmore took Miss Susan Smith, who was born in Carroll county, Md., November 29, 1823, daughter of Solomon and Elizabeth (Friese) Smith; the former of whom died when Susan was five years old. In the fall of 1833 the widow came to Seneca county with six children, all girls. They drove all the way from Maryland, locating near Melmore, Seneca county, where Susan was reared and attended the public schools. Mr. Witmore had four children by this wife, namely: Elizabeth A., now Mrs. Jacob Smith, of Cleveland, Tenn.; Mary A., who mar-



ried John Castret, of Tennessee; John P., living in the West, and Hattie O., wife of John England, of Perry township.

Jonathan Witmore died July 1, 1886, and is buried in Center, Perry township; since his death his widow has been living on the farm of eighty acres left by him. She is a member of the German Baptist Brethren Church, and is one of the highly respected ladies of Perry township. Mr. Witmore was never certain of his age, as his parents died when he was quite young, and he lived with strangers until he became a young man. He had a cruel master to work for, and was often obliged to get out of bed at night and go to work, his employer taking great delight in thus abusing him. His opportunities for education were few; he attended school but little, and secured what knowledge he possessed by reading and studying at home. In political sentiment he was a Democrat, but he seldom voted. He was a minister in the German Baptist Church, and just before his death was ordained an elder in that denomination. He was a self-made man, active and industrious, and through his own efforts he became comfortably situated in life.

Our subject was a boy when he came to Wood county, and he received a rather limited schooling. Work was plentiful, and he was kept busy tramping out grain and separating it by hand. At the age of fifteen he had a desire for more schooling, and prepared himself by studying at night, later attending a select school at West Millgrove taught by Alfred Kelley. When nineteen years old he began teaching on his own account, continuing in that occupation for five terms in Wood and Seneca counties. He was united in marriage, November 29, 1862, in Seneca county, to Miss Mary A. Krabill, who was born in that county, February 10, 1843, daughter of John and Hannah (Bear) Krabill, the former of whom was a native of Stark county, Ohio, and was a preacher and elder in the German Baptist Church; the mother was born in Pennsylvania. They had nine children—four sons and five daughters—of whom two sons died when young; the other two are also ministers in the German Baptist Church, and the eldest is an elder. Mr. Witmore settled on his father's old farm in Perry township, which he rented for two years and then purchased. For a while he and his brother A. B. worked it in partnership, but he finally bought his brother out, and has carried it on alone ever since. He has 140 acres of excellent farm land, on which he is successfully and profitably engaged in general farming, and there are two oil wells on the place. In July, 1862,

Mr. Witmore joined the German Baptist Church, and is at present an elder and licensed minister, being ordained elder in 1880, and receiving his license to preach about 1865.

Mr. Witmore is a well-informed man, obtaining his education by constant study and application. He is a valuable citizen, and a kind-hearted, hospitable man, always ready to help the needy, in which work he is cheerfully seconded by his excellent wife. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Witmore, as follows: John H., a farmer of Perry township, who lost his left arm in a corn husker, November 25, 1894; Samantha M., now Mrs. William Caskey, of Perry; Jonathan A., a farmer of Hancock county; and Hattie B., who died when eight months old.

EDWIN FARMER, the able and efficient superintendent of the Wood County Infirmary, was born December 16, 1838, at Wantage, Berkshire, England, where his ancestors had lived for more than two hundred years, engaged in the business of cattle dealing and butchering.

His grandfather, John Farmer, married a Miss Stagg, and reared a family of four children: Charlotte, who never married, and was a nurse in one family for four generations; John (2), our subject's father; Richard, a butcher at Newbury, Berkshire, England, now deceased; and Mary Ann, who never married, and was in service all her life.

John Farmer, the father of our subject, was born in 1804. He married Esther Grimshaw, a native of West Hanney, born in 1805. Both were members of the Church of England. They had six children, a brief record of whom is as follows: (1) Esther married Benjamin Manns, and died in England. (2) Alfred came to America in 1852, was an overseer in Mississippi for three years, and then returned to England; in 1858 he came again, this time accompanied by our subject, with whom he engaged in business in Wood county; he died at Millbury in 1888 at the age of sixty years. (3) Joseph followed the ancestral occupation; he died in England in 1855 aged twenty-six years. (4) Mary Ann married Thomas Marsh, a retired soldier of the British army, and one of the gatekeepers at Regents Park, London. (5) Elizabeth died in infancy. (6) Edwin, our subject, is the youngest. The mother died in 1854. She weighed over five hundred pounds at the time of her death, and her daughter Mary Ann, weighed over three hundred pounds.

Edwin Farmer received a good education in



*Mrs. Lohi Garner*



*Edwin Garner*



the schools of his native village during his boyhood. In 1858 he came to America with his brother, intending to go to the valley of the Red river, in Louisiana, but they decided to locate at Millbury. Here they engaged in the lumber business, making a specialty of railroad ties, for which they filled large orders for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern railroad. They also furnished the heavy timbers for the first wagon-bridge ever built in Toledo. Mr. Farmer had never been outside of a town until he left home to come to America, and life in the woods was not congenial; but he continued it for ten years, when he returned to his native country on a visit. He was married there, in 1869, to Miss Charlotte Tyrrell, and started with his bride on the way back to America; but after reaching London his aged father, who had long been in ill health, sent him an urgent request to return to him, which he did, remaining until after his father's death, in 1871. In May, 1872, he returned with his wife to Wood county, Ohio, settling at Millbury, and joining his brother on the farm leased by them, in 1859, of A. D. Wait, of Toledo. It may be here mentioned that he and his brother were in partnership from 1855 until 1881, some twenty-six years, with never a written agreement of any kind between them, and always on the best of terms. In 1878 our subject was appointed superintendent of the County Infirmary, and he has now served longer in that capacity than any other man in the State, with one exception.

Mr. and Mrs. Farmer have had six children, as follows: A. B., the well-known deputy sheriff of Wood county; Warren Tyrrell, born December 26, 1872; Joseph, born March 19, 1875, who died at the age of fifteen months; Lottie, born in May, 1877; Annie Lottie, born April 15, 1878, and Rosa E., born June 27, 1880. In politics, Mr. Farmer is a Republican; in religious faith he is a member of the Evangelical Church.

Mrs. Farmer's parents, John and Anna (Andrews) Tyrrell, were both natives of England, and belonged to an old family in their locality. He was a butcher, a farmer, and a hotel-keeper, was parish clerk of the village of Steventon, Berks, for forty years, and is yet living, at the advanced age of ninety-three. The mother died in 1893. They had ten children—five sons and five daughters: two of the sons, Joseph, of Sterling, Kans., and George, of Bowling Green, Ohio, are the only ones who came to America. One sister, Mrs. Meats, is living at Cape Town, South Africa. Two, John and Elizabeth Day, are deceased. Those still living in Old England are:

Mrs. Gerring, at Steventon; Mrs. Butcher, at Wallingford; James, at Leamington, and Henry, in London.

ROBERT L. KEEL, one of the younger representatives of the agricultural interests of Wood county, was born in Seneca county, Ohio, December 13, 1870, and is a son of Henry and Delilah Jane (Keel) Keel, also natives of the Buckeye State. Upon their marriage they located on a farm in Seneca county, and about 1872 came to Wood county, taking up their residence on a forty-acre farm, for which the father had traded a tract of land in Michigan. He died of smallpox in Jackson township about 1875. In the family were two children, the daughter being Mary, now the wife of Bryan Sweet, of Bloomdale, Ohio. Robert L. Keel was only two years of age when he came with his parents to Wood county. He attended the common schools of Hoytville until sixteen years of age, and then gave his attention to farm work. During his childhood he made his home with his mother, who had married, for her second husband, W. M. Clark. In March, 1892, they removed to Arkansas, where they are now living on a farm. Six children were born of that union, namely; Emma, Della, John, Horace, Hattie and Blanche.

By the terms of his father's will our subject inherited the farm, and assumed entire management of the same on attaining his majority. He was also left a house and lot in Hoytville, where he now makes his home. The lady who shares his name and fortunes bore the maiden name of Nettie Looman. She is a native of Wood county, and their marriage, which was celebrated in Liberty township in 1891, has been blessed with one daughter, Lena. In politics, Mr. Keel gives an unfaltering support to the Republican party at State and National elections, but votes regardless of party affiliations at local elections. He is a young man of sterling worth and strict integrity, well known in the community.

HIRAM CUNNING, deceased. Among the men who have been instrumental in the development of the rich resources of Wood county, the subject of this sketch held no unimportant position. He operated one of the model farms of Washington township, and was numbered among the popular citizens of that section. Born in Ridgefield township, Huron Co., Ohio, May 7, 1842, he was a son of Hiram and Keziah (Raymond) Cunning, with whom, at the age of twelve years, he came to Wood county. The schools of Washington township afforded him his educational

privileges, and he remained on the home farm until twenty years of age.

After the breaking out of the Civil war, Mr. Cuning enlisted, August 9, 1862, at Tontogany, in the 111th, O. V. I., under Col. Bond and Capt. McGowen, of Perrysburg, and was mustered in at Toledo. He was placed on provost-guard duty, and after participating in a number of skirmishes was discharged at Columbus, Ohio, April 8, 1863. On returning to Wood county, he lived on his father's homestead until 1865, when he purchased his late farm of eighty acres, which had been partly cleared, but which he greatly improved, setting out an orchard, and small fruit trees and shrubs; besides general farming, he also raised stock for his own use. In politics he voted the straight Republican ticket; served as school director two terms, and for a number of years was cemetery trustee. He affiliated with Walter A. Wood Post, No. 48, G. A. R., of Tontogany, of which he was senior vice-commander; and also held membership with the K. O. T. M., Tent No. 147, of Tontogany. On August 23, 1896, Mr. Cuning died suddenly.

Mr. Cuning was married February 22, 1872, to Ella Tefft, a daughter of L. P. and Phœbe Ann (Adams) Tefft, and to them have come four children: Oreanna, born February 8, 1874, became the wife of S. I. Landers, an agriculturist of Plain township, Wood county, and died of consumption September 28, 1893; Hiram T. was born December 5, 1875; Flavilla was born March 13, 1879; and Irene Myrtle was born July 30, 1883. The three youngest children are still at home. On both the paternal and maternal sides Mrs. Cuning is descended from Gen. Greene, of Revolutionary fame. Her mother's maiden name was Sprague, but as her father died when she was quite young, she took the name of Adams, that of her step-father, who was a descendant of President John Quincy Adams. She belonged to the Sprague family of New York. Mr. and Mrs. Tefft were married in May, 1851, and four children blessed their union—one who died in infancy; Florence G., who died while young; Lorin P., also deceased; and Mrs. Cuning, who was born in Perrysburg, Ohio, January 20, 1854. Her father was a member of the "Squirrel Hunters," and during the Civil war manifested his patriotism by enlisting in the Union army as a member of the "hundred-day men."

JOHN BAKER, a contractor and farmer of Wood county, was born in Center township, Carroll Co., Ohio, June 11, 1829. His parents were John and Clarissa (Hill) Baker, the former

of whom was a native of Maryland, and the latter from Vermont. They were married in what is now West Virginia, and, in 1818, came to Carroll county when it was a portion of three other counties.

The father lived in Carroll county until 1836, and then moved to Big Spring township, to which place he went by wagon, the journey of one hundred and fifty miles consuming a week. Mr. Baker owned 160 acres of land in Carroll county which he sold for \$1,800, and bought a section of land in Seneca county, which was then in a primitive state. Their first home was in an old school house, where they lived for a while, and then Mr. Baker built a log house at the west end of his farm, and the following children were born: William, who died in Gratiot county, Mich. He was a farmer, and when a boy killed 111 deer the first winter the family was in Seneca county; Mary married George Bottomfield and lives in California; Levi was a farmer, and died in Hardin county, Ohio, in 1861; Charlotte died young; Lizzie married William Harman, and died in Indiana; James was a miller and a merchant at Lincoln, and died in Indiana; John is our subject; Delilah is now Mrs. Daniel Ragen, of Risingsun. Mr. Baker was a soldier in the war of 1812, and fought at the battle of Fort Meigs. He was a Democrat, and held several minor township offices. He died on his farm in Seneca county, at the age of fifty-three years, and was buried at Big Springs. The widow lived on the farm with her children until 1854, and died in Prophetstown, on Rock river, Ill., aged seventy-three years.

Our subject was a boy when his parents went to Seneca county, and he attended school in a log school house built by the neighbors. The teacher was paid by the parents according to the number of children in each family. Mr. Baker remained at home until after his father's death, when he started out for himself, and wandered around working at various kinds of employment. He began railroading—laying tracks and getting out timbers on the Mad River road, the first one in Ohio. He was for eight years a brakeman, running between Sandusky and Dayton, on the Mad River line. When a boy he worked on the suspension bridge at Wheeling, which was 960 feet long, and for years the largest bridge in the world.

Mr. Baker was married in Big Spring township in 1850, to Miss Louisa Straus, who was born in Sandusky, in 1833, and was a daughter of David Straus, a farmer. The following children were born: Emily, who was married to

David Kelly, and after his death wedded James Gangway, of Fort Wayne, Ind., now also deceased. She has three children: Almon, of whom see sketch elsewhere; George H., of Risingsun, who has four children; Jane is now Mrs. Samuel Sheller, of Muncie, Ind., and they have two children. Mrs. Baker died in 1863, while our subject was in the army, and is buried in Prairie Depot. Mr. Baker was again married, his second wife being Miss Mary M. Hale, who died in 1869, and was buried in Hancock county. Our subject's present wife was a Miss Catherine Wonders.

On March 22, 1861, Mr. Baker came to Montgomery township from Patterson, Hardin county, where he lived on a farm for three years. He bought 160 acres of land in Section 23, Montgomery township, and went in debt to the extent of \$1,500. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Co. B, 57th O. V. I., as a wagoner, was taken prisoner at Shiloh in April, 1862, but escaped and returned to his regiment, with which he remained until he was again captured at Wolf River, with seventeen other teamsters, after being pursued for forty miles. While in the enemy's camp news came in December, 1862, of the burning, by Federals, of the little town of Rowley, Tenn., near which they were encamped. The Confederate officer in charge of our subject and his fellow prisoners, swore that if the report was true he would hang six of his prisoners, and for a day each one expected to be one of the doomed six. They were paroled after two days, and our subject still has the Rebel parole that is given him. He joined his regiment at once, regardless of the parole in his inside pocket, which meant death if again captured by the Confederates. This was unfortunately his fate a short time later at Milligan's Bend, Miss. He was taken to Pine Bluff, Ark., and placed in jail, where he remained for eight days. He was tried as a spy, but was liberated and compelled to travel 600 miles through Arkansas. After much suffering from fatigue and hunger, having nothing to eat but corn, he finally struck the Mississippi river, 100 miles north of Cairo, Ill., came on to Ohio, and paid a visit home. He reported in parole camp at Cole, Ohio, and watched his chance to leave. He went out with men going to join Rosecrans at Nashville, but at Louisville he was returned to Cole, then exchanged and joined his regiment in Alabama, where he again took a team and followed with Sherman all through the war, and was present at the grand review in Washington. He was not discharged until August, 1865, at Little

Rock, Ark., when he came home, and has since been engaged in building bridges throughout Wood county, and in farming. For over two years he was at Risingsun, where he built a hotel, and was in that business during his stay there. He was a Democrat, but of late has not been a partisan. He and his wife are members of the Disciples Church.

Mr. Baker comes of a good family, and is a self-made man, and although well along in years he is in excellent condition, both mentally and physically. He is a respected citizen, and is in comfortable circumstances.

WILLIAM L. BROWNELLER, a highly-respected and public-spirited citizen of Wood county, is a native of Pennsylvania, his birth having occurred in Fayette county, September 28, 1860. His father was also born there, and was a son of Samuel Browneller. The father, Frederick Browneller, was a farmer by occupation, and in Fayette county married Margaret Springer, whose birth also occurred there. They were residents of their native locality until 1870, when they removed to Hancock county, Ohio, where the father purchased 120 acres of land in Liberty township, and afterward added to it an additional tract of forty acres. In 1887 the parents removed to Findlay, Ohio, and their son David is now carrying on the old homestead. They were parents of the following named children: Mary, wife of Ellis Foltz, who is living near Findlay; William L.; James, a farmer of Hancock county; David, on the old homestead; Sarah, wife of Jacob Rada-baugh, of Hancock county; Elizabeth, wife of Charles Conaway, of Hancock county; Joseph, Callie and Flora, at home.

Our subject was only nine years of age when his parents removed to Hancock county. He began his education in his native county, and afterward attended the district schools of Ohio. He completed his education by attendance one term in the Fostoria Academy, attendance two terms at the Findlay High School, and also two terms at the Ada Normal School, at Ada, Ohio. He then returned home and began farming.

In Findlay, on the 7th of February, 1882, Mr. Browneller was joined in wedlock with Miss Elizabeth Bolton, who was born in Hancock county, August 8, 1861, a daughter of Michael Bolton, deceased. Mr. Browneller brought his bride to Wood county, and settled on a farm of 153 acres belonging to his father, whereon he resided for seven years. He then purchased his present farm, comprising seventy-nine acres in Jackson township, and since taking up his resi-

dence here has erected a fine home, built good barns, and made other excellent improvements which add to the value and attractive appearance of the place. He is widely recognized as one of the leading and substantial agriculturists of Wood county. The home has been blessed with five children, but Clyde and Mabel are now deceased. The others are Gracie, Earl and Flossie, all under the parental roof.

In his political affiliations, Mr. Browneller is a stalwart Republican; but has neither time nor inclination for public office. He is an active member of the Church of God, of which he is now serving as elder, and has been superintendent of the Sunday-school.

J. H. RHEINFRANK, M. D., a leading physician and surgeon of Perrysburg, was born September 28, 1840, in Bridgewater, Michigan.

His grandparents, Zachariah and Margaret Rheinfrank, were natives of Bavaria, where John Rheinfrank, father of our subject, was born. The family came to the United States about the year 1830, and located at Detroit. John Rheinfrank was for several years engaged there in mercantile pursuits, but later retired to a farm near Bridgewater, where he spent his remaining days. He was twice married, first to Miss Elizabeth Lindenschmidt, from which marriage resulted four children, of whom the subject of this sketch is the eldest. The brother, George A., lives at the old homestead; one sister, Martha, has her home near Bridgewater; the other sister, Amelia, died in early youth. After the death of his first wife, the father married Christina Gruber, and to this union three children were born, all of whom are now living in Michigan.

Our subject attended the graded schools of Ypsilanti in his boyhood, and there early evinced a proficiency in the different lines of study which he pursued. In 1861, he graduated from the classical course of the Ypsilanti schools, and entered the literary department of the University of Michigan. At the outbreak of the war of the Rebellion, he made full preparations to go to the front; but on account of ill health was prevented from enlisting. In 1862, he was enrolled in the Medical Department at Ann Arbor, and two years later, 1864, took his degree of M. D., from that institution. Soon afterward, the Doctor came to Perrysburg, with the intention of making that place his future home, and the scene of his professional career. He endured the usual discouragements of a young practitioner in a strange city, but his high character and mental abilities soon won him a fine standing, as a citizen,

while his thorough training secured him a practice which grew with the passing years.

Dr. Rheinfrank had not long been launched upon the high road of life when he married Miss Sophia W. Bruckner, a native of Monroe, Mich., and a lady of fine mental gifts and culture. The education of their four children has been the leading object of their lives, and they may well be proud of their efforts. Eva, who was very recently married to C. G. Lampman, of Buffalo, supplemented her fine literary education by a course in music at the Oberlin Conservatory; W. H. graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan, and is now practicing with his father; George B. has studied two years at the same University, and is at present pursuing a course in architecture, to be completed at Philadelphia; and Frederick Eugene has embarked upon a six-years' schooling in the Law and Literary Departments at Ann Arbor.

Dr. Rheinfrank is a man of broad and generous views, interested in all the questions of the day, and thoroughly alive to every progressive movement in his profession. He is fond of literature, and speaks German and English with equal fluency. In politics, he is a Democrat, having always upheld the principles of true Democracy. He belongs to the fraternal orders of the F. & A. M. and the K. of P., and is a member of the Wood county, Northwestern Ohio, Ohio State, and American and International Medical Societies.

GEORGE W. SNYDER, a thrifty and successful farmer residing in Section 32, Lake township, was born in Liverpool, Medina Co., Ohio, January 14, 1846, and is a son of Adam and Margaret (Snyder) Snyder, both natives of Bavaria, Germany, the former born in November, 1800, and the latter in 1809. After their marriage in their native land, they came to America in 1832, locating first at Liverpool, Medina Co., Ohio, in the midst of a forest, and on that farm continued to live until coming to Troy township, Wood county, in 1855. They made a settlement on the Maumee & Western Reserve Pike, where their remaining years were passed, the father dying in 1879, and the mother in June, 1891, in her eighty-second year. In early life they were members of the Reformed Church, but later became connected with the Lutheran denomination, while in politics, Mr. Snyder was a Democrat. To them were born the following children: Mary, deceased wife of William Zacharias; Adam and Daniel, who are both married, and reside on the Maumee & Western Reserve Pike; Frederick,



John H. Rheinfrank  
M.D.





of Michigan; Jacob, of Woodville, Ohio; Catherine; Caroline, wife of William Gartman, of South Cleveland, Ohio; George W.; Lucien, of Troy township; David, of Paulding county, Ohio; and Henry, who is still living on the old homestead in Troy township.

Educated in a primitive school house, reared on a farm, with its usual hardships and privations, were the marked features of the early life of our subject. At the age of ten years he had accompanied his parents to Wood county, where he continued his studies, which had been begun in Medina county. He also learned the trade of a carpenter, at which he worked in Perrysburg for a number of years, and was also employed at the same occupation throughout the county until his marriage.

On September 9, 1871, Mr. Snyder was married to Miss Lucy Goss. She was born in April, 1845, on the farm now owned and occupied by our subject, and is a daughter of John and Hannah (Lewis) Goss, both natives of England, who were among the pioneers of Lake township, where the father died in 1871, at the age of sixty-six years, and the mother in 1882, at the age of eighty-two years. They were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in their family were four children: William, of Troy township; Louis, who resides in Lucas county, near Toledo, Ohio; Mary E., wife of Frederick Snyder; and Lucy, wife of our subject. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have one child, Elsie E., who is attending school. They also reared his nephew, A. G. Snyder, who now practices medicine in Toledo, Ohio. He was educated by our subject, who also sent him to medical college, and gave him a lot in Toledo which he owned.

Mr. Snyder devotes his attention to general farming, and having a large amount of industry, perseverance and energy, has made a noble record as an agriculturist, and stands to-day one of the substantial and reliable citizens of the county. Besides his valuable farm, he also owns city property in Toledo. In his political faith he is a staunch and unswerving Democrat; socially is connected with the Masonic fraternity; and religiously is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Stony Ridge, this county.

FREDERICK HERRINGSHAW has been a resident of Wood county since the age of four years, and that his life is a well-spent one is indicated by the fact that those who have known him from boyhood are numbered among his staunchest friends. He was born in Huron county, Ohio, May 19, 1856, and is a son of John and Mary A.

(Lyon) Herringshaw. He is indebted to the district schools of Liberty township for his educational privileges, and his first teacher was a Mr. Woodbury, an excellent instructor, and a strict disciplinarian. He left school at the age of eighteen, and afterward devoted his entire attention to the work of the home farm until his marriage.

In Findlay, Ohio, September 13, 1883, Mr. Herringshaw was joined in wedlock with Nora B. Needham a native of Ohio, born September 29, 1863, and a daughter of Amos and Jennie (Edgar) Needham. Her mother died when Mrs. Herringshaw was a small child, and she was reared by strangers, being an inmate of the home of Mr. Dirk, of North Baltimore, at the time of her marriage. Four children have been born to our subject and his wife, namely: John, who was born July 21, 1884; William Frederick, born May 17, 1887; Lula Viola, born June 9, 1892, and Frederick Merl, born August 8, 1896.

Prior to his marriage, Mr. Herringshaw had purchased ninety-seven acres of land upon which he has since resided, forty acres lying in Liberty township, the remaining fifty-seven acres in Henry township. He has made all the improvements upon the place, has cleared his farm of indebtedness, and is to-day numbered among the substantial citizens of the community. His political support is given the Republican party, but he has never sought office. His wife is a member of the United Brethren Church, of Wingston. The cause of education finds in Mr. Herringshaw a warm friend, and he is a thorough gentleman, possessed of many excellent qualities.

JAMES STRATSBERY, a prominent agriculturist and fruit-grower of Weston township, was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, March 15, 1830, and is the son of Napoleon B. and Mary (Lowe) Stratsbery.

The father of our subject was born in Virginia, of English parentage, and when a young man took up his residence in Guernsey county, Ohio, where he followed farming, and where he was married. Fifteen children were born to him, of whom James is the eldest; the others in the order of their births are as follows: Robert resides in Indiana; Rosanna, wife of Thomas Westbrook, resides in Brown county, Ind.; Ebenezer is a farmer in Wisconsin; Margaret is the wife of Joseph Shipman, of Weston; William is a farmer in Weston township; Mahlon is a resident of Brown county, Ind.; Elizabeth is the wife of David Kesster, and lives in Michigan; Finlay is a resident of Brown county, Ind.; Joshua is residing in Brown county, Ind.; Sarah Ann (Mrs.) John

Palmer) lives in Noble county, Ohio; Wesley is deceased; the other three died in infancy. The father of this large family died in Mercer county, Ohio, in 1867, the mother surviving him until 1895.

The subject of this sketch obtained his education in the schools of Noble county, Ohio, and was there employed at the breaking out of the Civil war. In the fall of 1861 he enlisted in Company K, 40th O. V. I., under Col. Cramer and Capt. Knapp. The family of Napoleon Stratsbery was well represented in the Union ranks—the father and four sons (James, Robert, Ebenezer and Finlay) all becoming soldiers, and serving throughout the war. Among the battles in which our subject participated were those of Middle Creek and Sand River, at the latter of which he was wounded in both legs, and was sent to the hospital, from which he was discharged in 1863. After recovering from his severe injuries Mr. Stratsbery went to Cambridge, Ohio, and engaged in the manufacture of corn-shellers, in which he met with good success. Later he went into the manufacture of brooms and lath, subsequently taking up contracting on railroad work, building ditches, etc. Among the contracts he carried out were the Jackson cut-off, the construction of six miles of the Nickel Plate, six miles of grading on the Coldwater railway, and six miles on the P. F. & W. railway. In 1879 he purchased twenty-five acres of land in Weston township, to which he has added by degrees until he now owns 115 acres, and has become one of the largest fruit and berry growers in the county. His place is finely improved, having on it a handsome residence, as well as capacious barns and outbuildings, and in the summer season, when luscious berries tempt the palate, and, later, the autumn fruits hang heavy on the boughs, it is a delightful spot to visit. The well-known hospitality of the owner and his interesting family draws to his pleasant home a large circle of friends and acquaintances, and many pleasant reunions take place there.

Mr. Stratsbery has been twice married, first time in Guernsey county, Ohio, April 16, 1851, to Miss Mary A. Stoner, and they had four children, only one of whom is now living. A brief record of them is as follows: Flora died when seventeen years old; Ernest E., who was a farmer and speculator in land bonds, and loaned money, died in Wyandot county, Ohio, in 1892; Joseph was a professor of elocution in Valparaiso, Ind., and died in 1888; Foster is a baggage-master on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad, at Burlington, Iowa. The mother of

these children passed away in 1865, and July 1, 1866, Mr. Stratsbery was married, in Weston, to Miss Anna Lingo, who was born January 7, 1842, and six children have blessed their union: James, a farmer in Weston township; John W., assisting his father in the management of his property, and is an energetic and enterprising young man who has a bright future before him; Fred; Gertrude; and Mary Grace, who died when nine years of age.

Mr. Stratsbery is a Republican in politics, and is a loyal citizen. He is a prominent member of the G. A. R., belonging to Neibling Post, No. 20, at Weston. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Weston, and has taken the third degree; belongs, also, to the I. O. O. F. and Encampment, and to the K. of P., and he and his wife are members of the Order of Rebekah. Mrs. Stratsbery is also a member of the Woman's Relief Corps, and of the Aid Society, in all these organizations taking a prominent part, and being well known for her efficiency and executive ability.

Mr. and Mrs. Stratsbery have witnessed many changes in their lives, and have taken no small part in the progress and growth of the community in which they have so long resided. They are now seeing the results of their labors, and, in the midst of their family and large number of friends, are enjoying a quiet and comfortable life, conscious that their best efforts have been given to their country and their fellowmen.

PETER NYSWANDER, a pioneer farmer of Weston township, was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, September 6, 1834. The father of our subject, Christian Nyswander, was born in Berne, Switzerland, and came to this country with his parents when he was twelve years of age, they settling in Fairfield county. He married Elizabeth Deering, and six children were born to them as follows: Peter; Mary, who is the wife of Levi Simons, of Bloom township; John E., who died in Bloom township; Sarah, who married Adam Rettick, and lives in Florida, Henry Co., Ohio; Reuben, a resident of Napoleon, Ohio; and Jennie, who married John Long, a merchant of Paulding county. The father of our subject removed to Milton township, Wood county, buying and afterward selling 160 acres of land, thence going to Missouri, where he remained six years, at the end of which time he returned to Bloom township. His death occurred December 31, 1893, at Florida, Henry Co., Ohio. The mother died in Bloom township in 1881.

Peter Nyswander went to school in Milton

township in the old log school house, which was the temple of learning in those early days, and was instructed in the branches then taught, which, it is safe to say, did not extend far beyond the "three R's." He worked for his father until he was nineteen years old, and then started in life for himself. For the next six or seven years he was employed in clearing up land for other people, at the close of that period buying sixty acres of unimproved land on which was built a log cabin, and devoted himself to its improvement. In the course of time he added some thirty-two and a half acres to it, and as the result of hard and patient labor he has to-day a valuable property under a good state of cultivation. The log house is supplanted by a handsome residence, and the rude outbuildings by fine barns, while modern machinery lessens the work of the farmer. In this pleasant home Mr. Nyswander is reaping the reward of his early years of hardship and toil, and, with his interesting family about him, is taking life easily and comfortably.

Our subject was married at Napoleon, Ohio, 1871, to Susan Beverson, who was born February 6, 1853. Her father, Samuel Beverson, was a shoemaker by trade, and also followed farming. He married Maria Weaver, and twelve children were born to them. He and his wife, both of whom have reached a good old age, are now living in Fulton county, Ohio.

To Mr. and Mrs. Nyswander six children have been born as follows: Jennie May, April 22, 1872; Sarah E., September 26, 1873; Edward, March 31, 1876; Reuben, January 9, 1878; Ella M., January 18, 1886; and Jacob, April 17, 1889. In politics our subject is a Populist. He has been a school director for a number of terms, and is a man highly regarded by his fellow citizens for his integrity, good common sense and liberal-minded views.

DAVID GIRTON (deceased) was a native of the Keystone State, born in Columbia county, on July 19, 1813, and, as his mother died when he was quite small, he was reared by a maternal aunt. When a young man he removed with relatives to Ashland county, Ohio, where he met the lady who now bears his name. In Orange township, that county, on May 21, 1844, he was united in marriage with Miss Rebecca Fast, who was there born May 7, 1825, and is a daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Rex) Fast. Her paternal grandfather, Christian Fast, was one of the well-known pioneers of Ashland county, in whose life many interesting incidents occurred, which have appeared in print many times. At one time he

was taken by the Indians, and held in captivity for eighteen months.

For seventeen years, Mr. Girton resided in Orange township, Ashland county, and on coming to Wood county, in 1861, was still in debt for his farm of eighty acres there. He was a hard-working, energetic man, and all that he had was secured through his own labors. He drove through to Wood county, bringing his family, which then comprised nine children, and in Perry township purchased eighty acres of land in Section 10, and twenty acres in Section 11. Eight acres of the amount only had been cleared, and the improvements consisted only of a log cabin and pig pen. A heavy growth of timber covered the place, and the land was mostly under water, especially in the spring, the only means of going to the neighbors being to walk on the logs in order to keep from getting wet. Mr. Girton continued to improve and cultivate his land until his death, which occurred April 3, 1869, and his remains were interred at Perry Center. In height he was five feet eight inches, weighed only 135 pounds, was never very strong, and his health was quite poor the last two years of his life. In politics he was a Democrat, and as a citizen had the respect and confidence of all who knew him.

At his death he left the widow with a family of ten children, and a debt of \$600 upon his place. With the help of her sons, Mrs. Girton was able to keep her home, and to-day has 120 acres of as good land as can be found anywhere in the township. The place is neat and thrifty in appearance, the buildings are of substantial character, and all the improvements found thereon have been made by members of the family.

The education of Mrs. Girton was such as the subscription schools of her neighborhood afforded; but at that time it was considered unnecessary for girls to have much of an education. She has reared a family, of which she may justly be proud; her sons have become prominent and enterprising citizens of the various communities in which they reside, while her daughters have become good housekeepers and faithful wives, and they always acted under her instruction, seeking her advice until they started out in life for themselves. Religiously she is connected with the Evangelical Church, and she is one of the most highly respected ladies of Perry township.

Her children are as follows: Perry Girton, born March 14, 1845, lives in Gratiot county, Mich.; Sarah J., born November 12, 1846, is now Mrs. Jonathan Snyder, of Gratiot county, Mich.; John G., born July 19, 1848, is a farmer of Perry township; Mary M., born January 18,

1850, is the wife of George Castrit, of West Millgrove, Ohio; David K., born May 13, 1852, resides in Scott township, Sandusky Co., Ohio; Jacob I., born April 28, 1854, died in Perry township January 23, 1869; Hudson P., born April 1, 1856, lives in Johnson county, Mo.; Wilson W., born February 27, 1858, died March 23, 1883, in Perry township; Martin G., born June 27, 1860, is a farmer of Perry township; and Flora E., born March 16, 1866, is now Mrs. Amos Bowers, of Montgomery township, Wood county.

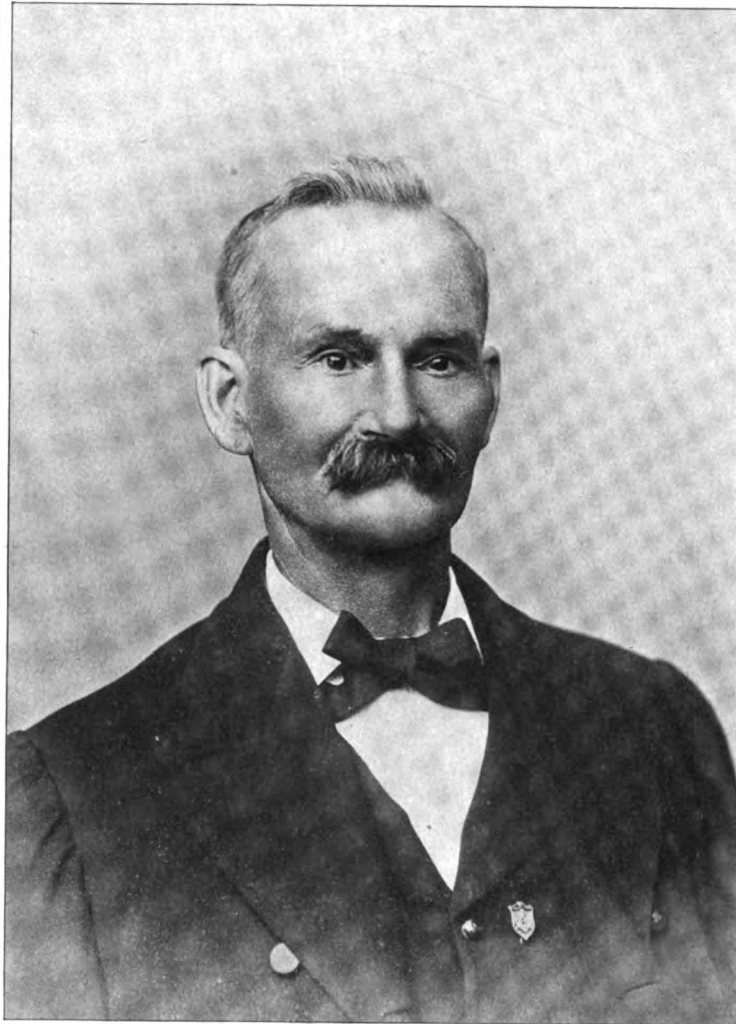
EDWARD W. DE VERNA, one of the honored pioneer settlers of Wood county, was born on Westminster, in London, England, December 14, 1829. Edward De Verna, his father, also born in England, was of French descent. By profession he was a surgeon, and for a number of years governor of a penitentiary. He married Cecelia Sarvis, a native of England, and they became the parents of two sons: Edward W., and Henry A., a farmer of Ottawa county, Ohio. Crossing the Atlantic, the family located in Chatham, county of Kent, Ontario, Canada, where the father was given one thousand acres of land in recognition of services rendered his country. He died there in 1859, surviving his wife six years. George De Verna, grandfather of our subject, was a captain in the British army the greater part of his life; while an uncle, Major Crane, was in the same service, losing a limb at some engagement—in fact many of Mr. De Verna's relatives were military men, and he has inherited not a little of their martial air, being still quite erect, though sixty-seven years old, taking also much delight in drilling a company of cadets at Dunbridge.

Our subject was baptized in the grand and historic structure which has played an important part in England's history—Westminster Abbey. He is entirely self-educated, but is to-day a very well-read man. At the age of twelve he came with his parents to Canada, where he was employed on a farm until 1857, after which he worked his uncle's farm three years on Hull Prairie, in Wood county; he then purchased eighty acres of timber land, and built a log cabin. During those early days the hardships and trials of pioneer life were many and arduous; so much so that he saw his children crying for bread, his wife crying to see them cry, and he himself had nothing; but as time passed he has added to his possessions, and now owns 340 acres of valuable land, much of which lies in Perrysburg township, and is operated by his sons. He erected a fine

residence at a cost of \$3,500, which was destroyed by fire. In 1888 he purchased twenty acres of land in Dunbridge, erected thereon a comfortable dwelling, and now has one of the best improved farms in the locality, in addition to general agriculture, operating a threshing machine, feed-mill, corn-sheller and clover-huller.

In October, 1852, at Chatham, Canada, Mr. De Verna married Eliza Barfoot, who was born in London, England, June 20, 1827. The following is the record of their family: Emma, born September 1, 1854, is the wife of Henry Shubb, of Perrysburg; Frank was born in May, 1856, and Edward in June, 1858; Mary A., born in November, 1860, is the wife of George Chamberlain; Eliza, born in 1863, is the wife of William Cloar, an engineer in Michigan; Abraham, born in 1864, is a farmer of Perrysburg township; Florence, born in 1868, is at home; and George B., born in 1871, is an agriculturist of Perrysburg township.

During the war of the Rebellion, Mr. De Verna enlisted in Perrysburg township, September 24, 1862, in Company L, 3rd O. V. V. C., which was attached to the 2nd Brigade, 14th Army Corps. For two years and ten months he faithfully defended the old flag and the cause it represented, being honorably discharged August 4, 1865, at Edgefield, Tenn., having served two years and eleven months. He never lost a day from his regiment owing to sickness, was never wounded or taken prisoner, and, though a private during his entire service, he was often detailed to take charge of small expeditions, thereby seeing much active service. On one of his expeditions he captured two beautiful blooded horses from bushwhackers; on another, he had the pleasure of knocking, with his saber, a horn out of the mouth of a Rebel, who was going to call for help, while Mr. De Verna's comrades were helping themselves in the smoke house. At the battle of Atlanta, he partially lost his hearing. He is a loyal, devoted citizen, a member of the American Protective Association, of Toledo, Ohio, and of the Loyal Orange Association, of Canada; he is also connected with Phoenix Lodge, No. 123, F. & A. M., of Perrysburg. For five years he served on the board of education, and he is a liberal member of the Presbyterian Church of Dunbridge. The day he was married Mr. De Verna commenced to keep a diary of the daily events of his life, which is still unbroken save some leaves he sent home while he was in the army, and which were lost, and a portion destroyed by fire when his home was burned. In his own language we will here



*Edw. W. Ickema*



add what Mr. De Verna says concerning his daily habits, etc.: "When a boy I was selected for a Sabbath-school teacher, and have been superintendent of Sabbath-school nearly forty years, besides being class leader and an elder of the Church during same years. This I had to resign on account of my hearing becoming effected, and am now first Bible class teacher. I have never been intoxicated in my life, nor have I ever been guilty of using or tolerating bad language, or ever swore an oath. I have never smoked a pipe of tobacco, or a cigar, nor have I ever taken a chew of tobacco. I am a lover of home and am beloved by my family, whom I encourage in all that is good, especially music. In my house I have at the present time, and have had for years, music, piano, organ, harp, flute, cornet, solo alto horn, and a violin, on which latter I am accompanied by my daughter on the piano or organ. At one time I was a member of three different bands, but, that life not suiting me, I gave it up. Of my four sons not one drinks, smokes or chews tobacco—God bless them! My youngest daughter has been organist in the Church some two or three years, and is now president of the Christian Endeavor. So much for teaching, and the example set. Their mother is equally good, but more strict. God has blessed and prospered me all through life, and I will close my days with a light and happy heart. These few lines I desire to have perpetuated in print for the benefit of the generations that will follow me."

PERRY C. CHILCOTE, proprietor of the "Chilcote House" at West Millgrove, is one of the best known landlords in Wood county, and his hotel stands in the front rank of the hostleries in the county. "Perry," as he is familiarly called, is one of the most accommodating hosts to be found anywhere, and seems to consider it a pleasure to do a service for a guest. His establishment is complete in every respect, and his good wife, in her turn, leaves nothing undone to make it a pleasant, comfortable home for the weary traveler.

Mr. Chilcote was born February 18, 1841, in Perry township, Wood county, son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Jones) Chilcote. When he was five years old his father was permanently injured. A horse ran away with him, dragging him around a twenty-acre field largely covered with logs and stumps, and fracturing his skull in such a manner that the bone rested upon the brain. He never recovered from the effect of the accident, and his restoration to life was due to the prompt action of his son, James, who, as soon as the

horse was caught, removed the dirt quickly from his father's mouth and nostrils, and breathed into his lungs the breath of life! The accident so completely exhausted Mr. Chilcote that he was unconscious for several days. He was ever afterward tenderly cared for by his wife, to whom this was no small burden, as she had at that time six children needing her constant attention. Soon after this event the family moved to Seneca county, Ohio, where Perry, when eight years old, went to work for his uncle, Gideon Jones, for one shilling per-day. When eleven years old he began work on a farm belonging to Israel Nestlerode, here receiving four dollars per month, and he lived with various other farmers, being at home only a small portion of his time, but giving most of his earnings to his parents. He was a strong, robust boy, and physically much superior to the average man. When the Civil war broke out he was working for R. W. Kelly, who made him a most liberal offer: he would give him the use of his best team and all the land that he could farm, bear all the expenses, and allow Mr. Chilcote one-third of all the crops he could raise, telling him he would "see him through." But this was no inducement to Perry. He dropped the plow and seized his gun, and on August 15, 1861, was enrolled in Company H, 49th Regiment, O. V. I., and marched away to defend the stars and stripes. He took part in some of the most famous battles of the war, among them those of Stone River, Corinth, Shiloh and Chickamauga. At the latter place he was taken prisoner, and was held as such just fourteen months, during that time seeing terrible hardships in the Rebel prisons of Belle Isle, Richmond, Danville and Andersonville. On November 20, 1864, he was exchanged, and was taken by a vessel from Savannah, Ga., to the parole camp at Annapolis, where he was paroled, after which he returned to Ohio, here receiving his final discharge at Columbus, on January 21, 1865.

The marriage of Mr. Chilcote and Miss Martha J. Harts took place in Montgomery township, January 5, 1867. Mrs. Chilcote was born in Cumberland county, Penn., April 17, 1851, and is the daughter of Conrad and Eliza (McMillen) Harts, who came to Wood county when their daughter was two years old. No children have ever been born to this union. For a short time after his marriage Mr. Chilcote rented a small farm in Montgomery township, and later removed to West Millgrove, where he acted as fireman and engineer in the gristmill of Col. Miles, having learned this business with his brother James. From West Millgrove he went



onto the home farm in Section 26, Perry township, remaining there a year, when he returned to his former home and worked at teaming and farming. He also for several years carried on a shingle factory in company with his brother Marcus D.

On April 21, 1877, Mr. Chilcote assumed the management of the hotel known as the "Millgrove House," which had been conducted by William McCormick. For this property he traded his house and lot in Millgrove, and a balance, which left him over a thousand dollars in debt. The name of the hotel was afterward changed to that of the "Chilcote House," which is now one of the most widely known and popular public houses in northern Ohio. Besides this property Mr. Chilcote owns a house and lot in West Millgrove, and is comfortably fixed financially. He is one of the staunchest Republicans in the county, and an active worker in the interests of his party. He has served as constable of the township. For over twenty-five years he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been a class-leader and superintendent of the Sunday-school. At present he is acting as steward. His wife, who is a most kind-hearted and excellent woman, is also a consistent Methodist. Mr. Chilcote is a member of Conley Post, G. A. R., at West Millgrove.

JOHN MCHENRY was born in the county of Lennox, Canada, in 1846, and is of Irish descent, his father, Daniel McHenry, being a native of County Antrim, Ireland. The name was originally spelled McKendry, and is well-known in the North of Ireland, from which locality the grandfather of our subject, also named John, came at an early day, settling in Canada, and dying at Quebec. Three of his brothers located in Philadelphia, Penn. Daniel McHenry came to America with his father, and made his home in the county of Lennox, Canada, where he purchased a large tract of land and carried on farming the remainder of his life. His wife was Margaret Sixmith, of Queen's County, Ireland. Twelve children were born of this union, of whom the following grew to maturity: Rachel married Patrick McKeller, and lives in Bradford, Penn.; Eliza P. lives on a farm in Canada; John comes next; Charles is engaged in mining in Colorado; James is a farmer in Canada; Mary lives in Chicago, Ill.; and Thomas is a millwright, living in Canada.

The subject of this sketch remained upon his father's farm in Canada until reaching his majority, when he came to the United States and lo-

cated in the oil fields of Pennsylvania. There he found employment as a tool dresser and driller, which occupation he followed for a time, and then came to Ohio and to Wood county, where he has since been employed in tracing and drilling wells, for producers. Since locating in this county, Mr. McHenry's fortune has been varied. At this writing he has a half-interest in a favorable lease in the Portage field, on which are located nine good producing wells. Mr. McHenry is a man of great industry and persistence, and deserves success in life. He is a Populist in politics, and believes in the doctrines of the Free-Soil party. In religious faith he is a Catholic; socially he belongs to the Masonic order. He is popular with all classes, a man of the highest integrity, and possesses the best traits of the warm-hearted, impulsive race from which he sprung. He was married in Canada, November 28, 1871, to Miss Agnes Frizzell, and they have two children: Maggie and Charles.

P. F. CLINE, a prominent farmer and valued citizen of Perry township, was born near Utica, Licking Co., Ohio, November 24, 1832. His parents were John and Phoebe (Fahs) Cline, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania, and the latter in Hampshire county, W. Va., in which latter State they were married.

Some seven or eight years after his marriage, John Cline removed to Licking county, Ohio, in company with two other families, and each man took up a quarter section of land. A little later Mr. Cline and his two friends went bail for a local merchant, who afterward fled the country and left them in the lurch. Mr. Cline's land was seized, and he was left with but one cow and a poor team of horses. The object of these men in taking up land in this section was to improve the country and provide a market which would attract other settlers, the merchant, who treated them so shamefully, having agreed to buy all their products. The advent of the canal, which was soon to be put through, was expected to prove a great feature in the development of the country, and these prosperous settlers, who were all public-spirited men, had thought by their efforts to greatly benefit the community. Frustrated in his efforts, and greatly reduced financially, Mr. Cline removed to Fairfield county, and settled near Lancaster, where he undertook to repair his lost fortune, but only partially succeeded, as the troubles he had seen preyed upon his health, and his death occurred when he was comparatively a young man.

The parental family consisted of twelve chil-

dren, eight boys and four girls, most of whom were old enough to work for themselves, and in this way the family remained together and prospered. They lived in Fairfield county until about 1846, at which time the National pike was being improved through Licking county, and this affording an opportunity for employment for the boys, the family moved to Licking county, settling sixteen miles east of Columbus, where the boys went to work on the great thoroughfare. It was from here that the family scattered and several members passed away, including the mother, three brothers and two sisters. One brother who went to California, in 1849, died there; one sister died in Chicago, and one, at the age of twenty, in Fairfield county, while another brother died in northwestern Illinois. The three children now living are as follows: Our subject; Mollie, now Mrs. John Pevens, of Hardin county, Ohio; Isaac, who lives near Columbus Grove, in Hancock county, Ohio. The father of this family was six feet tall, and a strongly built man. He had poor advantages for book learning in early life, but had a wonderful memory and a good practical education.

When a boy our subject worked on the farm of his father, turning his hand to whatever he could find to do. At one time he hauled stone chips, which were made in dressing stone while the State house in Columbus was being built, which chips were used in making repairs on the National pike. Later he attended school at Ætna, Licking county, where he had excellent opportunities for learning, which he improved to good advantage. When seventeen years old he began to learn the carpenter's trade under Jacob Schaff, of Ætna, with whom he worked for over two years. After working for several years at his trade in different counties in Ohio, Mr. Cline left the State, going, in about 1854, to Chicago. He had been there but a short time when the cholera broke out, the deaths averaging some four hundred a day. The principal remedy at this time for this dread disease was the essence of peppermint and brandy, which was found to be very efficacious. Owing to this epidemic Mr. Cline did not remain in Chicago, but returned to Ohio, making his home for a time in Adrian, Seneca county, where he remained until 1856. He then went to Kansas, and was there during the stirring times caused by the Abolition troubles. He took an active part himself in some of the events, and once rode ninety miles without a dismount, being closely pursued by a number of outlaws.

Subsequently Mr. Cline went to St. Louis, where he worked at his trade, afterward going to

Kansas City, where he did considerable work on the first bridge which was built across the Kansas river from that city to Wyandotte city. Kansas City was then a small place, having but one hotel. The following winter he spent in the South, going as far as New Orleans, where he worked at his trade. He also traveled over the State of Missouri, and on his return worked throughout the State of Ohio. He made good wages by this roving way of living, and spent his money as easily as it was earned. The winter of 1858-59 he also spent in the South, and near Vicksburg built a house for a wealthy Southern planter. He spent his time in this way, working in the South during the winters and during the summers in the northern States, until the spring of 1861, when the Civil war broke out. At that time Mr. Cline came up the Mississippi on one of the last of the boats to make the journey, which was not fired upon by the Southerners. This vessel contained many refugees who were fleeing to the North to escape being forced into the Rebel army. Mr. Cline went at once to Tiffin, Ohio, where he worked at his trade, and on March 22, 1862, he was married to Miss Anna Steward, a daughter of Archie Steward, who was of Scotch extraction. Mrs. Cline was born September 25, 1835, near Republic, Seneca Co., Ohio.

The young couple went to housekeeping in Adrian, Ohio, and on August 1 of the same year Mr. Cline enlisted in Company K, 101st O. V. I., under Capt. Noble. He was made second lieutenant, as he had recruited the greater part of the company. The regiment was mustered in at Monroeville, Ohio, and two days later left for Covington, Ky., where it had a lively skirmish, and a few of them had an exciting race for their lives, as Lieut. Cline, with twenty men, was reconnoitering five miles out from the city, when they were surprised by a large force of Rebels. They, however, escaped without injury. He participated in all the skirmishes and battles in which his regiment took part until December 1, 1863, when, being disabled by illness, he was honorably discharged, and returned to Republic, Ohio, where his wife was then living.

In the fall of 1864, Mr. Cline located in Montgomery township, Wood county, where he bought eighty acres of partially improved land. For this he paid one-half down, the remainder to be paid in two installments; but, before the second payment became due, he sold that property and bought his present farm of 160 acres in Section 9, Perry township, for which he went heavily in debt. He at once went to work to improve this land, which has been his home ever since,

and which is now one of the finest farms in the township. He has disposed of a part of it, and now has 159 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres under fine cultivation. When he took possession of it only forty acres were cleared, and every building on it has been erected by himself. In 1878 he built a beautiful residence, where he is spending his days in peace and happiness.

On April 2, 1865, Mrs. Cline died in Montgomery township, and was buried near Republic. She left one child, Anna, now the widow of Walter Coe, who lives with her two children, Lena and Lester, at the home of her father. In the spring of 1866, Mr. Cline was married to Mrs. Laura Simons, whose husband, Lieut. Silas Simons, of Company E, 49th Regiment, O. V. I., was killed at Pickett's Mills, Ga. Mrs. Cline was born in Fostoria, Ohio, September 19, 1840, and is the daughter of Osman Divers, who in his time was one of the largest land owners in Wood county. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Cline, namely: Vic. I., now Mrs. Scott Emerson, of Bloom; and Charles W., residing with his parents. Mrs. Cline is a member of the Disciples Church.

Mr. Cline has carried on farming for a number of years, at one time also being engaged in stock raising. He was born and reared a Democrat; but in the fall of 1860 cast his vote for Abraham Lincoln, and has been a stanch Republican ever since. He has never been an office-seeker, but an active worker for the success of his party, and through his efforts some of the best officials in the county have been elected. He is a politician from principle, and instead of using his influence in his own behalf he has never asked for office, but has endeavored to find out and secure the election of men the best qualified to fill responsible positions. He is an enterprising and progressive man, and a loyal citizen.

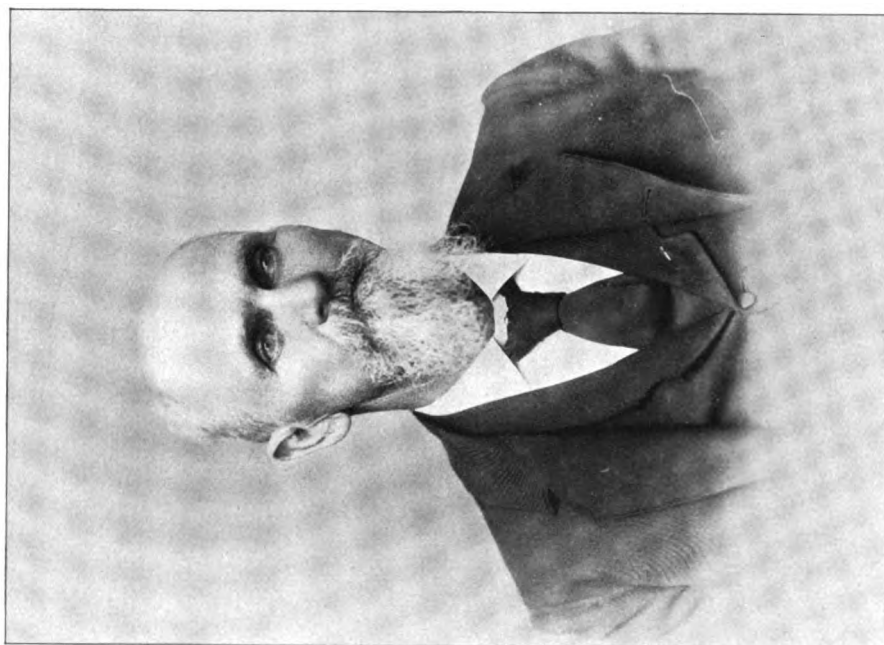
SAMUEL MCKEE, a well-to-do farmer of Liberty township, is the owner of a good farm of sixty acres, on which he erected, in 1892, a beautiful residence. This stands in the midst of well-tilled fields, while good barns and outbuildings provide ample shelter for grain and stock. All the equipments and accessories of a model farm are here found, and the owner is regarded as one of the leading agriculturists of the community.

Mr. McKee was born in Washington county, Penn., April 16, 1827, and is a son of Thomas and Nancy (Shellar) McKee. The father was born in Ireland in 1793, and when about nine years of age was brought to America by his parents, John and Mary (Gartley) McKee. The

family landed at New York, and went direct to Pennsylvania, the grandfather entering a part of the land on which Philadelphia now stands. He afterward sold that tract and removed to Northumberland county, Penn., where he remained for several years. His next home was in Washington county, Penn., and later he went to Guernsey county, Ohio, where both the grandfather and the grandmother died at the home of their son John, in 1837. Their children were William, Thomas, Robert, Catherine, Nancy, and Ellen and Elizabeth (twins).

Thomas McKee, father of our subject, served for about nine months in the war of 1812, enlisting at the age of nineteen. In Pennsylvania he learned the trade of shoemaking, which he followed in connection with farming. For nineteen years he lived in Guernsey county, Ohio, and then removed with his family to Seneca county, where he purchased eighty acres of land, which he operated some four years. On selling that property he removed to Fostoria, Ohio, where he then lived retired until his death, in 1861. His wife died on the farm in Seneca county, in August, 1849. Their children were Mary, who became the wife of William Hutton, and died in North Baltimore, Ohio; Elizabeth, who married Levi Adams, and died in Liberty township; Matilda, who died in Guernsey county at the age of fourteen; Rebecca, wife of Samuel Hytar, of Bloomdale, Wood county; Samuel; Robert, who was killed by a falling tree in Henry county, at the age of twenty-one; Nancy, widow of William Ramsbottom, of Fostoria, who served five years at the time of the Civil war, and died from his wounds; Jane, wife of L. H. Laney, of Liberty township; Harriet, wife of James Hunt, of Fostoria; and Dorcas, who died at the age of fifteen.

Our subject was a child of two years when his parents came to Ohio. He obtained his education in the schools of Guernsey county, and at the age of twenty-four learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for many years. On April 22, 1858, he was married in Fostoria, Ohio, to Mary Stevens, who was born in Seneca county April 26, 1836, and is descended on the paternal side from Scotch ancestry, and on the maternal side from German. Her parents were natives of Ohio, but were married in Washington county, Penn., and afterward removed to Seneca county, Ohio, where the father died May 24, 1849, while the mother passed away September 28, 1868. They had six children: Sarah, who first married Jacob Frinth, and after his decease became the wife of John Wininger (she died in Fostoria,



*Samuel McKee*



*Mary McKee*



Ohio); Bayard E., an army surgeon, who was never heard from after the battle of Shiloh; Mrs. McKee; Priscilla, wife of Mathew Keo, of Liberty township; Allen, of Fostoria, Ohio; and Thomas, who died at Nashville while serving in the Union army.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. McKee number three children: Armada C., born October 21, 1866; Elden, born August 31, 1872, and Loy, born September 6, 1876.

On August 29, 1863, our subject enlisted in the Ohio National Guard, 49th Regiment, to serve for five years. He was mustered into the United States service in May, 1864, in the call for "one-hundred-day" men, and was honorably discharged May 1, 1866. In 1871 Mr. McKee came with his family to Wood county, and since 1877 he has resided upon his present farm. His political support is given to the Republican party, but he has never been an office seeker, preferring to devote his time and energies to his business interests, in which he is meeting with good success.

C. S. ST. JOHN, M. D., a well-known physician of Bowling Green, was born in Plain township, Wood county, November 13, 1854, and is the son of S. W. and Harriet Jane (Husted) St. John. The family is of French descent, the ancestors of our subject coming to this country in an early day, and representatives are found in many States of the Union.

The father of our subject was a native of New York, born June 30, 1817. He moved thence to Milan, Erie Co., Ohio, and in September, 1843, removed to Bowling Green, where he was married and spent the remainder of his life, dying December 7, 1893. He was originally a Whig, later becoming a Republican, and held the office of commissioner of Wood county for seven years. He belonged to a large family, of whom the following grew to maturity: Mrs. Nicholas Kline, formerly of Milan, Ohio, now deceased; Henry, living in Portland, Ore.; Mrs. Nathan Moore, residing in Toledo; and Ezra, also living in Portland, Ore. The mother of Dr. St. John, who is still living, was born June 5, 1833, in Tioga county, Penn., and was one of six children, namely: Mrs. Leverton (now deceased), who lived in Wood county; Joel, residing in Toledo; Clarinda, widow of Judge Ewing, residing at Piqua, Ohio (Judge Ewing was a pioneer of Wood county, and died August 20, 1890; he was president of the Wood County Pioneer Society); Harriet Jane; Philander, a resident of Wood county; and Findlay. The Husted family is of

Pennsylvania-Dutch stock. To our subject's father and mother were born seven children, viz.: Mary Ann, deceased wife of G. W. Callin; Clement W., who died when twenty-two years old; C. S.; Julia M., who died when sixteen years of age; Ezra H., residing in Bowling Green; Elden, deceased when six years old; and Everett E., who died at the age of seventeen years.

The subject of this sketch was educated in the schools of Fostoria, Ohio, and Valparaiso, Ind., and being dependent upon his own exertions he early showed of what stuff he was made, and his determination to make a name in the world by his persistent efforts to acquire knowledge. During these years he taught school at intervals, being employed both in country districts and in the city public schools, in the latter teaching five years. In this way he earned money enough to pursue his own studies. After completing his literary course, during which he had studied medicine to some extent, he entered the Columbus Medical College, subsequently, in 1883, graduating from the Medical Department of Wooster University. He practiced in Bowling Green one year with Dr. Fuller, and then went to McComb, where he remained two and a half years, at the end of that time returning to Bowling Green, where he has since made his home. Dr. St. John is extensively read, well posted in his profession, and has a large practice in the city and vicinity. He is a member of both the medical societies of the county, also of the board of health, and was at one time a trustee of the Cemetery Association; also served as coroner of Wood county two terms. In politics he is a Republican. Socially, he is a member of the K. of P. and National Union, at Bowling Green. On June 30, 1880, the Doctor was married to Miss Ella Ralston, who was born February 22, 1857, in Wood county, and they have two children, Edith L. and C. Harold.

E. A. POST, like many of the prominent and representative citizens of Wood county, our subject is a native of the Empire State, born in Otsego county, May 10, 1838, and is a son of William P. and Rhoda (Osborne) Post, who removed to Medina, Ohio, when their son was but a child. There the father followed his trade of carpentering until his death at the ripe old age of eighty-five years, while his wife was eighty-one when she passed away.

Mr. Post, of this review, was the only son in the family of eight children, and in the schools Medina secured his education. When a boy he

learned the machinist's trade at Bradway's machine shop, and also took up carpentering, at which he worked for some time. In April, 1862, spurred on by a spirit of patriotism that reigned in so many of the bosoms of the young men of our land, our subject enlisted at Medina, in Company G, 84th O. V. I., under Capt. J. C. Powell. From Columbus, Ohio, where the regiment was formed, they were sent to Grafton, W. Va., where they took part in their first engagement. They were assigned to the army of the Potomac, and were in the battles of New Creek and Romney, W. Va., Harper's Ferry and Painted Rocks, after which Mr. Post returned to Cumberland, Md., and was sent home as his term had expired. In September, 1863, he re-enlisted, this time becoming a member of the First Ohio Battery, and saw hard service in Tennessee, being at Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, the siege of Knoxville and Strawberry Plains. While on a raid he was taken ill and after his recovery was in the engagements at King's Salt Works, Bull's Gap, Greenville, Tenn., Stony River, Leadville, Tenn., Danbridge, Jonesboro and Ashville, N. C. At the latter place they released 5,000 prisoners. After the war was ended they were sent to Knoxville to guard stores and equipments received from Johnston and there were discharged in September, 1865, while at Camp Dennison they were mustered out.

On returning to his home in Medina, Ohio, Mr. Post worked at his trade for some time, but the winter of 1867-68 he passed in Wood county in the employ of John Norris, of Perry township, after which he went again to Medina. There on August 27, 1873, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Post and Miss Mary A. Fay, who was born at Medina Center, May 20, 1852, and is a daughter of Michael and Margaret (Conway) Fay, who were both natives of County Clare, Ireland, where they were married, and later came to the United States. Mrs. Post is the second in order of birth in their family of nine children, and after receiving a good education taught school in Medina county. By her marriage she has become the mother of three children—William M., born October 30, 1874; Zelotes G., born June 21, 1878; and Ella M., born January 12, 1884.

In the spring of 1875 Mr. Post brought his family to Wood county, locating on an eighty-acre farm in Section 16, Perry township, which he had purchased some years previous. Only four acres had been cleared, and a log house was the only improvement; but since that time a

great transformation has taken place. Sixty acres have been placed under the plow, a comfortable dwelling has been erected, and also good barns and other outbuildings, some of the carpenter work being done by his own hands.

Mr. Post's tastes are domestic in character, he taking great delight in his home and family, and is eminently worthy of the trust and high regard which in he is held by his fellow citizens. He takes an intelligent and earnest interest in public affairs, is a stanch Republican, and has served as delegate to the county conventions. He is a charter member of Yates Post, G. A. R., of West Millgrove, Ohio. Mrs. Post takes an active part in religious and temperance work, belonging to the Union Methodist Church, and is secretary of the Home Missionary Society and the local Woman's Christian Temperance Union.

H. A. ELLSWORTH, deceased. Prominent among those who were successful farmers of Wood county may be named the subject of this historical notice, whose homestead was in Section 5, Portage township, and who, by enterprise and energy in the direction of his chosen industry, had given to his work a significance and beauty of which few deemed it capable. He was brought into the world July 23, 1830, in Wyoming county, Penn., and is the son of Leonard and Maria (Dimon) Ellsworth, farming people of but moderate means, who lived and died in the Keystone State. In their family of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, our subject was the fifth in order of birth. He was reared upon a farm, and received his education in the district schools. At the age of twenty-two he commenced his struggle upon the stage of life on his own account, being able at that time to do a good day's work.

In Wyoming county, January 11, 1856, Mr. Ellsworth wedded Miss Betsy A. Waring, a native of New York, who bore him the following children: Lydia J., who died in childhood; Fannie, now Mrs. Owen Borger, of Bowling Green, Ohio; Ella, wife of Lewis Abbott, of Milton Center, Ohio; Albert, of Henry county, Ohio; Andrew, who died in infancy; George, a farmer of Portage township; Charles, who died while young; Emma, now Mrs. Charles Sayer, of Portage village; and Cora, Jessie and Nellia, all at home. Mr. Ellsworth rented land in Pennsylvania until the spring of 1857, when he removed to Liverpool, Medina Co., Ohio, where for six years he kept a hotel, and on selling out came to Wood county, locating on forty acres of timber land in Montgomery township. This was the

first tract he had ever owned, and after improving it for some time, sold and purchased fifty acres elsewhere, to which he later added a tract of forty-eight acres. That farm he traded for the home property, consisting of ninety-five acres in Section 5, Portage township, which is highly cultivated and well improved with good buildings.

On December 1, 1890, his first wife passed away, and her remains were interred in Oak Grove cemetery, Bowling Green, Ohio. In Luzerne county, Penn., August 12, 1892, he was again married, his second union being with Mrs. Mary Turcan, widow of William Turcan. Her birth occurred in Kingston, Luzerne county, February 6, 1838, and she is a daughter of Henry and Catherine (Myers) Frace. She acquired her education in the district schools of her native county, and endeavors by a blameless life to set a good example to the rising generation, being a member of the Free Methodist Church.

On coming to Wood county, Mr. Ellsworth suffered considerably from malaria and ague, often having to work whole days when he could hardly stand, but he had invessed his entire capital in his land, and his family had to be supported. Many men of less courage would have given up, but love of his family inspired him, and he kept steadily on until he had secured a comfortable competence. Politically he had always been a Democrat until 1892, since which time, until his death, he was a Populist, and a staunch supporter of that party. He passed away May 9, 1896.

GEORGE SIMPKIN was born in Cambridgeshire, England, August 6, 1849. His father, John Simpkin, was a butcher by trade. He married Anne Barley, and they became parents of eight children, namely: Robert, Mary Anne, George, Sarah (wife of Thomas Senate, of England), Lida, Ezekiah, Eliza, and Ellen.

Our subject acquired his education in his native land, and when twenty-five years of age crossed the Atlantic, locating in Toronto, Canada, where for five years he followed the butcher's trade. In 1879 he came to Wood county, Ohio, locating at Scotch Ridge. He purchased eighty acres of land in Center township, erected a dwelling at a cost of \$1,000, and has here made a good home, reclaiming the land from its original condition, and transforming it into fertile fields.

Before leaving his native land Mr. Simpkin was married in Cambridgeshire, in 1867, to Eliza Houghton, who was born in that place, in 1850, a daughter of Benjamin and Anna (Day) Hough-

ton. They have three children—John, born in 1868; Alice, born in 1870, now the wife of Isaac Lambright, of Fostoria; and Arthur George, who was born in 1872, and operates the old homestead. When Mr. and Mrs. Simpkin arrived in Canada they had only \$20, but their united efforts have brought to them a comfortable competence and a pleasant home, which they richly merit.

W. B. BRYANT, M. D. This well known and popular citizen of Bowling Green, who for two consecutive terms held the responsible office of sheriff of Wood county, was born at Prairie Depot, Wood county, July 1, 1852.

The father of our subject, W. R. Bryant, was born in New York State, coming to Ohio and settling in Wood county at Freeport, about fifteen years ago. He was a lawyer by profession, and practiced in the courts of this and adjoining counties. He married Melissa A. Sherman, who was also a native of New York, and both are now deceased. Their children were eight in number, as follows: Charles enlisted during the Civil war in the 144th O. V. I., was captured by Moseby, and died in the Confederate prison at Salisbury; the second child died in early infancy; Diana is the wife of M. Hall, and lives at Hastings, Mich.; Adolphus died in infancy; George is a planter at South Riverside, Cal.; William B. is our subject; O. N. is postmaster at Freeport, Wood county; Flora A. (deceased) was the wife of S. J. Dunn, of Prairie Depot.

Our subject obtained his literary education in his native place, and in 1872 began the study of medicine. For two years he was in the offices of Dr. Nelson Goodrick, at Freeport, and Dr. Rosendale, of West Millgrove. He was graduated from the Cincinnati Eclectic Medical Institute in 1875, and began the practice of his profession at Freeport, where he remained for two years, then removing to Jerry City, where he had a large general practice. In the fall of 1890 he was elected sheriff of Wood county, and the following year took up his residence in Bowling Green. Wood county is largely Republican, and Dr. Bryant had a majority of only five votes at this election; but so well did he fulfill the duties of that office, that when he ran the second time he received a majority of 323 votes in spite of the fact that the county went over a thousand Republican. He is a man of sterling character, popular with all classes, and possesses good executive ability. He has large oil and real-estate interests in Wood county, and also owns a



fine drug store in Toledo, at the corner of Summit and Lagrange streets, which he opened in April, 1896. However, it does not interfere with his practice. Socially he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and K. of P.

Dr. Bryant was married November 25, 1881, to Zidama V. Dunlap, who was born in Ashland county, Ohio, July 16, 1853. Her parents were David and Mary (Gribben) Dunlap, the former of whom was born in Portage county, Ohio, and the latter in Pennsylvania; the mother is now deceased; the father, who is still living, is now seventy-nine years of age. Mrs. Bryant is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and a most estimable woman.

A. EDDMON, M. D., a well-known physician and druggist of Tontogany, was born October 13, 1848, near Philadelphia, a son of Gottlieb Eddmon and wife, who were both natives of Germany. They spent the first years of their married life in America, returning to their old home on account of the ill health of the father, who was a druggist by occupation. The mother died shortly after their return to Germany (the father not long surviving her), leaving four children, of whom our subject, then about five years old, was the youngest, and he was then taken to live with relatives. The others—Frank, Amelia (now deceased), and Anna (the wife of F. Nagle) — all remained in Germany.

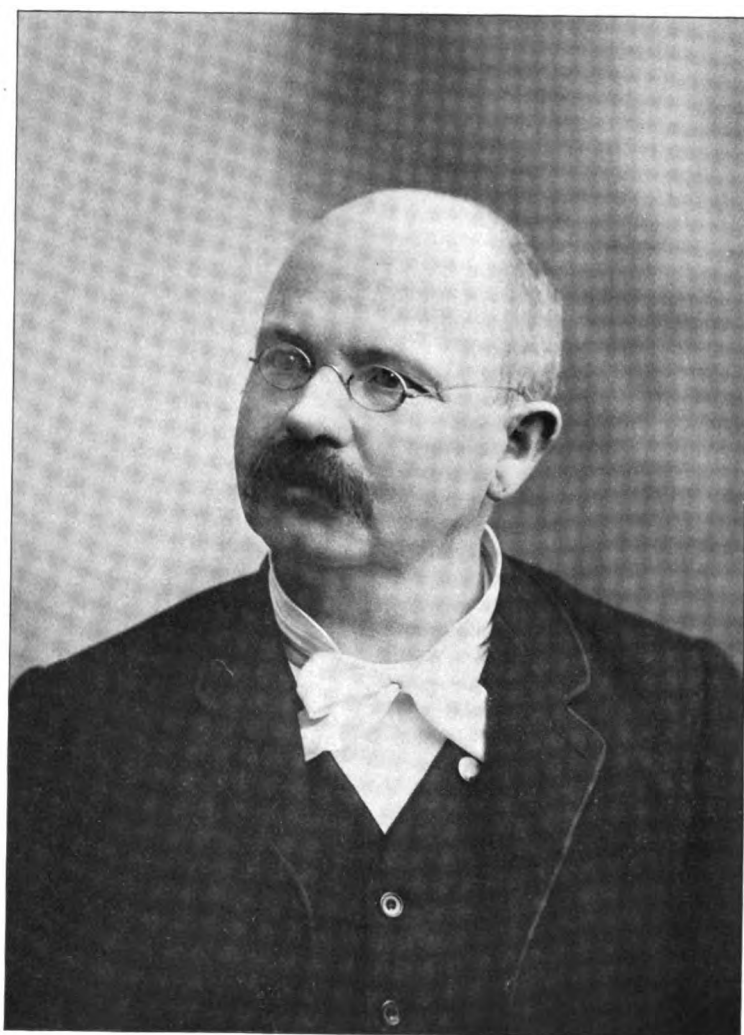
Our subject received a liberal education, graduating from Halle University, Germany, in the departments of Literature and Medicine, having studied medicine there from May, 1865, to September, 1868 — three years and four months. He then accepted the position of assistant-surgeon on the steamer "Limenia," and visited Chili, as well as other countries of South America, the Society Islands, Tahiti (a French port), and then, leaving the vessel, secured passage on a French Government vessel bound for San Francisco, where he engaged in the drug business. An attack of smallpox having interfered with his plans, he, in the following year, went to Chicago, and there remained until after the great fire, which occurred one week after his arrival. He then made a short visit to his native place, and in December, 1871, revisited Germany, where he again became interested in a drug store, and was also assistant to an old surgeon. In 1876 he returned to America, and after a trip through the Southern States, he attended a course of lectures in Cincinnati. He graduated March 5, 1877, from the Physio-Eclectic Medical College in that city, after which, in the same

year, he located at Custar, Wood county, and in December, following, settled in Tontogany, where he has since remained, and where his professional skill and wide range of knowledge have received due recognition. After a few years practice in Tontogany, he opened a drug store there, which he still owns.

In 1879, Dr. Eddmon was married to Miss Catherine Black, a sister to Capt. L. Black, of Tontogany. In politics he is an Independent, and served as township clerk one term; was mayor of Tontogany six years; and has been a notary public since 1879. He is assistant-surgeon for the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton Railroad Co.; socially he is a charter member of the I. O. O. F., Tontogany Lodge No. 755, and has filled all the chairs; is also a member of the K. of P., Perrysburg Lodge No. 524, and has attained the Oriental Degree in the same. In connection with his profession he is affiliated with the American Medical Society, of Ohio, and the American Association of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1882 the Aetna Insurance Co., of Hartford, Conn., appointed him recording agent for Tontogany, and in 1887 the passenger department of the C. H. & D. R. R. appointed him as special agent for Tontogany, and all through traffic is referred to him. Both positions he still occupies, and he stands in high repute with his employers. For the past ten years he has been the recognized authority for the leading Mercantile Agencies at Tontogany.

J. R. JUDSON, who is now living in Bowling Green retired from active business, was born in Medina county, Ohio, April 18, 1837. The Judson family in this country is descended from two brothers, who came from England at an early day and settled in Pennsylvania. One of these subsequently went south, and all trace of him has been lost. The other was the progenitor of that branch of the family to which our subject belongs. Beyond this, the first of whom any definite history has been preserved, is Ithimar Judson, who was born in Pennsylvania, and was the grandfather of the subject of this sketch. He had four brothers, viz.: Isaac, John, William and Egbert, all of whom grew to maturity. He died near Meadville, Penn., leaving two children: Benjamin, father of our subject, and Silva. The latter married Moses H. Herrick, and removed to Clinton county, Iowa. They had four daughters, all of whom married physicians, one of them being the wife of Dr. Very, a druggist in Chicago.

Benjamin Speas Judson was born January 13, 1812, and married Catharine Osgood, born near



*A. Edmonson*



Elmira, Penn., October 1, 1811. They resided for a time in Bedford county, Penn., and in 1835 removed to Ohio, settling near Waterville, Lucas county, on the Maumee river. There they lived for three years, when they decided to return to Pennsylvania, and started in wagons to make the long journey. On reaching Medina county, Ohio, however, the father was taken ill and they were forced to stop, and as they were pleased with the appearance of the country, they concluded to stay awhile. After living in that county for six years, they abandoned the idea of going to Pennsylvania, and finally decided to locate in Wood county. They reached Plain township in March, 1843, and there made a home for themselves, in which they spent the remainder of their lives, and where the father died in 1864, the mother surviving him until 1887. They were consistent and faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Judson was originally an Old-line Whig, uniting with the Republican party after its organization. To this worthy couple six children were born, namely: Ithimar, who died when two years old; Sarah M., who married Ernest Miehe, and died in 1864; Ithimar (2), who is a farmer in Perrysburg, Wood county; J. R., subject of this sketch; Miles, born June 18, 1844, is a mechanic and lives in Lucas county, Ohio; Lucie died when about eight years old. The parents of our subject's mother were Thomas and Abigail (Ingalls) Osgood. The former was of Irish descent, and came to Wood county in 1835, taking up his residence in Plain township, where he died.

J. R. Judson came to Wood county, when a lad of some six years, with his parents, and was reared to manhood in Plain township, attending the primitive schools of those days, and gaining as good an education as was possible with such limited advantages. When civil war threatened to dismember the Union, his patriotic impulses led him to enlist in defense of the stars and stripes, and he was one of the first to offer his services. April 18, 1861, he entered his name as a soldier, and the following month was mustered in at Camp Dennison. The State quota was full, however, and his company was not accepted, and he re-enlisted in Company C, 13th O. V. I., for three years, and in June, 1861, was transferred to Company D, 11th O. V. I., but was again doomed to disappointment, as in the following July he was attacked with measles, and was discharged for disability. His anxiety to serve his country did not cease, however, and although chagrined at the fact that his health did not allow him to actively participate in the conflict, he

became captain of the home militia company, and assisted in recruiting men for the Union army. He was also an active member of the "Wide-Awakes," which organization took such an active part in the political campaign of 1860, when Abraham Lincoln was first elected President.

Mr. Judson was married February 28, 1865, to Miss Elizabeth Mitchell, who was born in Plain township, August 13, 1841, and of this union six children have been born: Florence, born May 20, 1866, was married July 3, 1888, to William Intel, and has one child, Beatrice; Charles H., born February 9, 1868, married Mertie Abbott, and lives on the old homestead (he is employed in the oil field); Frederick S., born February 2, 1870, died a few days later; William C., born September 26, 1874, is at home, and is employed in the oil field; Albert O., born October 24, 1876, is employed in the Toledo Bicycle Works; his twin brother died in infancy.

After his marriage Mr. Judson settled in Plain township, but a year later removed to Liberty township, where he worked at his trade as a carpenter for some time; but his health failing, he decided to take up farming as a more healthful occupation. He now owns a good farm of fifty-five acres in Liberty township, on which are five productive oil wells. Since 1894 he has resided in Bowling Green. In politics Mr. Judson is a Republican, and his advice is often asked in public matters. He is recognized as a man of broad and liberal views, and of extensive reading and general information. He is highly esteemed as a loyal citizen and a good neighbor.

OTIS BEVERSTOCK, one of the enterprising and rising young men of Wood county, is a native of the same, having been born in 1860 at Tontogany, in Washington township. He is a son of Edward Beverstock, one of the most prominent pioneers of Wood county.

Our subject was reared in his native village, attending the common and business schools there, also taking one term at a business college in Toledo, Ohio. Until he was twenty-two years old he worked on a farm, and then accepted a position with the firm of Royce & Coon, grain merchants, Bowling Green, in whose employ he still remains, in the capacity of general manager.

In 1881, at the age of twenty-one, Mr. Beverstock was united in marriage with Miss Jennie S. Fuller, who was born at Grand Rapids, Mich., and six children have been born to them, named respectively: Bertha, Beryl, Howard, Burt, Ruth, and Donald. Politically our subject is a stanc

Republican; socially he is affiliated with the F. & A. M., a member of the Blue Lodge and of the Chapter.

FREDERIC VON KANEL, who for some sixteen years previous to his death, was a resident of Bowling Green, and one of its leading business men, was born in Asche, Canton Berne, Switzerland, September 3, 1848. His parents, David and Susanna (Buhler) Von Kanel, were natives of that country and both died there, the former passing away at Asche, Canton Berne, in 1859, the latter at Chaux-de-Fonds, Canton Neuchatel, in 1873.

The parental family consisted of six children, of whom mention is made as follows: David lives in Massillon, Ohio; Susanna died in the city of Berne, Switzerland; John lives in Akron, Ohio; Christian died in March, 1896, at Chaux-de-Fonds, Canton Neuchatel, Switzerland; Elizabeth married Jacob Russer, and died in Chaux-de-Fonds, in 1874; Frederic was the youngest child.

Our subject attended the schools of Asche, Canton Berne, Switzerland, until after his father's death, when his mother and her children moved to Chaux-de-Fonds, Canton Neuchatel, where Mr. Von Kanel finished his education, and learned the trade of a watchmaker and jeweler, a business which is very general in Switzerland, and in which that people excel. He worked at his trade for five years, in the meantime spending a short period in the military school, and on November 24, 1871, he was married at Chaux-de-Fonds to Miss Elise Marie Maurer. After their marriage the young couple resided for a time in that town, and in 1873 came to America, landing on its shores the 28th of March. They first located at Wooster, Ohio, where they remained for three and a half years, Mr. Von Kanel during that time being watch repairer in the jewelry store of E. Chatlaine. They removed to Tiffin, where he was in business some five months, and in 1877 they took up their residence in Bowling Green.

Mr. Von Kanel began his operations in the latter city in a small way, but his thorough knowledge of his business, combined with his straightforward dealing and pleasant manners, soon brought him a large trade, and he gradually increased his stock and equipments until he became the leading jeweler and silversmith in the county, dealing in all kinds of wares in that line. He was a public-spirited citizen, and gave liberally to any enterprise calculated to forward the growth and prosperity of his community, and was always ready to uphold the institutions of his

adopted country. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, F. & A. M., I. O. O. F., K. of P. and Royal Arcanum.

Mr. Von Kanel was not a man of robust physique, although he was not in poor health all the time; yet he was a very active man, and his death, which took place June 5, 1893, found his family totally unprepared for the sad event. The loss fell heavily on them, and also on the large circle of friends and acquaintances who fully appreciated his sterling worth. By that time his business had assumed large proportions, and was in a flourishing condition, and, although having no experience in such matters, his wife and daughter, Elise Marianne, bravely determined to undertake the management of affairs themselves. Their success has been almost phenomenal. They have carried on the store in an admirable manner, have largely increased the stock, keeping up with the latest styles and fancies of the day, and have not only extended their trade in every direction, but have won the admiration and commendation of the business men throughout the county. They also stand high in social circles, and are a living illustration of what women with brains, force of character, and a determined purpose can accomplish in any line to which they devote their energies.

The family circle consisted of six children, the eldest, Ulysses F., having died when nine months old. Elise Marianne, mentioned above, is a young lady of superior attainments, unusual business ability, and, while she is the main factor in the management of the large jewelry store left by her father, she is at the same time one of the most popular and admired of the society girls in Bowling Green. Adele Anna is a graduate of Bowling Green High School, and is at home. Carrie Mary is also a graduate of the Bowling Green High School. The remaining children are Bertha Susanna and Estelle Florence.

Mrs. Von Kanel, who proved herself a worthy helpmate to her husband, and is a woman of much ability, was born December 3, 1848, at Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, where she was reared and educated. Her parents were Jacob (a farmer) and Marianne (Stauffer) Maurer, the former of whom was born in the town of Renan in 1821, and died in his native country, October 19, 1876. His wife was also born in Renan, the date of her birth being January 11, 1827, and after the death of her husband she came to America in 1878, taking up her residence in Bowling Green where she died September 26, 1888. This worthy couple were the parents of twelve chil-

dren, namely: Elise M., widow of Frederic Von-Kanel, the subject of this sketch; August, living in Bowling Green; Louis F., living in Minneapolis, Minn.; Ulysses, who died in Switzerland; Marie, who also died in Switzerland; Adolph, residing in Bowling Green; Alfred, a farmer in Wood county; Anna, the wife of W. Parker, of Toledo; Rose, wife of Alexander Klever, of Bowling Green; Melani, who married W. Schafer, of Bowling Green; and Leon and Charlotte, who both died in Switzerland.

ALEXANDER R. BRUCE, an honored veteran of the Civil war, and one of the progressive farmers of Middleton township, is numbered among the pioneer settlers of the county, his birth having occurred in Perrysburg, on the 29th of January, 1836. His father, Seth Bruce, was a native of Massachusetts, and, leaving the Bay State, emigrated to Ohio when a young man. This was in 1834. He settled in Wood county, where he followed the carpenter's trade, and also engaged in farming in Perrysburg township, becoming the owner of eighty acres which he transformed into a rich tract. He was married in the State of his nativity to Mary Tower, and six children were born to them, namely: Deborah, Jessie S., Anna E., Roman M., Alexander and Joseph.

Our subject attended school in a house built of logs at Perrysburg, and in this primitive manner acquired his early education, but experience and observation have made him a well-informed man. In his younger years he followed the carpenter's trade, and also engaged in fishing on the lakes for five years. When the existence of the Union was threatened by the attempted secession on the part of the South, he enlisted in the three-months' service in 1861, as a member of Company C, 21st O. V. I., under Capt. Cook, of Perrysburg, and Col. Norton. When his first term had expired he joined Company C, 128th O. V. I., for three years, under command of Capt. Norris and Col. Hoffman. He participated in all the engagements with his company, and a third time enlisted, joining Company F, of the 144th O. V. I., under Capt. Cook. After that he served on guard duty. His army record was an honorable one, and throughout the war he remained at the front, faithfully defending the Union cause. His health, which then became impaired, he has never regained, and he still suffers quite severely from the effects of his army service.

Mr. Bruce, on returning to Perrysburg township, rented a farm which he operated until 1880, when he came to Middleton township and

purchased forty acres of land on Hull Prairie. On account of his ill health his son operates the place. He was married in 1865 in Perrysburg township to Harriet Carter, daughter of Edward Carter, of that township, and to them have been born five children—Emily S., wife of Alva Hum, of Perrysburg township; Marshall, who operates the farm; Esther, at home; and two who died in infancy.

In his political views, Mr. Bruce is a stalwart Republican. He adheres to the faith of the Universalist Church, and has lived an upright, honorable life, characterized by the same fidelity to duty that marked his course on Southern battle fields.

B. W. PURDY, a stock dealer and farmer of Wood county, was born in Springfield, Richland Co., Ohio, March 13, 1833. He is the son of Archibald and Margaret Purdy, the former of whom was born in York county, Penn., and from there moved to Ontario county, N. Y., and there engaged in the milling business for several years, at the time Buffalo was burned, during the war of 1812. Two of his brothers were soldiers in that war. They moved to Mansfield, Richland Co., Ohio, in 1823. They raised a family of ten children: Charles, James, John, Cunningham H., Boyd W., Sarah J., Mary C., Almira, Andrew and William. Three of them died in boyhood; James and Cunningham raised families. James died at the age of fifty-two, and Cunningham at the age of fifty-five. Their father died October 7, 1875, at the age of eighty-two, and their mother five years later, at the age of seventy-nine.

Mr. Purdy received a common-school education in Richland county, and attended Oberlin College in 1856. When the news was received that Salmon P. Chase was elected governor of Ohio, he joined with the students in a bonfire jollification. Prof. Peck made a speech to the boys. The following Sunday Prof. Finney reprimanded them, and the students were defended by Prof. Peck. In 1857 Mr. Purdy went to Minnesota, and pre-empted 160 acres of land on the Upper Mississippi; returned to Richland county, and engaged in farming for two years; sold the farm and went into the stock trade, buying and shipping to Buffalo, Albany and New York, making Buffalo his headquarters for ten years. He bought stock in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, shipping east, and selling on the markets of Buffalo, Albany and New York. He came to Wood county in the spring of 1870, and located in Center township. He leased one

thousand acres of land which he operated for four years, feeding stock and shipping East. He afterward purchased twenty-four acres of land where he now lives.

Our subject was married in Lockport, January 7, 1869, to Catharine Mason, a daughter of Charles Mason, of Lockport, N. Y. They have eight children, three of whom died in infancy; those living are Andrew W., Chas. H. and Frank A., all graduates of the High School of Bowling Green, Ohio, and B. William and Cora A., now attending school. In politics Mr. Purdy is Republican. He is an excellent citizen, genial and affable by nature, and his name is a household word throughout the county.

MATTHIAS SCHONDELMYER is one of the well known and prominent citizens of Wood county. He has taken quite an active part in public affairs, and in all the relations of life has discharged his duties with a promptness and fidelity that have won him high regard. He was born in Cologne, Prussia, December 30, 1839, and is a son of John and Barbara (Yakley) Schondelmyer, the former born in Baden, Germany, in 1809, the latter in 1803. The father followed clock repairing in early life, and afterward carried on farming. In the summer of 1840 he crossed the Atlantic to America, landing at New York, and at once went to Lake county, Ohio, where he operated a small farm for six years. He then located on a farm near Findlay, Ohio, where his death occurred in 1889. His first wife died in 1863, and he afterward married Margaret Sice, who is still living. The family of John and Barbara Schondelmyer numbered the following named: Fred, Matthias, and four daughters who died in infancy. The children of the second marriage are Paulina, wife of Ernest Irwin, of Hancock county; Margaret, wife of Frank Miller, of Findlay, Ohio; Annie, Mrs. Christina Peiffer, of Hancock county; Mary, wife of George Nelson, of Findlay; Nancy; John, of Findlay; Thomas, who died at the age of three years; and Louis, of Hancock county.

Our subject was only six months old when brought by his parents to this country. He was reared and educated near Findlay, and worked as a farm hand in that neighborhood until twenty-three years of age, when he went to the West, and for nine years was engaged in the lumber business near Helena, Mont. He then returned home, and March 19, 1874, was married in Findlay, to Miss Salina Scott, who was born in Stark county, Ohio, December 22, 1842, a daughter of Thomas B. and Eliza (Moorhead) Scott. Her father was born in Mercer county, Penn., March

7, 1814. His parents came to this country from Scotland after their marriage. When a young man he learned the cabinet maker's trade, and later became a veterinary surgeon. He was married in Stark county, Ohio, to Miss Moorhead, who, when five years of age, went with her parents to Findlay, Ohio. Mr. Scott died there in 1893, and his wife in 1889. John M., their eldest child, married Rachel Davis in 1861, three days later went to the front as one of Mitchell's raiders, was made a prisoner by the Rebels at Atlanta, Ga., and executed by them June 18, 1862. His remains were interred in the National Cemetery at Chattanooga, and a handsome monument has been erected to the memory of the seven heroes who at that time gave their lives for their country. The other members of the family are Margaret J., wife of Jacob Powell, of Findlay; James, who married Annie Pierce, and is living in Findlay; Mrs. Schondelmyer; Robert, who married Ella Kissel, and lives in Terre Haute, Ind.; Mary, wife of George Arnold, of Findlay; Martha, wife of John Exline; Albert, who married Jennie Hill, and lives in Findlay; and Amanda, wife of Charles Ebling, of Findlay.

Mr. and Mrs. Schondelmyer began their domestic life on a 100-acre farm five miles east of Findlay, but in 1884 he sold that property, and now owns 154 acres of valuable land in Liberty township, on which he erected a fine residence in 1891. His farm is one of the best in the neighborhood, and its neat and thrifty appearance indicates his careful supervision, while its buildings stand as monuments to his thrift and enterprise. To Mr. and Mrs. Schondelmyer have been born six children—Mary Isabella, born April 24, 1875, died August 19, 1875; Amanda Barbara, born August 26, 1876; Margaret Emeline, born February 18, 1878; George Albert, born September 22, 1879; Fred Scott, born February 6, 1881; and Fannie May, born March 14, 1884. Amanda and Margaret have both had educational training at Findlay (Ohio) College. In April, 1891, our subject was elected treasurer of Liberty township, in which capacity he has since served continuously. He is a Democrat in political faith; but, though the township is strongly Republican, he was elected by a flattering majority, and in 1895 without opposition. Mr. Schondelmyer and children are all members of the Disciples Church at Rudolph, while Mrs. Schondelmyer holds membership with the Second Presbyterian Church, of Findlay, Ohio. The daughters are members of the Christian Endeavor Society of Bethel Church, Rudolph, of which organization



GEORGE MOTHER MARGARET FANNIE FRED FATHER AMANDA

FAMILY OF M. SCHONDELMYER.





Miss Amanda is president, and her younger sister, Margaret, is organist.

On March 29, 1890, oil was discovered on Mr. Schondelmyer's farm, and eleven wells have been drilled, from which he receives an income of about \$1,000 per annum. Much of the farm is not yet utilized, twelve or fourteen locations being still undeveloped. The farm comprises 154 acres, fertile throughout.

JOHN MERVIN, one of the early settlers at the site of the present town of Risingsun, is a highly respected resident of that place. Like many of the prosperous and influential men of the day, he has made his way to success through adverse circumstances, and his well-won competence reflects credit upon him.

He is of English birth, having entered upon his mortal career in Leicestershire, January 11, 1824. His father, Thomas Mervin, was a butcher by trade. Our subject was reared upon a farm, near a small village, enjoying only the limited advantages of the common schools. He showed ability in the management and care of horses, and at an early age found employment in that work; but the opportunities for advancement seemed to him very discouraging, and he determined to come to America. Leaving his young wife, formerly Miss Elizabeth Riley, he sailed from Liverpool, in April, 1849, in the ship "Joseph Badger," and after a voyage of four weeks landed in New York. The trip to Albany was made by river, from Albany to Buffalo by rail, and from Buffalo he came by lake to Sandusky, where he took the Mad River railroad, then the only one in this region. His destination was Avon township, Lorain county, but by mistake he went to New Haven, Huron county. On learning his error he started on foot for Lorain county, but while *en route* he was taken very ill in Greenfield township, Huron county, and was cared for by some friendly English people. On his recovery he had but fifty cents left of the sum which he had saved from his earnings for his journey, and a new start in life. This money was spent for wine to stimulate his impaired energies, and, instead of going on, he decided to remain there and rent a farm.

In the spring of 1850 his wife rejoined him. She had a difficult voyage, spending four months on the way, and being shipwrecked three times. They lived there for several years, renting different farms in the locality, but in the fall of 1863 they came to Wood county, driving through in a wagon. Mr. Mervin purchased sixty acres of land in Section 36, Montgomery township, where the village of Risingsun now stands. At that time

the land was partially improved in the dry portion, and a plank house stood near his present home. The swampy part of the farm had to be cleared, however, and there was no small amount of hard work to be done in the first years of his stay; but the rapid development of the locality brought prosperity. He still owns seventy acres of land in the vicinity, and also has ten acres in Jackson township, Seneca county. In 1877 he built a fine residence in Risingsun, which he has since occupied. Mrs. Mervin's death, December 9, 1888, brought deep sorrow to this pleasant home. Her remains are interred in Trinity cemetery, Scott township, Sandusky county. They had nine children, all of whom are living: Sarah, Mrs. George Young, of Seneca county; Mary, Mrs. Adam Graber, of Risingsun; George, a farmer in Perry township; Elizabeth, Mrs. Frank Blonde, of Perry township; Eliza and Lucy, who are at home; Frances, Mrs. Benjamin Bates, of Risingsun; Anna, Mrs. Courtland Essex, of the same town, and Hattie, Mrs. Russell Hoover, of Montgomery township.

Mr. Mervin's parents came to the United States in 1855 or '56, and located in Greenwich township, Huron county, where his father died at the age of seventy-three years. His mother afterward made her home in Wood county with her children, but died in Richland county at ninety years of age. Mr. Mervin is the eldest of six children, all living, Thomas resides in Risingsun; George, in Longley; Elizabeth is the widow of James Brinson, of Huron county; Hannah married John Thompson, of Richland county, and Emma married first the late John Jenney, and second John Winder, of New Orleans, Louisiana.

Mr. Mervin possessed in youth a powerful physique, and is still well-preserved, his strictly temperate habits being in his favor. Fond of reading, he has intelligent views on the questions of the time, and his interest in the education of the rising generation has led to several years of able service as school director. In principle he is a Democrat, but is not bound by partisan ties in the choice of suitable men for local offices. He is a leading member of the M. E. Church.

JOHN MARRON receives that respect which fidelity to duty and an industrious life always commands. He is now serving as postmaster of Hull Prairie, and is successfully engaged in blacksmithing. A native of the Emerald Isle, he was born in County Monaghan, June 29, 1835, and is a son of Patrick and Julia (Bird) Marron. The father died in 1849, the mother in 1880. He

was a farmer by occupation, and after his death the mother brought her little family to America in 1850, and spent her last days in Toledo. Her children were Mary, deceased wife of William Davis, of Iowa; John, of this sketch; Michael, a shipbuilder of Toledo, and Annie who died in childhood.

Mr. Marron, of this review, attended school in his native land, and at the age of fifteen came to the United States, locating first in Sandusky, Erie Co., Ohio. For four years he was employed as a farm hand in that county, after which he learned the blacksmithing trade, which he has since followed. He pursued that business for a time in Lorain county, also in Toledo, and in 1868, came to Wood county, locating on Hull Prairie, where he has since remained, building up a very successful business. He is an excellent workman in his line, and his well-directed efforts and honorable dealings have secured him a liberal patronage. He also owns a farm of sixty acres near by, on which his son-in-law lives. In 1886 he was appointed postmaster by President Cleveland, but would not accept the office. In 1893 he was again tendered the position, which he is now filling to the general satisfaction of the public.

Mr. Marron was married in Erie county, Ohio, in 1864, to Miss Horan, a native of Ireland, and to them have been born six children—George; John; Carrie, wife of E. B. Twining; Julia, and Sophia, at home; and Mary, who died in childhood.

Mr. Marron was school director for two terms, and has been a member of the township board of trustees. His political support is given the Democratic party, and in religious faith he is a Catholic. His industry and enterprise, and the resolute purpose that has enabled him to work his way steadily upward, well entitle him to the honorable distinction of being known as a self-made man.

GEORGE GREEN, deceased. As a representative of the intelligent and hardy pioneers who opened up Plain township for settlement, and have since taken a conspicuous part in developing it, we are pleased to place in this volume a brief sketch of the life of the gentleman whose name introduces this review.

Mr. Green was born at Wigan, near London, England, March 28, 1846, and when quite young came to America with his parents, William and Sarah (Brown) Green, both natives of the same isle. On emigrating to this country in 1846, the father came direct to Ohio, locating in Cleveland,

where he remained four months working at his trade of a butcher, after which he came to Wood county, and bought eighty acres of unimproved land in Plain township. Indians still lived in the neighborhood, wolves and deer were to be seen, and wild game of all kinds furnished many a meal for the family. They were among the first settlers of Plain township, and their first home was a rude log hut. The father continued to work at his trade, and as his sons grew up they helped him in the management and care of the farm. He and our subject also constructed some of the roads and ditches of the township. There were seven children in the family, all of whom grew to years of maturity, namely: Mary, deceased wife of John Moore; Ellen, a resident of Weston; Richard, deceased; Sarah, wife of Amos Dewese; Isaac, deceased; Jane, wife of Thomas Woodesly, of Canada; and George. The parents have both departed this life, the father dying in 1851, and the mother in 1846.

As our subject was reared in a pioneer settlement, he received his education in the primitive school house, characteristic of the times and place. As soon as he was old enough, he was obliged to share in the labors of developing the farm from the wilderness. This early training in agricultural labors doubtless made the young lad sturdy, self-reliant, and capable beyond his years, and prepared him for a life of independence. By dint of hard labor, perseverance and wise management, he had at the time of his death a farm which, in its neat appearance, with its ample farm buildings, unsurpassed productiveness, and all the other essentials of a good farm, compares favorably with others in the neighborhood. Thus his thrift, frugality and industry was rewarded by a substantial home, and an assured income which gave him the means of procuring all the comforts of life for himself and family. His wife, who was to him an excellent counselor and helpmeet, shared with him the respect and esteem of the entire community.

On April 10, 1872, Mr. Green had married Miss Harriet Challen, who was born November 19, 1849, and is a daughter of William Challen. They had seven children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: William W., January 9, 1873; Jessie, July 29, 1875; Alva, June 29, 1877; Maude, May 2, 1879; Stanley, February 9, 1881; Herman, December 23, 1883; and Floyd, March 19, 1887. The oldest daughter, Jessie, is now the wife of Horton Conklin, and the oldest sons are now looking after the cultivation of the old homestead. The father passed away on the 26th of July, 1894, beloved by all who knew him.

C. W. LENHART, one of the prominent citizens of Bowling Green, was born in Mahoning county, Ohio, September 6, 1846. He is the only child of his parents, George S. and Elizabeth (Legron) Lenhart. His boyhood was spent in attendance at the public schools, and in the graded schools at Fostoria and Findlay. After one year in the service of his country, and several years spent in teaching in the country schools, he entered into the mercantile business at West Millgrove, Wood county, in 1867, which he carried on until 1880, when he sold out and took charge of a flour-mill which he had assisted in building. He operated the mill until 1886, when he removed to Bowling Green and was appointed deputy sheriff of the county, which office he held for four years. In 1891 our subject entered into the abstract and loan business, in which he is still engaged; he now takes the general management of the Wood County Abstract and Loan Co., his wide acquaintance throughout the county making him peculiarly fitted for this work. He is a Republican in politics, and active in all enterprises having for their object the welfare of his community. He is an enterprising, energetic man, of excellent judgment and good business ability, and has been successful financially.

Mr. Lenhart was united in marriage May 6, 1869, with Miss Harriet N. Diver, who was born in Montgomery township, February 10, 1851. Mrs. Lenhart was educated in the public schools of the county, and is a woman of much culture and refinement. She is a member of the Disciples' Church, takes an active interest in all Church work, and is also a prominent worker in the W. R. C., of Bowling Green. They have but one child living, Edna M., an intelligent young lady, the wife of William H. Caverly, who, together with her husband, is at home with her parents. The eldest daughter, Bertha A., died when seventeen years old.

The father of our subject was born in Lancaster county, Penn., where he was married. He removed with his family to Ohio in 1845, settling in Mahoning county, soon removing to Hancock county; where he lived until 1854, then coming to Wood county and purchasing a farm in Montgomery township. In the early part of his life he was a contractor and builder, but followed farming during his later years. He was born in 1820 and died in 1879. His wife was born in 1823, and is still living in the enjoyment of good health as Longley, this county.

Jacob Lenhart, the paternal grandfather of our subject, came to Ohio from Pennsylvania

some time in the '40s and settled on a farm west of Findlay, in Hancock county, afterward removing to a place near Pendleton, Putnam county, where he died, in 1864, when about seventy-five years of age. Mr. Lenhart's maternal grandfather, John Legron, also removed from Pennsylvania about the same time as the other branch of the family, settling west of Findlay, from there removing about 1856 to Montgomery township, where he died at the age of seventy-five years. Both sides of the family are of Pennsylvania-Dutch descent.

E. PRICE CLOUGH, who is now living retired, has by well-directed efforts in his business career won a competence that enables him to lay aside business cares. Fair dealing was as conspicuous in his commercial life, as his honor in all the other walks of life. He was born in the town of Pike, Allegany Co., N. Y., October 19, 1824, and is a son of Bailey and Asenath (Price) Clough. In early life the father was an operator in a woolen-mill, but after his marriage, which was celebrated in Allegany county, he worked at the trade of a millwright. In February, 1833, he removed with his family to Huron county, Ohio, and after nine years took up his residence in Portage township, Wood county, where for several years he worked at carpentering. For some years previous to his death in 1850, he conducted a general store in Portage. He was prominent in town affairs, and served as justice of the peace, township clerk and postmaster. He had been previously married before he wedded Asenath Price, his first union having been with Sarah Smith. Mrs. Clough was the widow of Daniel Seiley at the time of her marriage. Two children were born to the parents of our subject, of whom Samuel died in infancy.

E. Price Clough received a common-school education in his native county, and when eighteen years of age came with his parents to Wood county. He learned the trade of carpentering and wagon-making, the former with his father, but laid aside all business cares on August 21, 1861, when, at Findlay, Ohio, he enlisted as a musician in Company C, 21st O. V. I. He was first in battle at Ivy Mountain, and afterward participated in the engagements at Bridgeport, Ala.; Laverne, Tenn.; Nashville, and Stone River. At the last named he was captured by the enemy, and conveyed to Libby prison, where he remained for twenty-two days when he was paroled and sent to Annapolis, Md., remaining at the latter place for seven weeks. In July, 1863, he rejoined his regiment, and participated in the Tullahoma campaign, Dug Gap, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge,

Buzzards Roost, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Chattahoochee River, Peach Tree Creek, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Savannah, Averysboro and Bentonville. He was mustered out at Columbus, July 25, 1865. He had re-enlisted as a veteran at Chattanooga, and was appointed corporal April 1, 1865. He followed the old flag on many a Southern battle field, ever true to the Union, and his war record is one of which he may be justly proud.

Mr. Clough was married May 16, 1844, in Portage, Ohio, to Amelia Crego, who was born in Madison county, Ohio, May 4, 1824. They had two children—Flora, wife of Dr. William T. Thomas, of North Baltimore, Ohio; and George P., who died at the age of thirteen. After the war, Mr. Clough worked alternately at carpentering and wagon-making until 1876, then through the succeeding twelve years followed carpentering exclusively, while since 1888 he has lived retired. In politics he is a Republican, and for six years served as clerk of Portage corporation. In 1891 he was elected mayor, which position he filled for two years.

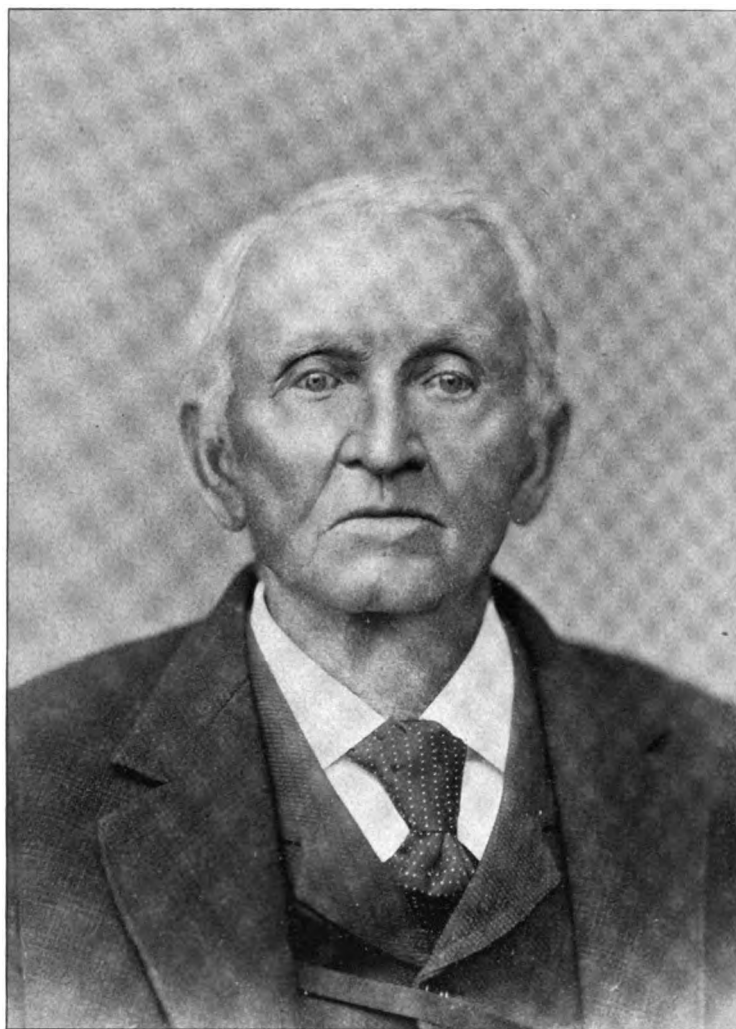
DR. T. S. CARMAN. "Peace hath her victories no less than war," and the men who braved privation, malaria, and countless other trials and dangers in the early days, in order to subdue the wilderness of forest and swamp which covered this section, are rightly held in honor for their achievements. Among the surviving pioneers of Wood county, Dr. Carman, of Bradner, stands foremost, and his versatile talents, sound judgment, determined will, and seemingly inexhaustible physical vigor are the wonder of all.

Dr. Carman was born in Queen Anne county, Md., April 10, 1808, a son of Salisbury and Anna (Critchet) Carman, and in early boyhood was taken to Baltimore by his parents. His father owned a large hat factory on Main street, Baltimore, and was a prosperous man until the breaking out of the war of 1812, when the fluctuation in prices of materials caused his failure. He served in that war as a member of the "Baltimore Blues," and his son distinctly remembers his coming home to get his sword when the regiment was called out to oppose the landing of the British forces under Gen. Ross. After his financial reverses he moved to Philadelphia, where he died in 1819 at the age of twenty-nine years, leaving a widow and four children, of whom our subject was the eldest and is now the only survivor. Mary died in childhood; Lewis died in Texas, in 1866; and James, who was a noted auctioneer at New Orleans, La., died in that city. The

mother of these was united in marriage in 1851 with James Chiviril, but to their union no children were born. She died at Baltimore, in 1866, at the age of seventy-five years.

Dr. Carman was only eleven years old when his father died, and, as there was no property left, the little family was scattered. He had been attending the common schools in Philadelphia, but this sad event put an abrupt end to his schooling, and he was placed with a farmer, an Englishman, who abused him so that he soon went back to Philadelphia. A drove of Western horses came to the city about that time, and one which was supposed to have glanders was given to him to take out to "Horse Heaven," on the Schuylkill river, to die. The diagnosis was not correct, and under the boy's kindly care the horse recovered, and its sale later brought him \$80.00, which formed the foundation of his future fortune. The fondness for horses, which this incident shows, has always been a characteristic trait, and to this day it is his delight to drive a spirited team. His unusual business ability was shown at an early age in various "dickers," and he made his way better than many so circumstanced would have done.

Returning to Baltimore, he learned dentistry, and for a while practiced there, then in Richmond, Va., and Augusta, Ga., and also traveled through the rural districts of the South and East in a sulky. He was an expert in his business, and as prices were good he prospered. In 1834 he moved to Cleveland, Ohio, and followed his profession, traveling through the South in the winter season, and in 1836 he went to Fort Seneca, Ohio, where he learned of the lands of Wood county. Being desirous of investing in real estate, he soon made a purchase of eighty acres in Section 8, Montgomery township, from Harlow Hill. This was in its primitive condition; but he made his home there in a log cabin in pioneer style, and as time passed he increased his holdings until he owned 440 acres, later entering 1,000 acres. He became a successful worker in different lines, practiced medicine, conducted a mercantile business, and carried on farming on an extensive scale, his shrewd financiering enabling him to accumulate money rapidly. Later he removed to Prairie Depot, where he carried on a store, practiced medicine, and for some time was in a similar business in Perrysburg, but in August, 1889, he moved to Bradner, where he has since resided. He owns seven houses in that town, also two in Prairie Depot, and about 500 acres of land, besides; he has done much toward the improvement of Bradner,



DR. T. S. CARMAN.



having built many houses and platted an addition to the town. In the early days he was criticised for his extensive purchases of land, by many who have lived to see the wisdom of his dealings.

In 1828 he was married, in Baltimore, to Miss Ellen Young, a native of the "Blue Hills," ten miles from the city. She died in Baltimore in 1834, not long after their marriage, leaving no children, and he subsequently married, in Baltimore, in 1835, Miss Elizabeth Howard, a native of Maryland, by whom he had four children: Two died in childhood; the others—Howard and Anna (now Mrs. Wesley Graham)—reside at Prairie Depot. This wife died at Prairie Depot in 1843, and the Doctor afterward married Miss Nancy A. Myers, a native of Wayne county, Ohio, and daughter of Michael Myers. One child was born of this union, Mary (now Mrs. Jefferson Adams), of North Baltimore. In 1853 death took from him this partner in life, who requested that he should marry her sister, Emily A. Myers, who was born in New Rochester, Wood county, in 1838. Twelve children were born of this fourth marriage, viz.: Patience died in childhood; Thomas, Jr., lives in Bradner; Ida married Harry Wright, of Sterling, Ill.; Kitty M. married Volney Jones, of Jerry City, Ohio; James and William H. reside in Bradner; Julia married Edward Keil, of Pemberville; Belle is the wife of G. F. Coyle, of Bradner; Daisy married W. H. Stow, of Bradner; Edna died at the age of eleven; Ross died in infancy, and June at the age of seven years. The Doctor is a Mason, and he and his wife are leading members of the Disciples Church. Their home has always been noted for its hospitality and good cheer.

Dr. Carman is remarkably well preserved, having never used liquor or tobacco in any form, and at his advanced age, now (fall of 1896) over eighty-eight years, he is active in mind and body, giving his personal attention to his numerous properties and business interests. The only marked sign of his years is his weakened eyesight; but so alert is he mentally, and so in sympathy with the world's progress, that he reads the newspapers daily, although it requires quite an effort to do so. At fifty years of age he measured forty-four inches around the chest on the bare flesh, and was unusually powerful. His will is unbending, a desire to do or have anything nearly always meaning that that desire will be fulfilled, no matter what the cost. His wonderful memory enables him to recall the events of his early life as a boy in Philadelphia and Baltimore, with great distinctness. He remembers the rejoicing over Jackson's victory in 1814 (January 8), and in

1824 he witnessed the reception of Lafayette at Baltimore, and saw Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, and Andrew Jackson, at this demonstration. He made trips on the second and third steamboats built in the United States, the "Pennsylvania" and "Ætna;" was present at the laying of the first stone of the B. & O. R. R. by Andrew Jackson, at Baltimore, each State being represented by a delegation, and among the other distinguished visitors present on that occasion were James Carroll (one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence), and Lafayette and his son. His native abilities seem to have been equal to any task. Left to make his way from early boyhood practically without any instruction, he has made a notable success in one of the most exacting of the learned professions, his career as a physician covering more than a quarter of a century. A born leader, his force of character and intellect are recognized by all with whom he comes in contact, and when he has served on juries he has invariably been chosen as foreman. In his financial affairs his ability has been well displayed. He was never given but one dollar in his life, and that was a Spanish dollar, bearing the date 1808, a gift from his stepfather, who was a pilot on an American vessel that raised a sunken Spanish ship containing that dollar among its store of treasures. It is still a cherished possession. He has lost as well as made money during his business life; but any mistake of that sort has been more than made good. In whatever business he has undertaken, he has grasped the principles of success intuitively, and whether as a merchant or a pioneer farmer his lack of previous training seems to have been no real obstacle in his way. Amos Spafford, on account of his being the first white settler in Wood county, was made a gift of 160 acres of land, April 26, 1816. Later in the same year this land fell into Mr. Carman's possession by the purchase of E. D. Peck's land, adjoining old Fort Meigs, the sum paid being fifteen thousand dollars.

Politically he has always been a Democrat, and his first vote was cast in Baltimore for Andrew Jackson. His ambition does not run in the direction of politics, and he has declined numerous candidacies, although, with the favorable acquaintance throughout the county which his business life has brought him, he would have received hearty support from both parties. He is not indifferent to local politics, however, and few men in this section have wielded the influence which he can exert in his quiet way, in opposing an enemy or forwarding the interest of a friend. He was a member of the board of equalization in the



early days, and suggested the classification of lands. At one time he was nominated for treasurer; but owing to his many private responsibilities, he declined the honor, giving, however, his influence to Edward Graham, who was elected. Dr. Carman and Gov. Foster are close friends, and the Governor's father and he were associates and intimate friends. In his younger years our subject was a great hunter, and many a deer, wild turkey and other game fell to his unerring rifle.

A remarkable man, truly, and a remarkable life! It is a marvel that with his ceaseless activity Nature's machinery has not been worn out long ago, but happily he has renewed his strength as the years have passed over his head.

JOHN W. ANDERSON is numbered among the native sons of the Keystone State, his birth having occurred in Shippensburg, Cumberland county, December 10, 1844. His father, William Anderson, was born in 1828. When a young man he sought the hand of Elizabeth Bell in marriage; her father, Isaac Bell, who was a large slave-owner, strongly objected to the marriage, but when the young couple had run away from home, and had the ceremony performed, he finally forgave them. The father of our subject was a splendid specimen of physical manhood. More than six feet tall, he was excellently well proportioned, and had a handsome countenance. In his youth, he learned the shoemaker's trade, but afterward became a traveling salesman, and was part owner of a new invention for distilling whiskey. Subsequently he returned to Shippensburg, Penn., where he carried on shoemaking, but his last days were spent in St. Thomas, Franklin Co., Penn., where his death occurred, from cholera, at the age of thirty-three. In the family were three children, John W. being the eldest. William is living in Findlay, Ohio, with his mother, who was married a second time, becoming the wife of John Burkens; Elizabeth was the deceased wife of William Carlin.

Mr. Anderson, of this review, spent his school days in Pikesville, Md., where the mother had removed after the father's death. At the age of sixteen he laid aside his books to make his own way in the world, and his industry and capable management have been the leading factors in his success. His first independent effort was at farm work, near his home. After two years he began learning the blacksmith's trade, serving a three-years' apprenticeship. At the end of a year his employer was drafted into the service, and Mr. Anderson started for his mother's home, she having in the meantime removed to Hancock county,

Ohio. He procured work at the blacksmith's trade at McComb, and, at the end of six months, went to Findlay, where he was employed in the same way. Subsequently he returned to Eli Beach, his first employer, with whom he continued until the Rebels made their raid into that locality, when he again went to Findlay. His next place of abode was Portage, Wood county, where he followed blacksmithing in the employ of A. C. Caswell.

During his residence in Portage, Mr. Anderson was married, on March 11, 1866, to Miss Josephine Sargent, who was born January 1, 1848, and is a daughter of S. L. Sargent. The young couple removed to Bowling Green; but after a short time came to Liberty township, and Mr. Anderson bought an acre of ground at Roney Corners. He there erected a log cabin and blacksmith's shop, and has since continued business at that place. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson has been blessed with twelve children, namely: Arthur William, born April 19, 1869; Elizabeth, born January 1, 1871, now the wife of Elmer Fellers; Agnes D., born September 1, 1872, wife of William Smith, of Portage; Mary Willimeta, born May 20, 1874, wife of Louis Allen; Vennie J., born December 27, 1877; Maggie May, born July 14, 1880; Dollie Blanche, born May 20, 1882; Ethel Grace, born March 23, 1884; John Wesley, born December 13, 1887; Ollie Washington, born February 22, 1891; and two who are deceased.

Mr. Anderson is a Republican in politics; socially, is a member of the Odd Fellows Society, and, religiously, of the United Brethren Church. His genuine worth and thorough reliability have made him many friends.

HENRY DAVID, deceased, was a native of Hanover, Germany, and, when a young man of about twenty years, decided to try his fortune in the New World, where better opportunities are afforded for securing a home and competence. After landing on the shores of this continent, he came to northern Ohio, and for a time worked in Sandusky and Wood counties. Later he went to Toledo, Ohio, where he was engaged in teaming, and there was united in marriage with Miss Mary Fark, a native of Sandusky county, and a daughter of Fred and Charlotty Fark, who came to this country from the Fatherland.

Later, Mr. David sent the money to pay the passage of his parents and sister to America. For three years after his marriage he continued to reside in Toledo, and then rented land in Freedom township and elsewhere in Wood county

until 1884, when he purchased eighty acres of land in Section 12, Portage township, where his family still make their home. His death occurred suddenly on May 21, 1886, he leaving a widow with the support of six children, the oldest only thirteen years, and the youngest seven months old. They are all with their mother, and are named as follows: Henry, John, William, Charles, Fred and George. The farm had not all been cultivated, and a debt still rested upon it; but Mrs. David was brave and energetic, and went earnestly to work. Her family of small children had to be looked after and provided for, but she struggled along, often performing a man's work on the farm, besides her household tasks. She has displayed business ability of a high order, while her other duties are performed with equal proficiency. She is a devout member of the Lutheran Church, and her sons through her teachings have become steady-going, industrious young men.

**WILLIAM MANTEL.** From Michigan there have come to Wood county a number of its worthy citizens, including this gentleman who was born in Monroe county, that State, April 23, 1862. His parents were John and Elizabeth (Denoyer) Mantel. His father was a native of England, his mother of France. When a young man the former learned the trade of shoemaking, beginning that work at the early age of eight years. When a youth of sixteen he crossed the Atlantic to New York, and went at once to Monroe, Mich., where he secured work at his trade. He was there married and made his home for about thirty-three years, when in 1884 he came to Liberty township, Wood county, and is now living with our subject. His family numbered the following—George, who died at the age of eleven months; Josephine; Mrs. Peter Ducat, of Henry township; Thomas, who died at the age of seventeen; Edward, a farmer of Wayne county, Mich.; Peter, a barber of Michigan; James, who is engaged in the same business in Trenton, Mich.; Arthur, a farmer of Plain township, Wood county; William; Eliza, Mrs. Alferd Robinson, of Liberty township; Horace, an oil man of Henry township; and Mary, Mrs. Theodore Smith, of Liberty township.

William Mantel received but limited school privileges, but his training at farm labor was not so meager. On starting out in life for himself he rented a farm in his native county, which he operated until his removal to Wood county with his parents. He was at that time twenty-two years of age. He began work in the oil fields,

and on the 11th of September, 1893, purchased fifty-three acres of land in Section 3, Liberty township, where he is now living. The lady who shares Mr. Mantel's name and fortune was in her maidenhood Florence Matilda Judson. The marriage occurred July 3, 1889. She was born May 20, 1866, and is a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Mitchell) Judson, who had four children: Mrs. Mantel, Charles, William and Bert. Our subject and his wife are most estimable people, and have many warm friends throughout the community. In politics Mr. Mantel is a "Sound-money" Republican.

**CALEB ROE** is a worthy representative of the agricultural interests of Wood county, and through his enterprising efforts has won a success that is well merited. He was born in Liberty township, August 26, 1861, and comes of a family that has been connected with this locality since early pioneer days. His grandfather, Dominick Roe, came from Michigan to Wood county, and from the government entered eighty acres of land in Liberty township, for which he paid \$1.25 per acre. There he spent his remaining days. His family numbered the following members—Dominick, Jr., deceased; Stephen, of Lucas county; Victoria, who is married and resides in Michigan; Lucy, wife of Pedro Maloush, of Lucas county; Mrs. Margaret Garno, of Weston, Ohio; Mrs. Mary Deshetler, of Liberty township, Wood county; Eliza, wife of Frank Ducat, of Liberty township; and Edward, father of our subject.

The last named was born and reared in Michigan, and accompanied his parents on their removal here. In Liberty township he married Miss Margaret Ducat, and secured a tract of land by giving in exchange two young calves. He farmed various tracts of land in Liberty township, and in his undertakings was successful. In 1864 he entered the Union army, and served until the close of the war. His family numbered the following members—Caleb, a farmer of Jackson township; Robert, a farmer of Milton township; Sherman, a farmer of Portage township; Matilda, who died in childhood; Hiram, who is engaged in the oil business in Ohio; Lewis, of Bowling Green, Ohio; Lucetta, at home; Albert and Alfred, twins, who died in childhood; and Guy, who completes the family. The father died August 22, 1896, at the age of fifty-four years, and was buried in Rudolph cemetery.

Mr. Roe, of this review, is indebted to the public-school system for his education. He was reared under the parental roof, and aided in the

operation of the home farm until twenty-one years of age, when he began working in the tile yard owned by George Bradshaw, for \$25 per month. After eight months he entered a thirty-acre tract of land in Liberty township, and in 1886 he purchased a tract of similar size. This was the first property he ever owned. After clearing two acres he found that there was oil upon the place, leased it and secured therefrom a handsome income which enabled him to get a good start in life. In the fall of 1888, he purchased his present farm, then comprising eighty acres of land, all cleared, but otherwise unimproved. He has since erected a fine residence, good barns and outbuildings, has the latest improved machinery, high grades of stock and everything found on a first class farm of the nineteenth century.

On January 1, 1890, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Roe and Myrtie Gaghan, who was born in Milton township, May 31, 1869, and is a daughter of George and Mary (Finney) Gaghan, natives of Ireland, whence they emigrated to America, locating in Wood county. Here the father died August 28, 1890. Mrs. Roe was educated in the district schools of Milton township, and pursued her studies for one year in McComb, and two years in Weston, Ohio. When a maiden of only fifteen summers she began teaching school in Jackson township, and for six years successfully followed that profession. By her marriage she has one daughter, Bernice, born July 5, 1895. In politics Mr. Roe is a stalwart Republican, unswerving in his support of the principles of the party. He has, however, never sought office, but served as school director.

REASON WHITACRE is the oldest resident pioneer of Bloom township, and he and his brother Isaac are the only ones of the "'34 settlers" now living. He was born in Columbiana county, Ohio, October 20, 1814, and is now one of the successful agriculturists of Wood county. He has been a hard worker in his time, and is still active and energetic for a man of his years.

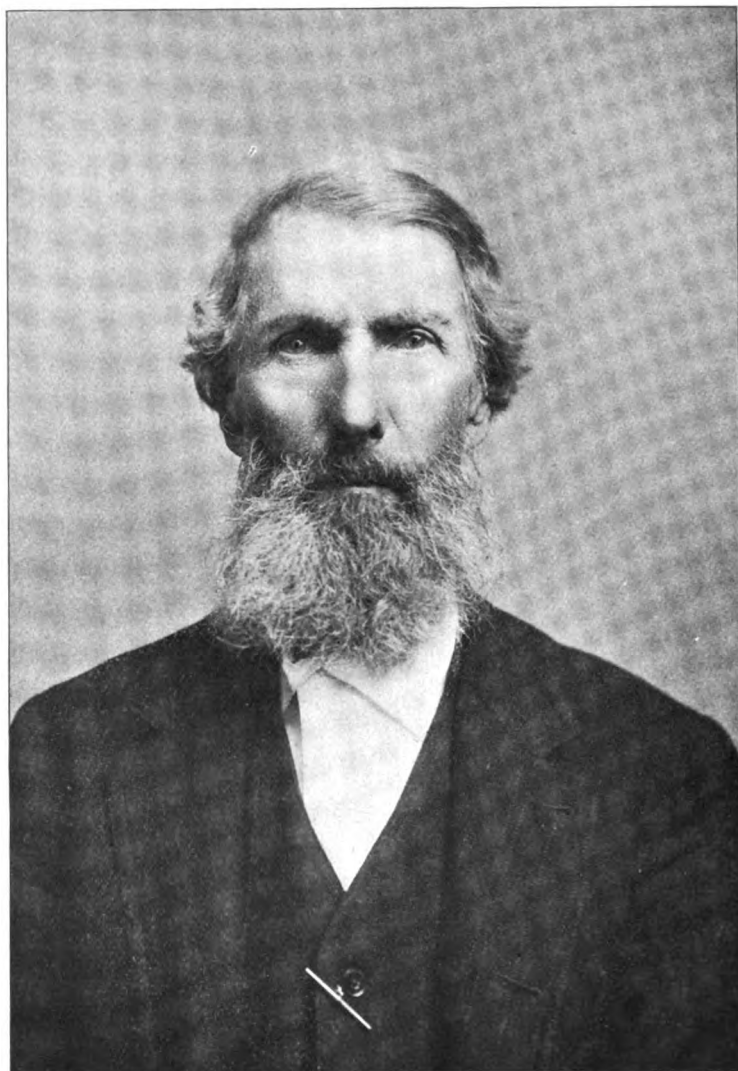
The Whitacre family came originally from Virginia. The grandfather, Edward Whitacre, married Martha Brown, and their son Mahlon, our subject's father, was born in the Old Dominion. When a boy of ten he was brought by his parents to Harrison county, W. Va., where he was married to Miss Phœbe Beck, also a native of Virginia, and a daughter of Preston Beck. Soon after marriage they moved to Columbiana county, which was then on the frontier line, and

subject to Indian attacks and rumors of attacks, the family being so alarmed on one occasion as to seek refuge in the nearest settlement. In the spring of 1833 he came to Wood county on foot, and entered 160 acres in Section 6, eighty in Section 6, eighty in Sections 31 and 32, in Portage township; 160 acres in Section 5, forty in Sections 7 and 8, and eighty in Section 22, in Bloom township. He selected a spot for his future home in Section 6, near the present site of Cygnet, and returned to bring his family, which included seven children. They left Columbiana county April 18, 1834, and traveled in a wagon drawn by oxen *via* Minerva, Canton, Massillon, Wooster, Mansfield, Galion, Bucyrus and Upper Sandusky. They brought one cow with them, the younger members of the party walking by turns to drive her. Whenever they could, they stopped at hotel for the night, but often camped out, and after leaving Upper Sandusky they lived in that primitive fashion until their log house was built from trees felled after their arrival on May 4, 1834. The roads were so bad for the latter part of the trip that seven miles made a good day's travel. Their nearest neighbor lived two miles away, and their milling was done on the Maumee river, the trip taking five days, coming and going. Their first crop was corn, planted in small holes made in the solid ground, the stumps and roots making plowing impossible, and much of the grinding was done by hand-mills, made from stones found on the farm. The yield was abundant and wild game plentiful, so they fared well. They secured considerable ready money by selling coon skins at one dollar apiece. Our subject's father was a large man, weighing ordinarily 225 pounds. He possessed fine abilities, and great force of character, and when there were but few to give was a liberal supporter of the Disciples Church, of which he and his family were members. His large tracts of land were divided among his children, with the exception of forty acres, which he gave to a preacher. In politics he was first a Whig, later a Republican, and he took great interest in public questions. He died in 1847, at the age of sixty-three, and his wife in 1849, aged sixty-two, both being interred in the family lot in Sugar Grove cemetery. Of their children only two are now living. Preston was married in Columbiana county to Martha Lucy, and died two years after coming to Wood county; Gula E. was married at the old home to Abiah Stackhouse, and died in Wood county in 1838; Edward was married, before coming West, to Hannah McNeely, and died in this county in 1846; the fourth child is the subject of this





*Mary M Whitacre*



*Reason Whitacre*



sketch; Isaac was married in Wood county to Elizabeth McCrory, later to Eliza Wolfe, and now lives in Bloom township; Lydia A. married John McCrory, and died in Plain township; Sarah J. died of consumption three years after coming to this county.

Reason Whitacre in his childhood attended first a subscription school, and later, when public schools came into vogue, he availed himself of them. He was trained to farm work, and when a young man worked out for three shillings a day; for one year before coming to Wood county he had worked in a gristmill at Minerva. In all the work and hardships and pleasures of the pioneer days in this county he took his full share, and his reminiscences are most interesting. On March 22, 1837, he was married to Miss Mary McCrory, a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1820, daughter of Samuel McCrory, a prominent citizen of Henry township. They commenced housekeeping on seventy-two acres of land in Section 6, Bloom township, a gift from his parents. It was in its primitive state, and his little log cabin was the first house upon it. He cleared eighteen acres, and after his father's death traded the tract for his sister Lydia's interest in the homestead, where he has ever since resided.

By his first marriage Mr. Whitacre had eight children: Mahlon was a farmer in Liberty township; he died leaving two children—Conrad and Elmer. Hannah R. married Mandeville Milbourn, of Bloom township, and died leaving five children—Edward R., Lydia, Horace, Mary and Arthur. Phoebe married Horace C. Mercer, of Liberty township, and their children are Milton, Alburtus, Mary, Delorma, Clarence, Rosa, Jefferson, Frank and George. James, deceased, was a farmer in Liberty township; he left one child—Frederick. Samuel was a farmer in Liberty township, and died leaving two children—Elletha and Olerious. Daniel is a farmer in Liberty township; he married Amanda Loe, and they have nine children—Mahlon, Hayes, Rhoda, Ardie, Wildie, Naomi, Carrie, Howard and Karl. Lewis S. is a resident of Cygnet, and has one child—Frank. Thomas lives in Liberty township; he has two children—Charles and Floyd. Mrs. Whitacre died in 1861, and was buried in Sugar Grove cemetery. On March 22, 1866, our subject was married to Miss Mary M. Bullis, a native of Durham, N. Y., born December 24, 1835, daughter of Isaac and Amanda (Hervey) Bullis, who came to Wood county in 1845, and located in Plain township. Four children were born of this union: Herman W. is a farmer in Liberty township; Arthur I. is a farmer in Bloom

township (he has one son—Reason); Warren R. is at home, and Marian died in infancy.

Mr. Whitacre still operates his farm of 200 acres, and also 100 acres in Liberty and Plain townships belonging to his wife. In 1886 he leased his land to a Mr. Scott, who did not operate, but sold to Barnum & Boden, and they began operations in March, 1890, drilling two wells. Then Mr. Barnum bought out his partner, and sold a one-third interest to a Mr. Hughes, and this firm now control the territory. At this writing they are operating eight wells, and will probably drill two more. The whole production amounts to about \$4,000 per month, our subject securing one-seventh. On Mrs. Whitacre's property in Plain township there are three wells, one in operation. Politically our subject is a Republican, he has been a favorite candidate of his party for various offices, and has served thirteen years as trustee, one term as justice of the peace, and has also been supervisor and school director. He is an elder in the Disciples Church, of which the family have so long been leading members, and has always been among the most generous helpers of any worthy movement.

WILLIAM HEYMAN, a well-known saloon keeper of Tontogany, this county, was born in the village Kaltenholzhausen, Kreis Diez, Nassau, Germany, February 19, 1840. At the age of fifteen years he started for this country, and the voyage across the Atlantic occupied sixty-three days, the ship being an old sailing vessel; and two weeks more were passed in coming from New York to Monroeville, Ohio, the point of destination. Young Heyman first went to work on a farm in Erie county, for which he was paid fifty cents a day. He then hired out by the month, first at eight dollars, and afterward at ten dollars. Later he became employed by the year, receiving, for his services the first year, \$140, and, for the second, \$150. He remained and worked for this same man—John Wright—for six years, his wages being increased until they reached \$200 per year. During this period Mr. Heyman saved about \$600, and then began farming for himself in Erie county; and in 1865 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Nickel, a native of Germany, whose parents had been farmers in Erie county for some years. Two children were born of this union, namely: Louise, who married Gustave Thorn, and they have three children—Gustave, Ella and Goldie; and William F., who is in the saloon and restaurant business at Ogden, Utah. Mrs. Heyman died in 1869, and in 1871 Mr.



Heyman married Miss Margretta Erbe, who was born in Erie county, near Castalia, in 1850. Shortly after the latter marriage he moved to Bellevue, in Huron county, where he clerked in a store, and two years later came to Tontogany, where he opened a sample room. To the second marriage were born eight children, and all at Tontogany: Albert, John, Frank, George, Charles, Cora, Avery and Eddie. Through the energy, industry and good management of our subject his business has proved a profitable one. He is one of the progressive citizens of this locality. In politics he is a Democrat, and is a prominent member of the Lutheran Church.

EZRA J. MOE was born in Lorain county, Ohio, February 4, 1840, and is a son of Isaac and Angeline (Moon) Moe. The father, a native of Genesee county, N. Y., was a child of six years when he went with his parents to Lorain county, the family locating on a 160-acre tract of wild land which the grandfather, Isaac Moe, purchased in 1802. He had journeyed to this State on foot, pre-empted his land, and planted a few acres of corn, and in the fall returned for his family. He served as a soldier in the war of 1812, and died in Ridgeville township, about 1850. The members of his family were Edwin, who died in Wisconsin; Charles, who died in Lorain county; Betsy, deceased wife of Gersham Gillett, of Lorain county; Polly, deceased wife of Abraham Moon, of Lorain county; Jane, wife of Leander Wilcox; Philand, wife of Otis Gilmore, and Hannah, wife of Husted Moe.

Isaac Moe was married in Lorain county to Miss Moon, who was there born in 1804. She became the mother of seven children, namely: Edwin, who died in infancy; Ann, deceased wife of George Hinger, of Sandusky, Ohio; Rosanna, Isaac and Wellington, who died in infancy; Ezra J.; and Rosanna, deceased wife of George Gill. After the death of his first wife, the father was married in Clyde, Sandusky county, to Mrs. Polly Heydon, and they had three children—Isaac, Mary and Emeline, all deceased. Mrs. Moe died in Clyde, Ohio, and the father afterward removed to Michigan. In 1873 he came to Wood county to live with our subject, and died in 1881.

When a child of eight years, Ezra Moe accompanied his parents to Clyde, where he acquired his education. When only ten years of age he began earning his own living, and for seven years rode race horses for Tuttle Brothers, of Clyde. He then worked as a farm hand until October 23, 1861, when, having obtained permission from his father to go to the train to wit-

ness the departure of Company A, 72nd O. V. I., he, instead, joined the troops and went to the front, where he participated in the battles of Shiloh and Corinth, and aided in building a fort at Memphis, Tenn. With Grant's command he then went to Holly Springs, and after their supplies were cut off returned to Memphis, proceeding down the river to Milliken's Bend. After making the canal at Vicksburg, his command marched to Grand Gulf, and later participated in seven battles which drove the Rebels into their works at Vicksburg, where they then entered upon the famous siege, which ended with the surrender of the city July 4, 1863. Before sundown that night they were fighting Joe Johnston sixteen miles away, and engaged with that general in three battles. The troops afterward returned to Memphis, subsequently going to Little Rock, Ark., and following Price, who threatened the destruction of that city. They afterward marched to Cape Girardeau, were loaded into transports, and subsequently proceeded to Sedalia and Lexington, Mo. They then marched to Kansas City, and captured Price on the Big Blue river. Returning to St. Louis, they were at once ordered to Nashville, but Mr. Moe remained in St. Louis for about twelve hours. He rejoined his regiment in Cairo, and took part in the battle of Nashville. Later the troops marched to New Orleans, and were engaged in service in the gulf district for some time. This included the capture of Spanish Fort, after which they started for Montgomery, where the news was received of Lee's surrender, and the restoration of peace. They then proceeded to Vicksburg, and Mr. Moe, who had veteranized in 1864, was honorably mustered out September 11, 1865, after almost four years of military service, in which he made for himself an honorable record.

It was just four years later—September 11, 1869—that he was married in Perrysburg to Ellen Spoors. They removed to Garden Grove, Decatur Co., Iowa, but after a year removed to Wood county, and for three years operated the Hendricks farm near Bowling Green. Mr. Moe later rented the Starr farm for nine years, the Lathrop farm for four years, and the Todd farm for four years. In the spring of 1892 he purchased twenty acres of land, erected a good residence thereon, and has since made it his home. His wife died in May, 1882, leaving five children: Charles, of Milton township; William Allen, of Liberty township; John, Maud and Fred, at home. One son, Frank, was accidentally shot at the age of thirteen years, and death resulted. Mr. Moe is a Democrat, and a member of the

United Brethren Church. He discharges his duties of citizenship with the same loyalty and fidelity that marked his honorable soldier record.

E. F. METZGER, the efficient town clerk of Troy township, and postmaster of Stony Ridge, is a native of Wood county, born in Troy township, January 15, 1867, and is a son of Lewis and Mary (Reninger) Metzger, both born in the German Empire, emigrating to America in 1835. In Medina county, Ohio, they were reared and married, but, as early as 1856, became residents of Wood county; in 1850, the father purchased his present farm in Troy township. They reared a family of seven children, namely: John, who died in Perrysburg township, November 7, 1894; Charles, who died in Troy township, November 3, 1888; George, a resident of Paulding county, Ohio; Henry, who died in Troy township, in 1883; E. F., of this sketch; and Carrie and Allen, both at home.

Our subject was reared to rural life, receiving his primary education in the district schools, after which he pursued his studies for two seasons in the Fostoria Normal School. On leaving school he began teaching, which profession he followed for eight years in Wood county, meeting with excellent success as an instructor. In his political affiliations, Mr. Metzger is a Democrat, and for the past six years has taken an active part in local public affairs, being one of the leaders of his party in the township. In 1892 he was appointed town clerk, and afterward elected for three consecutive terms; in December, 1893, he was appointed postmaster of Stony Ridge, to succeed J. E. Stewart. He has proved a capable official, discharging the duties of the offices to the satisfaction of all concerned. He holds membership with the Lutheran Church of Stony Ridge, and Fort Meigs Lodge No. 774, I. O. O. F., of Perrysburg, and is universally respected as an honorable, upright young man.

ABRAHAM HUFF (deceased) was one of the straightforward and honorable citizens of Wood county. He was a native of the Buckeye State, born on January 20, 1825, in Sandusky county, near the city of that name, and was the fourth of six children, the others being Nancy, Mary, Snowden, George and Benjamin. He received his early education in Missouri, and followed farming as a means of livelihood.

Mr. Huff was married February 11, 1847, in Washington township, the lady of his choice being Lucy Ward, daughter of J. M. and Maria (Cowen) Ward, prominent farming people of that

township. In religious belief her father was a Dunkard, while her mother held membership with the Lutheran Church. They are both now deceased, the latter passing away March 21, 1884. They had four children: (1) Elizabeth, born June 4, 1825, has departed this life. (2) Mrs. Huff is the second in the order of birth. (3) Ira, born August 16, 1831, became a member of Company H, 21st O. V. I., during the Civil war, and died in Rebel prison at Andersonville, Ga. He had married Charlotte Jeffers, by whom he had two children—Elizabeth Maria, wife of Charlie Thompkins, a resident of Missouri; and Alice Ann, wife of James Madison, also of Missouri. (4) Eliza died at the age of fifteen years.

Three children came to bless the union of Mr. and Mrs. Huff, namely: (1) Sarah Maria, born July 27, 1850, is the wife of David McCombs, a contractor of Toledo, Ohio, by whom she had five children—Clinton, who died in infancy; Vernie Minnie, born August 20, 1871; Effie Myrtle, born September 20, 1873; Orlando Lester, born March 20, 1876; and Lucy Pearl, born December 15, 1879. (2) Ann Eliza, born December 15, 1851, died at the age of three years. (3) Eugene B., born in Weston township, January 16, 1854, married Della Clark, and resides on his own farm.

Mr. Huff, for the last twenty-five years of his life, traveled the greater part of the time. His death occurred in California, September 7, 1876. In politics, he was a Republican, and by his fellow citizens was chosen to fill several offices of honor and trust, including that of supervisor, which he held for two terms, while for several terms he was constable, and his duties were always faithfully discharged. He and his estimable wife were ever faithful and devoted members of the United Brethren Church, and the family is one of prominence in the community.

G. W. SMITH, a well-known farmer of Plain township, Wood county, comes of good old Revolutionary stock, his great-grandfathers on both sides of the family having fought and died in the struggle of the colonies for liberty, the one being killed at the battle of Brandywine, and the other at the battle of Trenton.

The parents of our subject were George and Mary (Wirts) Smith, the former being born in Pennsylvania in 1791, and dying in Summit county, Ohio, in 1854. The mother was a native of New Jersey, born in 1795, and died in Summit county in 1874. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the

father followed farming as an occupation. He was a Democrat, and a loyal citizen. The parental family comprised seven children, namely: Malinda, who married Joseph Hall, and died in Kansas; J. J., a physician, who resided at Akron, Ohio, and practiced there many years, but died December 7, 1884; J. B., who was assistant surgeon in the 14th O. V. I., and died at Nashville, Tenn.; Hannah, who married W. C. Smith and died at Rock Island, Ill.; Thomas, who was killed accidentally in Missouri; G. W., the subject of this sketch; and Margaret, the wife of L. M. Newton, residing in Kansas.

G. W. Smith was born in Summit county, Ohio, September 26, 1826, was educated in Akron, Ohio, under the superintendence of Gen. Leggett, and lived at home until twenty-one years old, when he went to California. There he was taken ill with typhoid fever, and, after thirty-days unconsciousness, had but partly recovered from that terrible disease, when dread cholera broke out, and he was seized with that. He fortunately escaped with his life, and, strange to say, for twenty-eight years afterward did not have a day's illness. In the spring of 1853 Mr. Smith took passage for Australia, reaching there in July, and for three years was engaged in mining in that country. He then decided to return home, and came by way of England, landing at Bristol, and stopping at London and many of the principal cities in Europe, and, being, in all, two hundred and eleven days, and traveling about 25,000 miles on the water before he reached the United States. He says, these were the happiest days of his life.

Mr. Smith finally settled in Wood county, Ohio, and in 1857 was married to Miss Matilda Eaton, who was born in Ashland county, Ohio, August 10, 1829. Of this union three children have been born: Era G., born June 24, 1866, is the wife of J. W. Le Galley, and has two children, Harry and Marguerite; Carl L., born March 11, 1868, was married February 6, 1895, to Miss Gertrude Hopkins, of Brownhelm township, Lorain Co., Ohio, who was born January 20, 1871 (he was educated at the High School in Bowling Green, and at Ada Normal School, and at present is assessor of Plain township); Lulu E., born March 3, 1874, is at home with her parents.

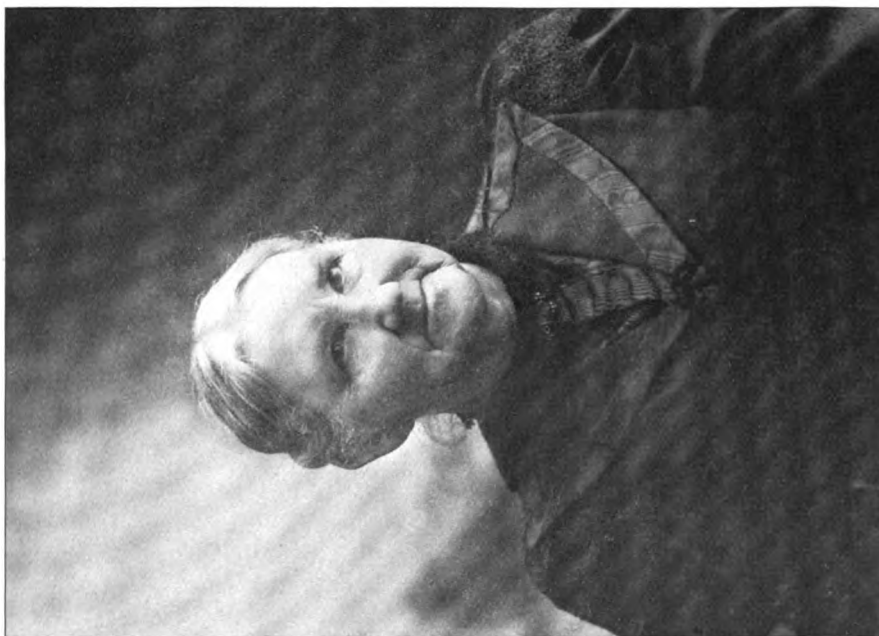
Mr. Smith is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and is a man of good business ability and of progressive ideas. He is a Democrat in politics, and is highly esteemed as a loyal citizen and good neighbor, who wants justice to all and special privileges to none.

BENJAMIN F. PRATT. This pioneer farmer of Perrysburg township was born March 9, 1824, on the place where he still resides. He assisted in wresting the now fertile acres from the primeval forests, and the wonderful growth and development of the surrounding country have all taken place before his eyes. He can relate many most interesting reminiscences of those early days, and of the people whose struggles and privations sound like a fairy tale to the youth of to-day.

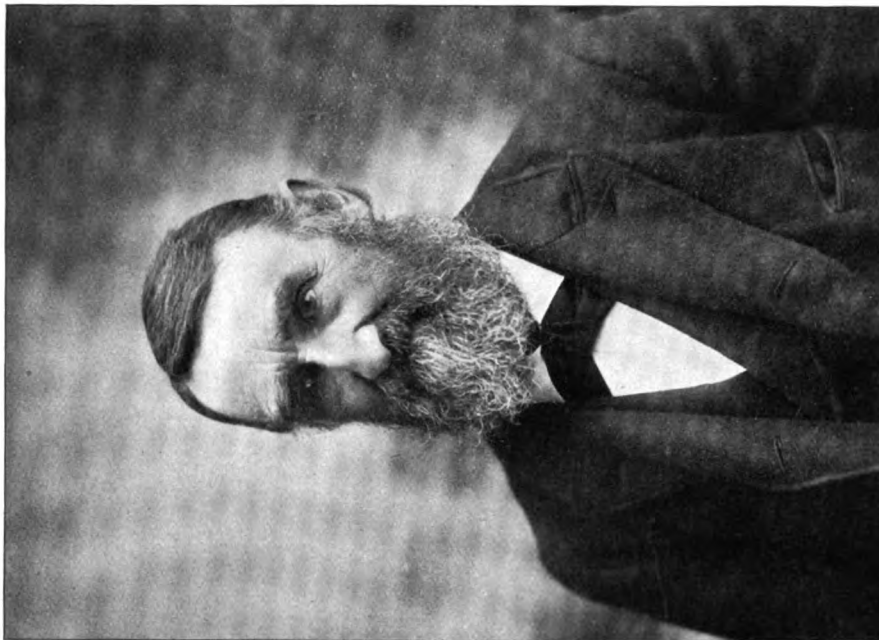
Gen. William and Bathia (Brown) Pratt, the parents of our subject, were natives of Massachusetts, where they were married, and whence, in 1814, they came to Ohio, settling in Orleans, Wood county, on the Maumee river, near Fort Meigs. They had previously lived in Canada, where the father owned a store and a farm; but when the war of 1812 broke out he came with his family to the United States, leaving behind him all his property, and cast his lot with the young republic. They crossed the lake in an open boat to Orleans, and there entered land. In later years a part of the property in Canada was reclaimed by one of the children. The father served during the war of 1812, and rose to the rank of general.

When the family took possession of the land now owned by our subject, which was in the year 1818, it consisted of eighty acres of dense forest. They made the first clearing, back from the river front, which was made in that locality, and which became known as the "hole in the woods." William Pratt ran the first schooner on the Maumee river, and followed boating for many years. He died February 3, 1824, and was buried on the farm; his wife died at Grand Rapids in July, 1858, and was buried in the cemetery at Perrysburg, where her husband's remains had been removed. Seven children were born to this estimable couple, namely: Jonas, who was a farmer, and died in Henry county, Ohio, in 1854; William served with his father in the war of 1812, and died in Grand Rapids in 1869; Hiram died in Wood county, in January, 1854, his wife surviving him until January, 1894; Amos was a steamboat captain on the lakes, and resided a part of his life in Maumee, near Fort Miami, Lucas county, and died in Buffalo, some time in the "fifties;" Sarah became the wife of Judge Jerome, and died in Lucas county; Jane married Francis Hinsdall, and lives in Toledo; James makes his home in Illinois, and Benjamin F. is our subject.

Benjamin F. Pratt was reared in Perrysburg



*Susan J Pratt*



*B. J. Pratt*



township, and assisted his father in clearing and improving the home farm which he now owns, and to which he has added until his property comprises 192 acres, all well-improved and valuable land. He has built a comfortable residence, and is engaged in general farming. He was married in Perrysburg township, March 20, 1850, to Miss S. J. Perrin, who was born in Nova Scotia, and is a daughter of James and Nellie (Byers) Perrin, the father a native of France, the mother of Scotland. In 1838 her parents went to Indiana, where they both died in less than one week. After their deaths the children all returned to Wood county. Of these, Charles is deceased; Jane is now Mrs. Young, and lives at Albion, Mich.; Mary married Benjamin Langel, and is deceased; John resides in Roachton; William lives in Perrysburg township; Catherine married Stephen Langel, and is deceased.

Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Pratt, as follows: Fred is living in New Mexico; Ella (now Mrs. Kerr) lives in Grand Rapids; Arthur is in New Mexico; and May, Guy, Clifton and Benjamin F., are at home. Mr. Pratt is a Republican, and a member of the M. E. Church. He is a man of fine character, devoted to his home and family, and has never cared to hold public office. As a representative of one of the old families in the county, and for his many sterling qualities, he is held in the highest estimation by all who know him.

WILLIAM LE GALLEY, SR., one of the oldest of the honored pioneers of Plain township, was born December 20, 1812, in Colerain, Mass. He was the son of John and Margaret (Wilson) Le Galley, both of whom were natives of Massachusetts.

When he was seven years old his parents moved to Ohio, and located in Lower Sandusky, where both died a few years later, and our subject was left to make his own way in the world. He went to Seneca county, where he lived with an uncle for nine years, attending school for a short period, afterward working upon the farm. At the age of sixteen he began to learn the tanner's trade, which he followed for twenty-eight years in Seneca and Huron counties, where he also engaged to some extent in farming. He was married in Huron county, in 1836, to Miss Terry, who was born there in August, 1819. They had six children: Myron, John H., William T., Silia and Charles, all living; and Fannie, who died when six years old. In 1856 he moved to Wood county, and purchased 200 acres of land in Plain township, which was but little improved.

With the help of his sons, he succeeded in changing this wilderness into a cultivated farm, ditching, tiling, planting fruit trees, and building a good dwelling house, and commodious barns. He has divided seventy-five acres of his land between two of his sons, and still retains 125 acres, which is under the management of his son, Charles, who resides at the homestead. There are four oil wells in operation upon the property, developed by the Ohio Oil Company.

Although Mr. and Mrs. Le Galley have passed the allotted three score and ten years, both are hale and hearty, and happy in the enjoyment of the fruits of their past labors. Their children occupy useful and honorable positions in life, and their declining years are without a cloud. They have been for many years leading members of the Baptist Church in Bowling Green. Mr. Le Galley votes the Prohibition ticket, and he has always taken an influential part in local affairs. In 1860 he was elected justice of the peace, serving for one term, and he was school director for a number of years.

TITUS BECK was born in New Rumley, Harrison Co., Ohio, March 9, 1845. His early life was spent in Ashland county, Ohio, where he studied the elementary branches of an English education in the district schools. He enlisted in the Union army at Ashland during the Civil war, joining, on February 28, 1864, the Western army, with which he stayed for twenty-two months, being most of that time connected with the artillery corps at Fort Steel, Ark. In 1865 he returned to Ashland county, and on March 5, 1868, was married to Miss Laura E. Campbell, a daughter of James and Isabell (Robertson) Campbell. They moved to Wood county, where he at once settled on eighty acres of land he now owns, adjoining the corporation of Bowling Green. The property contains three oil wells, which he has leased, and he is occupied in general farming. Mrs. Laura E. (Campbell) Beck was born in Ashland county, Ohio, July 8, 1847. They became the parents of thirteen children, namely: Allen Sanford, born January 30, 1869; Myrtle E., born October 13, 1871; Alice G., born June 27, 1872, was accidentally burned to death November 19, 1876; George Campbell, born March 18, 1874, married to Miss Maud Case, of Toledo, June 15, 1896, a niece of President Garfield; Mattie May, born December 13, 1875, wife of Gilbert Harriss; Ida L., born February 19, 1878; John L., born November 17, 1879; Earl J. born November 23, 1881; Walter B., born May 19, 1884; Verah E., born June 20, 1886; Benson Foraker, born December 19, 1887; Orlie

C., born August 6, 1892; Hazel Bell, born January 27, 1894.

George Beck, father of our subject, was born in New Brunswick, on the St. Johns river, February 23, 1815. He came to the eastern part of Ohio when sixteen years old, and settled in Harrison county with his mother and family, where he lived until 1848, when he went to the northern part of Ashland county, and there died March 20, 1890. He was a farmer by occupation, and was a member of the United Brethren Church. In politics he was a Democrat until the beginning of the slave agitation, when he became an anti-slave agitator. His wife was a Miss Delila Miller, who was born and reared in Harrison county, Ohio, and died at Troy, Ashland Co., Ohio, at the age of seventy years. To this couple were born the following children: Martha, born October 2, 1840, is now the wife of John Porter, of Lorain county, Ohio; William, born June 20, 1842, died in 1864, at Tullahoma, Tenn. (he was a member of Company K, 102nd O. V. I.); Titus is our subject; Mary, who married William Latham, died at Sullivan, Ashland county; David and George died in infancy; Eliza, the wife of George Pixley, resides in Troy, Ashland county; Ollie is the wife of John Criss, of Lincoln county, Kans.; Enoch Goliah lives in Ashland county.

Our subject's grandfather died in New Brunswick, and his great-grandfather Beck was a soldier in the German army. Although a small man, he was very powerful and was able to put five barrels of flour on top of one another, being the only man in the army who could accomplish this feat of strength. His wife was a Miss Sherman, of Yankee descent. Mr. Beck's father was one of seven children, the others being: Titus, Martha, Margaret, Mary, Austin and Elizabeth. All of them are deceased except the two latter, who live in Ashland county.

James Campbell, the father of Mrs. Beck, was born May 20, 1820, in Ashland county, and the mother was born in Steubenville, Ohio, December 22, 1828. They were married June 10, 1846, and settled in Wood county, April 4, 1868, where he died in 1876. He was a Democrat before the war, and afterward became a Republican. During the war he enlisted in Company K, 82nd O. V. I., for the first three-years' volunteer service. He served until February 24, 1863, when he was discharged on surgeon's certificate of disability. He participated in the battles of Bull Run, Shiloh, and others. He lost his health while in the army, and died after returning home; he received a pension, which his widow, who still survives, now draws. Two of their five children

grew to maturity—Laura and Almer; George E., John W., and Nettie E., all died while young.

Grandfather Campbell came from Pennsylvania and died in Ashland county. He married a Miss McKinsie, who was of Scotch-Irish descent. The maternal great-grandmother's name was Elliot, and she and her husband were Scotch-Irish, and lived and died in Steubenville. The Robertsons were from Jefferson county, Ohio, and were of Scotch-English descent. The paternal grandmother's name was Paterson.

WILLIAM B. KERR, who has been a trustee of Grand Rapids township since its organization, was born in Point Creek township, Holmes Co., Ohio, July 9, 1835. His grandfather, William Kerr, a blacksmith by trade, married Margaret Miller, and lived for some years after his marriage, in Pennsylvania, where his son Jesse, our subject's father, was born in 1810. Three years later the family moved to Holmes county, Ohio, and there Jesse Kerr grew to manhood, and followed the occupation of farming. He was there married to Miss Jane H. Barton, who was born in Jefferson county, Ohio, November 12, 1812, the daughter of one of the earliest settlers of that county. Our subject was the eldest of their family of eight children; Eliza, the second child, married Isaac Van Horn, a prominent resident of Wood county, Ohio; Nancy died in 1846; James E. is an ordained minister of the U. P. Church, at Coulterville, Ill.; Mary married Perry Heeter, a well-known agriculturist of Grand Rapids township; Joseph W. is a minister of the United Presbyterian Church in Piqua, Ohio; Villa married John Caton, of Grand Rapids township; the youngest child died in infancy. From 1850 to 1886 the family lived upon a farm in Wood county, where our subject's mother died in 1886, and his father seven years later, at the age of eighty-three.

William B. Kerr was started on the road to knowledge in his native county, and afterward attended the schools of Wood county. He worked upon his father's farm until he attained his majority, when he bought thirty acres of land, which he improved. In 1861 he enlisted at Napoleon, Ohio, in Company H, 68th O. V. I. (Col. H. Steedman and Capt. J. J. Vorhees, commanding), which was assigned to the 17th Army Corps, with Gen. McPherson as Dept. Commander, and Gen. Logan as Commander of the Division. On the expiration of his term of service, Mr. Kerr re-enlisted at Vicksburg, and served throughout the war. He was in a number of hard-fought battles, among them the engagements at Fort Donelson,

Fort Henry and Vicksburg, and he took part in the Atlanta campaign, and "marched down to the sea" with Sherman. On receiving his final discharge at Cleveland, he went to Henry county and bought ninety acres of land which he cultivated for eight years, when he returned to Wood county, and purchased eighty acres near Grand Rapids, upon which he has made many improvements, and provided a comfortable home for his family.

On October 10, 1865, he was married to his first wife, Miss Jennie Culbertson, a daughter of J. G. Culbertson, a well-known citizen of Henry county. They have had three children: James H., born December 23, 1868, resides in Henry county; John W., born December 4, 1872, is now attending the Western Reserve Medical College at Cleveland; the youngest child died in infancy. Mrs. Kerr died in 1875, and our subject married again, choosing for a second wife Miss Mary J. Mitchell, of Knox county, Ohio, who was born August 18, 1840.

Mr. Kerr and his family attend the United Presbyterian Church, and are among the leaders in its various lines of work. In politics Mr. Kerr is a Republican, and his influence in the local organization is widely recognized. He is noted for his sound judgment and upright character, and has been intrusted with many public duties, which have been discharged with energy and discretion. Throughout his eight years residence in Henry county, he was justice of the peace in Damascus township, and since coming to this county he has been assessor of Grand Rapids and Weston townships for four terms, and has held the office of trustee in the former since 1891. He is a member of the G. A. R., Bond Post No. 24.

HON. J. E. STEVENS, the able and popular mayor of Grand Rapids, was born May 29, 1851, in Huron county, Ohio. He is a son of John A. and Linda (Heath) Stevens, prominent residents of Grand Rapids township, and has lived in this county since he was three years old, receiving his education mainly in the schools of Weston. He learned the blacksmith's trade with S. Sterling, of Weston, and remained with him for sixteen years, when he moved to Grand Rapids and worked for eight years with T. J. Sterling in the same trade. In 1892 he bought out his employer, and has since conducted the business for himself, enjoying the patronage of the entire community.

In 1873, he was married to Miss Mary Beeman, who died some years later, leaving two children: Sylvester, who has already made a start

in life as a blacksmith, and Louisa, who lives at Muncie, Ind. In 1882, Mr. Stevens married his second wife, Miss Emma Carson, daughter of the late John Carson, of Grand Rapids. Five children were born of this union: Alma, Ruth and Harry, who are now attending school, and Guy and Ruby, both of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Stevens is one of the most active workers in the Relief and Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church, of which her husband is a prominent member, and she is a ready supporter of any philanthropic movement.

Mr. Stevens holds in an unusual degree the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens, and is a leading member of the Republican party. He has twice been elected councilman of Grand Rapids, and in 1895 was chosen mayor by a large majority, fully justifying the faith of his friends by a wise, honest, and business-like administration.

FRED HEETER, the able young postmaster of Grand Rapids, who is one of the most enterprising and prosperous business men of that locality, is one of the "Wood county boys" who are doing credit to the place of their birth. Born in Grand Rapids, September 2, 1865, he attended the excellent public schools there during boyhood, and later took a course in a business college. After graduating, he returned to his native town, and engaged in mercantile business, dealing in groceries, glassware and crockery, and has achieved a success which speaks well for his ability, judgment and fair dealing. His reputation in financial circles is of the best, and in local politics he is also among the foremost, being an influential worker in the Democratic party in his vicinity.

Mr. Heeter was married June 12, 1895, to Miss Etta Thomas, born June 8, 1876, one of the most attractive young ladies of Grand Rapids, and a member of one of the leading families in the Methodist Church there. He is a member of the fraternal order of the K. of P. and of the I. O. O. F. With hosts of friends and so firm a vantage ground gained for success in business and political life, Mr. Heeter's future is confidently expected to bring to him still greater opportunities to give proof of his ability.

JUDGE GEORGE C. PHELPS, one of the oldest and most prominent citizens of Bowling Green, has been identified with the leading interests of this county ever since 1853, when he came to Webster township with his bride of a year, and established a home in the clearing. He



is descended from an old New England family. His grandfather, Abel Phelps, lived in Tolland county, Conn., and reared a large family, among whom were: Sallie, born February 28, 1792, who married Mr. Manley, and died in Pennsylvania; Abby, born June 1, 1794; Harriet, born January 7, 1797; Patty, March 21, 1799—all of whom died in Connecticut; George A., born October 10, 1804, who died in Medina county, Ohio; and Abel, our subject's father, who was born October 10, 1804. He was married in Hebron, Conn., to Miss Sallie Barber, born April, 1807. In 1834 they moved to Brunswick, Medina county, Ohio, where they spent the rest of their lives, honored and influential citizens, and leading members of the Congregational Church. Mr. Phelps was a Democrat before the war, but in later life was a Republican. He died September 13, 1887, and his wife February 8, 1891. They reared a family of four children, of whom our subject is the eldest now living. Of the others, Elizabeth is the wife of George Hamilton, of DeKalb county, Ind.; Ralph lives in Medina county, Ohio, and Mary Jane is the wife of Hiram Davis, of Cuyahoga county, Ohio.

The subject of this sketch was born at the old home in Connecticut, October 25, 1827, and at the age of seven came to Ohio with his parents. He grew to manhood upon the farm in Medina county, and July 7, 1852, married Miss Emily A. Park, who was born in New York State March 1, 1827. Her father, William Park, was a native of Canandaigua, N. Y., and was descended from some of the early settlers of East Bloomfield, N. Y. Her mother was Miss Axa Reed, a native of Massachusetts, whose father, Uriah Reed, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and a life-long resident of Taunton, Mass. They settled in Medina county, Ohio, in 1837, and there their five children grew to maturity; Phœbe, Mrs. Joseph Simmons, of Cuyahoga county, Ohio; Emily A., Mrs. Phelps; Albina, deceased; Evaline, Mrs. Isaac Dake, of Medina county, and William, deceased. After their marriage Judge Phelps and his wife remained in Medina county, for a year, and then moved to Wood county, settling upon a farm where they lived for twenty years.

Our subject's rare fitness for public life was speedily recognized, and he was not permitted to remain in obscurity; for many years he held various township and county offices, school director, justice of the peace, township clerk and probate judge. To the last position he was elected three times, and held it, in all, over nine years. During this time the contest over the re-

moval of the court house to Bowling Green took place, and he was one of the leaders. He has been engaged in various business enterprises also. He helped to build the old Tontogany railroad, and of later years he has been interested in the gas business, as his farm in Webster township lies within the "oil belt."

In September, 1876, he moved to Bowling Green, where he and his wife spend their declining years in well-earned repose, surrounded by their family of five children, three of whom are married and settled near by: (1) Albina A., born September 15, 1854, married William Muir, and has two children—Emily and Darwin. (2) George A., born November 16, 1857, married Margaret Wiley; they have four children—Clara, Bessie (deceased), Wiley and Helen. (3) Effie M., born May 9, 1862, is the wife of Charles Southwell; they have one son—George C. (4) Mary A., born September 17, 1865, and (5) William A., born July 11, 1869, are still at home.

SAMUEL R. JUNKINS belonged to one of the pioneer families of the Maumee Valley, and was numbered among those to whom the present generation is indebted for the high position Wood county has attained among the sisterhood of counties of Ohio.

His father, Samuel Junkins, was a native of Maine, descended from Scotch and Irish parents, and when a young man removed to the State of Pennsylvania where he engaged in the manufacture of brick. Here he was married to Nancy Smith, and to them were born children as follows: Clarissa, Thomas, Julia Ann, and Samuel R. Later the family removed to Guernsey county, Ohio, where at Fairview, March 30, 1829, was born the subject of this sketch. The father dying here in 1829, the family returned to Pennsylvania, and in Washington county, of that State, the widow was subsequently married to John Rice. In April, 1833, the latter with family removed to what was then Weston township (now Grand Rapids), this county, and settled in Section 18, where they resided some six months when Mr. Rice died, and the family removed to Section 21, and occupied a small house built by John Ginery, which was owned by a relative, John McKee. Mr. Rice had entered land from the government, but his affairs were in such a shape that it was lost to the widow, and so she with her children had to work out the problem of life alone; but well they accomplished it, for all have so lived as to become useful members of society and highly respected citizens of the communities



*S. R. Jenkins*



in which they resided, and all have been possessed of a full share of this world's goods. The mother died in 1851. Samuel R., when old enough, assisted his older brother in the support of his widowed mother, and grew up to habits of industry and economy. He assisted in clearing up considerable land, and in every sense was not only the son of a pioneer, but a pioneer himself, for in his boyhood the primeval forest was here in all its density and wildness, and in growing up he played a conspicuous part in converting it into the fertile and beautiful fields of to-day. His educational privileges were, of course, limited, and as a boy he had only such advantages as fell to the lot of country boys of that period and surroundings. Later he attended for a time the common or high schools of Perrysburg, and with such a foundation, by frequent reading and study, he became a well-informed man, and practical in business affairs. He ever took a deep interest in the educational affairs of the county, and served as school director in his township.

On May 2, 1864, Mr. Junkins enlisted in Company I, 144th Regiment, O. N. G., and served as a corporal under Capt. John McKee until mustered out with company, August 31, of the same year. While the period of the regiment's service was short, yet it was an honorable one, and bore well its part in the Shenandoah Valley, on the Peninsula in the operations about the James river, and about Petersburg, the trials of all of which our subject participated in.

Mr. Junkins was in every sense a self-made man; beginning with nothing save a determination to make for himself a home and a name, he by strict attention to business, and by industry and economy, became a man of means and influence. He had so successfully managed his own affairs that the people of the county selected him as a good man to care for the interests of Wood county, and, in 1882, he was elected a county commissioner. For more than a year he was actively engaged in attending to the duties of this office. Ill health, however, stepped in and prevented him from serving out his term, and in the fall of 1885, after being confined to his bed for several months, he resigned. In politics he was a Republican, though when chosen to the office of commissioner it was by means of the People's party. He was a Granger in the days of the Grange movement, and a member of Milton Center Lodge of Odd Fellows. While during life Mr. Junkins had not identified himself with any Church, he was a moral man and ever prided himself upon an upright life; he was consistent in all things, and was one of the most highly re-

spected citizens of the county in which he had passed upward of half a century. He died February 27, 1887, fully reconciled to the change of Worlds, and with perfect confidence in the Lord. His death was caused by stomach and kidney complaints after a sickness of nearly three years, during the last two of which he was confined to his room. His widow, who in her maidenhood was Miss Mary Olney, is a daughter of Benjamin and Lucy (Emerson) Olney, and to her he was married March 12, 1857. She now makes her home with her brother-in-law, George Kimberlin, Esq., of Bowling Green. There were no children born to the marriage. Mrs. Junkins is identified with the Baptist Church.

The Olney family was one of the early and conspicuous families of Colonial days. Thomas Olney, the ancestor of the Olneys in America, was born in the city of Hertford, Hertfordshire, England, which city formed a part of the Parish of St. Albans, the seat of one of the most ancient monasteries, and long celebrated in English history as the center of spiritual influence. He received a "permit to emigrate to New England," April 2, 1635, and came to Salem, Mass., by the ship "Planter." He was appointed a surveyor in January, 1636, and granted forty acres of land at Jeffrey Creek, now known as Manchester, near Salem. He was made a freeman the same year, and early associated with those who accepted the peculiar views of Roger Williams. With a number of others he was excluded from the colony March 12, 1638. Previous to this, however, in company with Roger Williams, he visited Narraganset Bay while seeking some place where they might live outside the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Colony, and had decided upon the west side of the Seekonk river. Accordingly, with eleven others, they formed a new settlement at the head of the bay, which they named "Providence," in grateful remembrance of their deliverance from their enemies. They thus became the original thirteen proprietors of Providence.

The father of Benjamin Olney, Stephen Olney, was a native of Rhode Island, but removed to the State of New York and there made his permanent home. Benjamin Olney, the son of Stephen, and father of widow Junkins, was born in Saratoga county, N. Y., May 23, 1797. He was twice married, first to a Miss Elizabeth C. Berry, whose birth occurred in 1797, and to the marriage were born: Mary M., July 14, 1819, died October 10, 1820; and Stephen, born October 13, 1821, died in 1888. The mother of these passed from earth in 1824, and Benjamin Olney

subsequently married Lucy Emerson, who was born in Saratoga, N. Y., March 16, 1800, a daughter of Broadstreet and Lois (Phelps) Emerson. To the second marriage of Mr. Olney were born the following sons and daughters who lived to be men and women: Mary, widow of Samuel R. Junkins; Prof. Edward Olney, a native of Saratoga county, N. Y., born July 24, 1827; Adeliza, who became the wife of George Kimberlin; George E., born October 24, 1832, and who died in the army July 24, 1863, a member of the 111th Regiment, O. V. I.; Harriet, born October 27, 1835, died November 12, 1839; and Estella, born February 28, 1845, died February 4, 1873.

Benjamin Olney and family became pioneers of Wood county, settling near Grand Rapids in 1833. He was a useful citizen, and his name frequently appears on the early records of that part of the county. He served the citizens of that township as trustee, justice of the peace, and in other official relations, and was associate judge in Wood county for a number of years. His death occurred near Grand Rapids, April 1, 1854.

Prof. Edward Olney was a natural-born student, and was especially gifted in mathematics. He was self-made, fitting himself for a teacher in Wood county by private study, and here taught his first term in the district school when nineteen years of age. At the time the schools of Perrysburg were graded he took charge of the grammar department, and subsequently was appointed to the chair of mathematics in the college at Kalamazoo, Mich., and there remained until 1863, when he was elected to fill the chair of mathematics in the University of Michigan, which he occupied until his death, January 16, 1887. He published several works, among which were the Olney series of school books on mathematics.

DAVID K. MCQUINN is well known throughout Montgomery township as one of its most thorough going farmers and prominent citizens. He is a native of Wood county, born in 1860, and is the son of James and Nancy (Ritchy) McQuinn, who came to this county from Wyandot county, and made their first location in Freedom township. The father was born under the shadow of the mountains of Scotland, and came to this country when a young man, poor in this world's goods, but possessed of a pair of willing hands and a determination to succeed in life. Though small, he was robust, and became one of the leading agriculturists of Wood county, owning, at the time of his death, ninety acres of valuable land in Montgomery township, where he had made his home

for fifteen years, and placed many good improvements upon his farm.

The father was married after coming to the New World, and the family circle included six children, namely: James, who died while young; Alvira, who became the wife of Dolene Turner, and died at Fostoria, Ohio; Mary, now Mrs. Martin Lein, of Portage township, Wood county; William, a farmer in Montgomery township; Cinderella, wife of James Lindley, of Fostoria; and David K., of this review. The father departed this life in Montgomery township, in 1876, at the age of sixty-eight years, and his wife, who survived him until 1878, died at about the same age. He was a stanch Republican in politics, regularly casting his ballot in support of that party, and, religiously, both he and his wife were consistent members of the United Brethren Church, with which he was officially connected.

Since the death of the parents, our subject and his brother, William, have purchased the interests of the other heirs, with one exception, and now operate the farm with good success. Their educations were such as the district schools of the neighborhood afforded, but their training at farm labor was not as meager as their educational advantages, and they grew up to be useful and respected members of society. In manner, our subject is quiet and conservative, is energetic and industrious, and wins the respect and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact. He has never taken an active part in politics, but performs the duties of an American citizen, and, at the polls, votes the straight Republican ticket, which his brother also supports.

PAUL GREULICH, an agriculturist of energy and ability, who resides in Section 7, Troy township, is a native of Medina county, Ohio, born in Liverpool township, in 1858, and is a son of John and Catherine (Weigle) Greulich. The birth of the father occurred at Frankfort, Germany, and at the age of eight years accompanied his father, John Greulich, Sr., to Medina county, locating in Liverpool township. At the age of nineteen he went to Cleveland, Ohio, but at the end of six years returned to the farm. In 1868 he removed to Toledo, where he was engaged in the dry-goods business on Cherry street for three years, and then again located on his farm in Liverpool township, where he passed his remaining days. His wife had died in Toledo. A brief record of their children is as follows: Christ died on the home farm; Joe, John and Louise, all died in Toledo; George is a resident of Lorain county, Ohio; Paul, of this review; Albert is engaged in the

clothing business at Lorain, Ohio; and Mrs. Minnie Moley is of the same city.

The early life of our subject was spent in his native township, and at Toledo, where he acquired a common-school education, and, on starting out in life for himself, he engaged in the dry-goods business with his father. In 1879 he came to Troy township, and in 1890 purchased his present farm, selling at that time fifteen acres of the farm now owned by William Armbruster. When he located upon his land only twenty of the sixty acres had been cleared, but now forty-five acres have been placed under the plow. In 1892 he built a barn, 40 x 60 feet, and in 1895 erected his comfortable two-story dwelling, 18 x 26 feet, with an L, 16 x 20 feet.

Mr. Greulich was united in marriage with Miss Katie Sattler, a native of Rockport, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio, and a daughter of John Sattler, who now resides upon a farm in Perrysburg township, Wood county. By this union one child has been born—J. Don.

The political support of Mr. Greulich is given to the Democratic party. In 1888 he was elected a trustee of his township, which office he held for six years, and has also been a member of the school board. He served as adjuster and appraiser for The Lime City Insurance Company. Socially, Mr. Greulich holds membership with Perrysburg Lodge No. 774, I. O. O. F. He is pursuing the even tenor of his way as an honest man and good citizen, and to general farming devotes most of his time and attention.

JOHN SHERMAN holds a good position among the agriculturists of Troy township, where he is engaged in general farming in Section 12, and from which he derives a comfortable income. He was born upon his present farm in 1851, and is a son of Carl Henry and Mary (Myrose) Sherman. The father's birth occurred in 1826, in Hanover, Germany, and when about thirteen years of age he accompanied his stepfather, John Hartman, to America. The latter opened up a farm in Troy township, on which his death occurred.

For about seven years after locating in Wood county, the father sailed on the lakes between Buffalo and Toledo. In 1849, in Troy township, he wedded Miss Mary Myrose, who was also a native of Hanover, Germany, and a daughter of Frederick Myrose, one of the pioneers of that township. Both of her parents are now deceased. After his marriage Mr. Sherman bought eighty-seven acres of wooded land, of which about six acres had been cleared, and thereon erected a log house, in which the family lived until 1861,

when the present residence of our subject was built. Politically the father was a Democrat, and served as a trustee of Troy township. Upon the home farm his death occurred in 1871, and there his wife died in 1886. In religious belief they were Lutherans, belonging to Salem Church, in Troy township. Seven children were born to them, all still living, and in order of their birth they are as follows: John, of this sketch; Mrs. Louisa Hoodlebrink, of Woodville township, Sandusky Co., Ohio; Mrs. Julia Niebhausmyer, of the same township; Mrs. Carrie Link, of Toledo, Ohio; Mrs. Sophia Akenberger, of Lake township; Louis, who is married and resides in the same township; and Henry, who is married and lives in Perrysburg township, Wood county.

Mr. Sherman, of this review, grew to manhood upon the home farm, receiving his education in the district schools of the neighborhood, and becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits. He aided in clearing the land, has tiled the entire place, and to its cultivation and improvement still devotes his time and attention.

In 1880, in Harris township, Ottawa Co., Ohio, Mr. Sherman was united in marriage with Miss Nina Gilson, who was born there, and is a daughter of Richard and Eliza (Putnam) Gilson, both natives of New York, whence they removed to Ottawa county in 1851, locating upon an undeveloped farm in the midst of the wilderness, where both parents are still living. In connection with farming the father also worked at his trade of a millwright. They reared a family of five children—George, who is married and resides in Ottawa county; Mrs. Mary Gilson, of the same county; Nina, the wife of our subject; Mrs. Ella Waldock, of Erie county, Ohio; and Ebon, of Ottawa county. To Mr. and Mrs. Sherman has been born a daughter—Grace.

Our subject's farm comprises 122 acres of rich and arable land, and besides general farming he is also engaged in stock raising. Like his father before him, he is a Democrat in politics, and is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is a worthy representative of one of the pioneer families of Troy township, and has seen the full and complete development of the locality.

JOHN C. F. WANSITLER. In this State, midway between the east and the west, are found the best representatives of that class of men known as self-made. They partake of the spirit of dauntless enterprise characteristic of the latter section, and this is tempered and guided by the more conservative methods of the East. Our subject is one whose success may be attributed to

his own efforts, and his career is worthy of perpetuation in this volume. He was born on a farm in Columbiana county, Ohio, August 13, 1858, and is a son of Samuel Wansitler, also a native of Ohio, where for forty years he followed the carpenter's trade. He was married, in Columbiana county, to Mary Esther Carr, who was born in Scotland, and during her girlhood was brought by her parents to America. Some years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wansitler removed to Ross county, Ohio, where the mother died in June, 1862. Several years passed, and the father then wedded Mary E. Frantz. The children of the first union are Elizabeth, wife of John Nittrouer, of Columbiana county, Ohio; John C. F.; Charlotte, wife of Albert Scheltz, of Fostoria, Ohio; and Charles, a railroad employe, of Allegheny City. After residing at several different places, the father took up his residence in Fostoria, Ohio, where he is now living retired. In politics he is a Republican.

At the age of ten years our subject first attended school, and his privileges in this direction were somewhat limited. After the death of his mother, he became an inmate of the family of Mr. Boice, where he remained for about seven years. At the age of eleven he began working for Jesse Dicken, of Portage township, Wood county, and while with him he attended school through the winter season. At the age of fifteen he continued his studies in Jerry City, Ohio, and for three years was a student in the school conducted by Prof. Edwin Hubbard. At the age of eighteen he secured a teacher's certificate, and began teaching in a district school in Jackson township, following that profession until 1891.

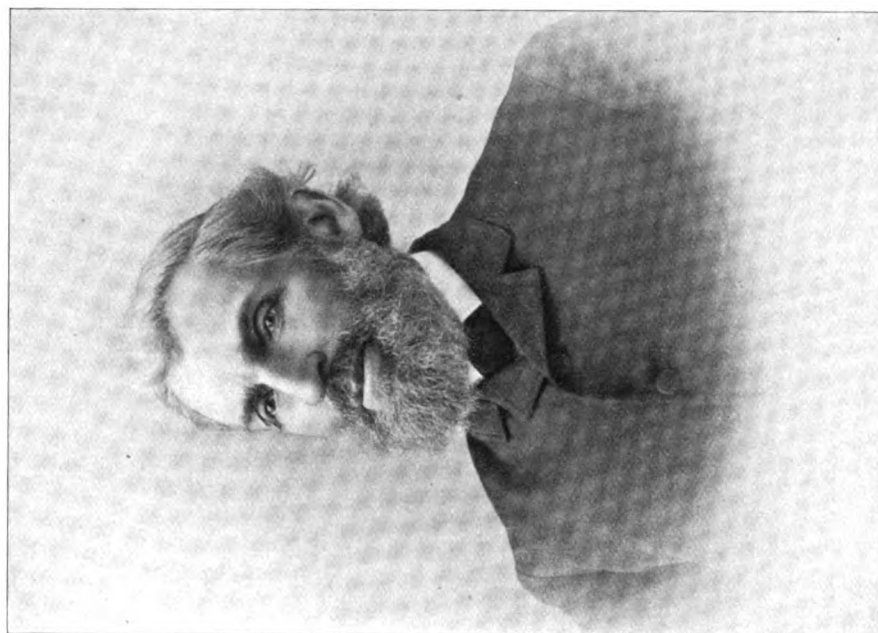
Mr. Wansitler was married in Jackson township, in August, 1881, to Martha M. Mellott, who was born August 31, 1862. They have four children—Bertha E., Wellington George, Sarah E., and Elias McKinley. They began their domestic life on their present farm, a portion of which Mr. Wansitler had purchased previous to his marriage. He now owns 160 acres, of which ninety acres are cleared and under a high state of cultivation, while upon the farm are three dwellings. He also owns a very nice residence in Bowling Green. He has taken quite an active part in public affairs, and is an influential citizen of the county, whom all esteem. Our subject figures quite prominently in politics as a supporter of the Republican party, and has served as a member of the county executive committee. He was census enumerator in 1890, and was deputy postmaster under Harrison. In the spring of 1890 he was elected constable, but

resigned the following spring, and since that time has been township trustee. He has also been chairman of the school board for six years, and is now serving his third term as notary public. Socially, he is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge, of Custar, also the Odd Fellows society of Jerry City, and the Encampment Lodge of Milton Center. He is a man of scholarly attainments, broad-minded and progressive in his views, and an intelligent, esteemed gentleman, whose affable, courteous manner has won him hosts of warm friends among his wide circle of acquaintances.

LEVI SIMON, one of the leading pioneers of Bloom township, is the oldest living member of a family which has given to that township more good, substantial citizens than any other, barring none. They have been farmers, officials and supporters of Churches from its early history, and the very name is synonymous with good citizenship.

The first American ancestor of this family was Johann Adam Simon, our subject's great-grandfather, who left Switzerland in 1735, when a young man, and after a stormy voyage of three months set foot upon American soil. He located first in the eastern part of the colony of Maryland, but his last years were spent in Washington county, Penn., where he died when nearly one hundred years of age. His love of civil liberty, and his invincible integrity during the Colonial period, and the Revolutionary war, subjected him to heavy losses and privations, but his undaunted spirit sustained him through all, and in the end triumphed. He was the father of ten children: Michael, Nicholas, Andrew, Adam, Jacob, Mrs. Stahl, Mrs. Belz, Mrs. Deutzer, Mrs. Right and Mrs. Stark, all of whom reared large families. The first eighteen years of his married life were prosperous; but on the breaking out of the Narragansett war the Indians burned his house and its contents, the occupants having barely time to escape with what clothing they wore at the time. Michael, the eldest, escaped, though he was shot at several times. Andrew, then a lad of seven years, was working in a sugar camp some distance from the house with said Michael, and was captured. He suffered many cruelties, even being scalped; but after seven months he was exchanged and returned to his father, and our subject remembers seeing his denuded head.

Michael Simon, our subject's grandfather, was born February 2, 1741. In 1800 he came to Trumbull county, Ohio, and bought nearly 1,200



*Mrs. Levi Shinnon Levi Shinnon*





acres of wild land of Henry Boardman, who at that time owned the entire township. In 1802 he moved to his new property, his son Adam having settled upon it previously, and made some improvements. Michael Simon was married three times, and by his first marriage had twelve children: Michael, Jr., Peter, Andrew, Adam, George, Jacob, Barbara, Elizabeth, Margaret, Ann Mary, Esther and Mary C. His second wife, a Miss Althans, died within a year, her child dying also. By his third marriage, to Mrs. Dice, he had two sons, Abram and Henry. At his death, which occurred in 1839, his descendants numbered 485, sixteen of whom were in the fourth generation.

Jacob Simon, our subject's father, was born in January, 1783, the youngest child of his father's first marriage. His education was self-acquired, without teachers or even books, except the Bible; but he became a man of notable intelligence, and he taught school successfully for many years. At first a Whig, he later became a Republican. He married Elizabeth Stemple, a native of Preston county, Va., born in 1788, the eldest daughter of David Stemple; whose wife was a Miss Rinehart. Nine children were born of this union: David, who married Miss Gamber, and died in Mahoning county, at the age of fifty-nine; Lydia, the wife of Eli Ruppert, who died in Allen county, Ind.; Delilah, Mrs. George Wormley, who died in Mahoning county at the age of sixty; Levi, our subject; Stilling, who first married Miss Fox, and for his second wife wedded Miss Gentholtz, who survives him, residing at their former home in Bloom township; Gideon, who married Leah D. Pfister, and died in Bloom township when seventy-five years old; Salome, the widow of Moses Webber, of Mahoning county; Selinde (Mrs. John Shaffer), of Allen county, Ind.; and Jesse, a farmer of Mahoning county, who married Elizabeth Williamson. The father of this family died in Mahoning county, in 1858, aged seventy-four years, the mother in 1875 aged eighty-seven.

Levi Simon, the subject of this sketch, was born January 21, 1817. He was remarkably precocious, but the schools of his day and locality were poor, and, except for forty-three days of better instruction at Ellsworth, he is practically self-taught. It is to be regretted that his richly endowed mind did not receive the highest possible development, as he has accomplished such unusual mental feats with so little help. The rapid and seemingly easy manner in which he solved the most difficult mathematical problems was widely noted at an early age, and he has

never yet found one which he could not solve. His contributions in prose and poetry to various newspapers have been read with interest, and display ability equal to that of many professional writers. Although he has been an industrious and painstaking farmer throughout his mature years, he could always find time to read the Bible, and his equal as a student of that book of books can seldom be found. He can quote any passage at will; in the expounding of abstruse texts, many preachers have found him a valuable aid to their own studies, and he has himself delivered many sermons. He was reared a Lutheran, but on moving to Wood county, where no Church of that denomination existed, he joined the Methodists. As he was not encouraged to express his honest convictions when called upon to speak, he, therefore, severed his relations with them and attended the Disciples Church, in which he was a preacher for four years. His start in life was obtained by teaching school at \$13 per month, and clearing land at meager wages.

On April 18, 1844, Mr. Simon was married in Trumbull (now Mahoning) county, to Miss Mary A. Pfister, a lady of German descent, and a native of Youngstown, born October 29, 1822, daughter of Jacob and Margaret (Hewitt) Pfister. They had ten children whose names with dates of birth are as follows: Myconius N., March 3, 1845; Rubellus J., August 9, 1846, (a leading physician and surgeon at Pemberville); Damiette, December 18, 1847 (she married Frank Ledyard, of Bloom township, and died August 23, 1884); Jerusha, October 10, 1850 (she died November 10, 1872); Belenia, August 6, 1852 (she married D. A. Deal, and died November 11, 1884); Poliander, July 22, 1856 (a remarkable child, and at the time of his death, August 30, 1863, was intellectually equal to many of double his years); Montibello and Mettilene (twins), March 28, 1859 (the former now a farmer and dairyman of Bloom township; the latter died September 4, 1863); Phœbe E., June 11, 1861 (an unusually gifted child, possessing mental development far beyond her age at her death, December 30, 1877); and Elma O., February 19, 1863 (now Mrs. Jacob Fischer, of Helena, Montana).

For a short time after his marriage Mr. Simon followed farming in Mahoning county, but in April, 1846, he came to Wood county with his wife and one son, traveling by wagon and spending seven days *en route*. In 1839 he had bought forty acres of timberland in Bloom township, and here he built a log cabin and lived in primitive style. He taught school for one term in the

neighborhood. He has made a success in life, owning now ninety acres of excellent land, and has been a generous supporter of all philanthropic and religious enterprises. Although he is not a member of any sect, he has contributed toward the building of every church in Bloomdale and vicinity. Despite his advanced age he is as active as most persons twenty years younger, and his mental faculties show no sign of impairment. He sympathized in early years with the Whig party, and since has been a Republican, but he is not slavishly bound by party ties. At different times he has taken an active share in local affairs, and he served as township clerk at a time when the records of that office had become very much complicated, requiring great skill and labor to adjust them. His wife died February 15, 1889, after nearly a half century of happy wedded life, and her mortal remains rest in the family burial lot in Bloom Chapel cemetery.

MYCONIUS N. SIMON, the eldest son of Levi Simon, now one of Bloomdale's most progressive and public-spirited citizens, received good educational advantages in his youth, making steady progress from his first day in the old log schoolhouse with Miss Clarissa Russell as his teacher. After finishing the course afforded in the district schools he attended more advanced classes, and in 1872 and '73 was a successful teacher in Bloom and Perry townships. Later he was employed in the office of the recorder of Mahoning county, and he was the first station agent at Bloomdale of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, for which he afterward served as clerk, baggage master and night ticket agent at Fostoria. He was accountant of the N. Y. P. & O. railroad at Youngstown in connection with the P. & L. E. railroad. In religious connection he belongs to the Wesleyan Methodist Church. In politics he is a Republican with Prohibition tendencies, and he is an ardent lover of the American flag and all it represents. Fond of reading, he is a great student of the Bible, in which he is well informed. "Mac," as he is familiarly called, surely has not one enemy from just cause.

EBER WILSON JUNKINS is numbered among the early settlers of Wood county, dating his residence from 1858, for it was on August 10, of that year, that he was born in Weston township. He is one of the six children of Thomas and Elizabeth Nancy (Long) Junkins, highly esteemed people of this locality. He attended the district schools, and during the summer months aided his father in the cultivation and development of the home farm—much of the work devolving upon

him as he was the eldest son. He remained at home until twenty-three years of age, and then began working for his uncle, Samuel Robert Junkins, of Weston township, with whom he remained for two years, receiving \$220 for the second year's service.

On January 1, 1885, in Washington township, was consummated the marriage of Mr. Junkins and Miss Annie Eliza Bachmann, a native of Erie county, Ohio, born November 24, 1859, and a daughter of Charles and Annie (Kistner) Bachmann, natives of Germany. The father came to America when a young man, and soon after the mother crossed the Atlantic. Their marriage was celebrated in Cleveland, Ohio, but later they became residents of Wood county. Our subject and his wife began their domestic life on his uncle's farm, renting that farm for a year, then purchased eighty acres of land of his father, for which he paid \$1,000. Of this tract twenty acres were cleared, but Mr. Junkins has made all of the improvements upon the property, has cleared off an indebtedness of \$1,700, has erected a good residence, barns and other buildings, and now has one of the model farms of Wood county. The home has been blessed with four children, namely: Goldie Mabel, Ila Fern, Zardie and Ernest.

Mr. Junkins votes with the Democracy, but has never been an office seeker, preferring to devote his entire time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with excellent success. He has always been an advocate of progress and improvement, and whatever tends to benefit the community receives his support. Socially he is connected with the Odd Fellows Society, the Knights of Pythias, the Knights of the Maccabees, the Temple of Honor, the Patrons of Industry, and the Grange.

MALON GAULT, who occupies a fine and well-improved farm in Perry township, is numbered among its leading farmers, who from a small beginning has built up one of the best homesteads within its borders. The residence and its surroundings are highly creditable to the proprietor, and indicate him to be a man of industry and energy, who has kept his eyes open on what is going on in the world around him, and availed himself of the most favored method of carrying on agriculture.

Like many of the men who have contributed to the development of the resources of Wood county, Mr. Gault is a native of the Keystone State, having been born in Salisbury township, Lancaster county, November 10, 1831, and is a

son of William and Margaret (Goodman) Gault, who were the parents of thirteen children, seven sons and six daughters. Our subject was next to the youngest, and was only four years old when his mother died, while at sixteen he was left an orphan. His education was very limited, and he was early employed as a farm hand, receiving \$2.50 per month when fourteen years old. In 1850 he left his native State, going by way of Pittsburg, Beaver, Canton and Massillon, Ohio, to Perry township, Ashland county, where for two years he was employed by Jacob Gardner.

In that township, in April, 1852, Mr. Gault was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Morr, who was there born June 30, 1829, and is a daughter of John and Hannah (Sonda) Morr, German farming people who came from Center county, Penn. Seven children were born of this union: Oliver P., who died at the age of twenty-two years; Hannah S., who died at the age of seventeen; Francis M., a farmer of Jackson township, Wood county; John M., who died at the age of twenty-five; William E., a farmer of Hancock county; and Ezra L. and Howard W., at home.

For a time Mr. Gault rented land in Montgomery township, Ashland county, their little home being meagerly furnished as most of his earnings went to buy tools and equipments to carry on the cultivation of the land. After renting for several years, he became owner of twenty-nine acres, which he sold, and in 1864 removed to Bloom township, Seneca Co., Ohio, where he leased farms most of the time. April, 1871, witnessed his arrival in Perry township, Wood county, where he purchased forty acres of land in Section 30, which is still his home, though he has added to the amount, and now has fifty-five acres. His wife has ever been a faithful helpmeet, and is a member of the United Brethren Church. He was first an Old-line Whig, but now casts his ballot regularly with the Republican party. For almost three months this worthy couple visited in the West, going to Denver, Cheyenne, Salt Lake City and the leading places of interest in California, which made an enjoyable trip.

SAMUEL E. BRANDEBERRY is the owner of a fine farm in Perry township, the operations of which he carefully superintends, and which is largely devoted to general farming. A native of Wood county, he was born in Bloom township, on March 13, 1847. The birth of his father, Philip Brandeberry, occurred in Westmoreland county, Penn., January 10, 1812, and he was a

son of Philip Brandeberry, Sr., an honored pioneer of this locality. In Wood county the father was married, October 17, 1844, the lady of his choice being Miss Mary Burns, who was born in Ashland county, Ohio, February 2, 1820, and was a daughter of Samuel E. and Nancy Burns. Her paternal grandfather, John P. Burns, was a schoolmate of George Washington, and could relate many interesting incidents of their boyhood days. After their marriage this worthy couple began their domestic life upon a farm of eighty acres in Bloom township, which the father had purchased, and eight children came to gladden that pioneer home, namely: Samuel E., of this review; Catherine, who was born September 18, 1848, and is now the wife of Henry Minks, of Center township, Wood county; Albert and Allen, twins, born May 2, 1850, the former of whom died August 9 following, and the latter a farmer of Perry township; John B., of Trumbull county, Ohio, born June 17, 1852; Nancy J., who was born April 14, 1854, and died July 16, 1872; George W., a farmer of Hancock county, Ohio, born December 17, 1857; and David E., who was born September 19, 1862, and was killed by a falling tree, August 28, 1873. The last named was one of the greatest choppers for his age in the township, and when only nine years of age could cut down a tree. Although a small man, the father was strong and energetic, and was a great hunter, killing many deer and turkeys. In politics he was first a Whig and afterward a Republican. He died in Bloom township, September 24, 1876, his wife on the 27th of May previous, and they now sleep side by side in the cemetery of Perry Center. They were faithful members of the Methodist Church, and in her younger days the mother had been a school teacher, her wages being as low as seventy-five cents per week.

At the Hopewell school our subject received his literary training, and during the Civil war became a member of Company E, 144th O. V. I. Although they attended the drills regularly at Eagleville and Tontogany, Wood county, his company was held in reserve, and never saw any active service. Being the eldest son, he was of great assistance to his parents, and never left home until his marriage.

In Perry township, on June 12, 1877, Mr. Brandeberry led to the marriage altar Miss Sarah A. Tyson, who was born in Portage township, April 18, 1853, and is the eldest of the five children of George and Frances (Snyder) Tyson, who came to this county from Columbiana county, Ohio. Three children have been born of this

union: Arcena, born April 22, 1878; Aldia, who was born November 14, 1880, and died February 9, 1883; and Rosa, born September 30, 1889.

After his marriage, Mr. Brandeberry located upon a part of his present farm, having purchased forty acres in 1857, but now owns 180 acres of valuable land. On October 3, 1887, he lost his barn by fire, but it has been replaced by a more commodious building, while all of the improvements upon the place are of a substantial character. He is a natural mechanic, having worked at the painter's, carpenter's and mason's trades. A good manager, he seems to get the best results from everything he undertakes, and has been very prosperous in his business affairs. He is a straightforward, honorable citizen, and a supporter of the Republican party.

CHARLES OSTERHOUT, one of the enterprising and progressive farmers living in Hull Prairie, and a gentleman whose genuine worth commends him to the confidence and respect of all, was born in Montgomery county, N. Y., December 6, 1827, and is a son of George and Catherine (Nellis) Osterhout. When quite young, our subject accompanied his parents on their removal to Ohio, and was reared and educated in Huron county. He worked on his father's farm until after he had attained his majority, and at the age of twenty-five, with the hope of bettering his financial condition, he crossed the plains to California.

The long and arduous journey across mountains and prairie was at length completed, and he remained for a year on the Pacific slope. He then returned home, spending two years in Ohio, but in 1855 again went to California, where he remained four years. He reached this State in 1859, and in 1860 came to Wood county, locating in Middleton township, purchasing 160 acres of land on Hull Prairie. Upon this he made a number of excellent improvements. He afterward sold eighty acres, but has since purchased sixty acres, and now has a fine farm under a high state of cultivation and well improved.

In 1861, in Erie county, Mr. Osterhout married Phoebe A. Montross, a native of Pennsylvania. They have four children—George, an oil operator, who married Anna Whickem; Hattie, wife of George Powell, of Toledo; Mae, wife of William Powell, of Toledo; and Charles, who farms the homestead. The mother of this family died in 1882, and in 1884 our subject married Carrie M. Goss, who was born in Vermont in 1856. They have two children, Ross and Helen, attending school.

For five years, Mr. Osterhout has served as school director, for five years has been a member of the township board, was road supervisor two years, treasurer of the township five years, and in all these offices has discharged his duties with scrupulous fidelity. The five oil wells upon his farm add not a little to his income, and he is meeting with success in his business dealings, while among his fellow townsmen he is popular and well liked.

WILLIAM HAMMAN, who was born in Pennsylvania, December 9, 1825, died in Hammansburg, April 24, 1893, respected by all who knew him, for he was an important factor in the work of public progress, and his life was an honorable one. When a young man he learned the trade of coverlet weaving. With his parents, Jacob and Elizabeth (Koch) Hamman, he removed to Mahoning county, Ohio, and was there united in marriage with Miss Rose Dustman. They located in that county, but subsequently removed to Bloom township, Wood county, and afterward to Fremont, Ohio. Their next home was in Sandusky, Ohio, and from there they came to Henry township, Wood county. While on a visit in Mahoning county, Mrs. Hamman was taken ill and died. Of that marriage were born six children: Jacob, who died at the age of twenty years; Mrs. Henrietta Leathers, of Henry township; Frank, of Michigan; John, of Kansas; and Lewis and Alice, who died in childhood.

Mr. Hamman was again married, in 1852, in Henry township, on this occasion to Miss Mary Henning, who was born in that township, September 12, 1840, a daughter of John F. and Elizabeth Henning. She spent her girlhood days on her father's farm, and acquired her education in a log school house near by. Our subject and his wife began their domestic life in a log cabin which stood on the farm, and his energies were devoted to the development of his land, comprising 160 acres. He continued the cultivation of that property for a number of years, and in 1856 he erected a sawmill in what is now Hammansburg, named in his honor, that he operated for twenty years. Selling that property, he then established a grocery store in Hammansburg, and later was appointed postmaster of the town. In December, 1890, he removed with his wife and family to Cherokee county, Kans., where he purchased 160 acres of land; but after two years and three months he returned to the old home in Hammansburg, there residing until his death. In politics he was a Democrat. He was a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church,



*William Hamman Mary Hamman*



and belonged to that class of representative citizens who manifest a deep interest in the welfare of the community. All who knew him had for him the highest regard.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hamman were born eight children, namely: (1) Lizzie married George Sterling, of Henry township, and died at the age of twenty-three; she was the mother of two children—Arvilla, who died before Mrs. Sterling, and Willie, born September 15, 1885, who has lived with his grandmother, Mrs. Hamman. (2) Josie is the wife of William Peters, of Henry township; they have had four children—Arthur, Earl, Shirley (deceased) and Lola. (3) George B. married Laura Latham, and has two children—Lillie and LeRoy; they reside in Henry township. (4) Laura died at the age of two years and nine months. (5) Louisa died at the age of nineteen years. (6) Maud is the wife of Jesse Gillespie, and has one child—Lee, born March 18, 1896. (7) Blanche and (8) Grace are living at home. Since her husband's death Mrs. Hamman has disposed of much of the property, including the Kansas farm; but she still owns two houses and lots in the town, and also has a house and lot in Bowling Green. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a most estimable lady.

**HENRY HOELTER.** Among the prominent and enterprising farmers of Troy township, who are of alien birth, is the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch. Like others of his countrymen, he brought to the New World those habits of economy and frugality which are an inherent characteristic of his native land, and the exercise of which, accompanied by industry and good management, have secured him a comfortable competence. His residence is located in Section 27, where he carries on agricultural pursuits. A native of Hanover, Germany, he was born in 1846, at the home of his parents, Joe and Elnora (Boehna) Hoelter, also natives of the same province. By trade his father was a carpenter, and he died in Hanover in 1849, while the mother survived him until 1882. In their family were seven children who grew to maturity, namely: Henry, who was drowned in Hanover; Mrs. Elizabeth Furmeyer, of Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. Eleanor Walker, who passed away in Germany; Mrs. Regina Braucksick, of Hanover; Frederick, who still makes his home in that country; and Mrs. Nora Huffman, who for some years has been a resident of Ross township, Wood county.

Mr. Hoelter was reared to manhood in his native land, but at the age of twenty-four years

decided to try his fortune on this side of the Atlantic, where, he understood, better opportunities were afforded young men. Therefore, he set sail at Bremen, and after a voyage of seven weeks, landed at New York, whence he came direct to Cleveland, Ohio. In that city, in 1870, he was married, the lady of his choice being Miss Anna Marie Braucksick, who was also born in Germany, and is the daughter of John Henry and Elizabeth Braucksick, both natives of the Fatherland. They came to this county with our subject, but are now deceased. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Hoelter are nine children: William, who is married, and engaged in business as a member of the firm of Samson & Hoelter, of Luckey, Ohio; Lizzie, Anna, Carrie, Gus, Henry, Fred, John, and Dora.

From the time of his arrival in Cleveland, in 1869, until coming to Troy township, in 1875, Mr. Hoelter worked at the trade of a cooper in that city. Here he first rented land in the eastern part of the township, but in 1879 located upon his present farm of eighty acres, then partially improved. No buildings stood upon the place with the exception of a log house which was destroyed by fire in July, 1884, and the same year he erected his present comfortable frame residence. The land is now under a high state of cultivation, and all of the improvements found thereon are of a substantial character, indicating the owner to be a man of thrift and enterprise.

Mr. Hoelter uses his elective franchise in support of the measures and men put forward by the Democratic party, has been trustee of his township for some years, and also a member of the school board of District No. 5. Both he and his excellent wife are members of the Lutheran Church, and they enjoy the esteem and respect of the neighborhood.

**ELISHA B. TURNER**, one of the honored and highly esteemed citizens of Wood county, was born in Fort Ann, Washington Co., N. Y., in the earliest days of the history of that State, his birth occurring March 23, 1813. His parents were Leonard and Dianthy (Blakeman) Turner. Their marriage was celebrated in Washington county, and subsequently they removed to Westfield, Delaware county, the father following farming. He died at the home of his son Charles, in Eaton county, Mich., at the age of eighty-four, and his wife survived him four years. They had seven sons and five daughters: Leonard, a farmer, of Delaware county, Ohio; Elisha; Mrs. Mary Green, who died in Illinois; Laura, wife of Morgan Lewis, of Cardington, Morrow county, Ohio;



Joseph A., a farmer, who died in Eaton county, Mich.; Charles A., a farmer, of Bellevue, Eaton county; John, a farmer, of Keokuk county, Iowa; Annis, now Mrs. Bean, of Delaware county, Ohio; Marcella Jane, who died in childhood; Louisa, wife of Samuel Sanders, of Kansas; Joel, a farmer, who died in Delaware county; and George, who died in Huron county, Ohio.

Our subject attended school through the winter months until fourteen years of age, and then left home to make his own way in the world, being employed in a dairy most of the time until he had attained his majority. He next engaged in clerking two years, and then removed to Westfield, Delaware Co., Ohio, where he soon engaged in the work of the ministry. His first charge was at Sunbury, where he remained until 1838, being ordained at that place. After a three-years' pastorate there, and two years spent at Mill Creek, he was sent as a missionary by the Mad River Baptist Association to labor in Union, Logan, Champaign and Delaware counties, over which he traveled on horseback. On his long, lonely rides he made a close study of the Bible. His next permanent charge was at New London, Huron county, and after four years he went to Monroeville, where he spent three years.

Mr. Turner was married in Mill Creek township, Delaware county, December 8, 1840, to Eliza Ann Said, who died near Marysville, Ohio, in 1845. They had two children — Delia P., who was born May 3, 1842, and died in September, 1847; and Louisa Jane, wife of A. J. Munn, of Weston, Ohio. In Clarksfield, Huron county, in 1850, Mr. Turner married Mrs. Catherine (Bross) Shaw, widow of Isaac Shaw. They also had two children, but one died in infancy, and Mary D., who was born April 22, 1856, is the wife of J. H. Sands, of Bowling Green, Ohio. The mother was born in Stamford, Conn., September 14, 1822, and is a daughter of Adam and Eliza (Briggs) Bross, the former a native of New York and the latter of Connecticut.

In 1855, Mr. Turner came to Wood county, and purchased eighty acres of land in Liberty township. After farming for a year, he removed to Clyde, Sandusky Co., Ohio, where he had charge of a Church for a short time; then spent eighteen months in Johnstown, Licking Co., Ohio. He afterward returned to Liberty township, and, after selling his farm, opened a general store in Portage about 1861, following merchandising for four years. Again he removed to a farm, but after a year returned to Portage, where he has since resided. He, however, owns thirty-five acres of land on which are four oil wells.

For years Mr. Turner was a stalwart Republican, but since 1890 has affiliated with the Prohibition party. For eleven years he served as justice of the peace. The snows of many winters have fallen upon him, but his kindly bearing and genial disposition make him still young in feeling and interests, and he is revered and honored by all.

JOHN J. DEUBLE. The subject of this history, a man of more than ordinary intelligence and business capacity, owns eighty acres of good land in Section 22, Troy township, and is prominent among the agricultural interests of Wood county, contributing largely to its reputation by building up one of the most desirable homesteads within its borders. He is in the prime of life, and the midst of his usefulness—admired and esteemed by his friends and neighbors, and enjoying, as he deserves, a generous portion of this world's goods.

Like a large proportion of the go-ahead men of the county, Mr. Deuble is a native of the Buckeye State, his birth having taken place in Liverpool township, Medina county, January 28, 1840. His parents, C. F. and Christina (Kushman) Deuble, were natives of Germany; but were married in Medina county. In Liverpool township the father opened up a farm, where he made his home until his death in 1872. He was also a tanner by trade. The mother of our subject had died in Medina county, in 1849, leaving seven children: Frederick, of Iowa; Mrs. Mary Henschen, of Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. Christina Hanmon, of Litchfield, Medina county; Henry, of Cleveland; Mrs. Sarah Renick, of Havana, Ohio; Charles, of Cleveland; and John J., of this sketch, who was fourth in order of birth. After the death of his first wife, the father was again married, and by the second union had eight children, who are still living.

The childhood and youth of our subject were passed in Medina county until he reached the age of sixteen, when he started out in life for himself, going first to Indiana, where he was employed. He later worked both in Iowa and Colorado, and in 1863 located at Virginia City, Mont., the county seat of Madison county, where he entered land and became one of its first settlers. He remained there until coming to Wood county in 1890, carrying on both stock raising and mining, and still owns a stock ranch of 160 acres in that State. He became quite familiar with Western life in all its phases. In 1884 he purchased his present farm, where he located in 1890, and two years later built his good barn,

40x70 feet, while his comfortable two-story frame residence was erected in 1893.

On the 12th of October, 1879, in Troy township, Wood county, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Deuble and Miss Sarah Kurfess, who was born in Cleveland, Ohio, October 30, 1849. She was educated in Wood county, and is the daughter of Jacob and Frederica (Metzger) Kurfess, both natives of Germany. Her parents were married near Cleveland, but removed to Troy township at an early day, where the mother died in 1884, and the father now finds a pleasant home with our subject. To Mr. and Mrs. Deuble have been born two children: John A., born October 25, 1880, and Paul Frederick, born March 17, 1883.

In politics our subject is an ardent Democrat, and religiously he and his amiable wife are esteemed members of the Lutheran Church at Stony Ridge, of which he has served as elder. They are frank, open-hearted, hospitable people, and have made many warm friends since taking up their residence in the community.

MATTHEW PARK is the proprietor of a general mercantile establishment in Dunbridge, and is a prominent factor in commercial circles. A native of the Keystone State, he was born in Lawrence county, February 6, 1844. His father, William Park, was also born in Pennsylvania, and was a son of James Park, who served as a soldier in the war of 1812. The former followed farming throughout his life, and in his native State married Delila Underwood, by whom he had eight children—Sarah, widow of Eli Reed; Caroline, widow of A. Steven, and a resident of Pennsylvania; Matthew; John, who died in Andersonville prison during the Civil war, while defending the Union cause; Edwin, a soldier of the 2d Ohio Cavalry, and died at Ft. Scott, Kans.; Elizabeth and Henry, who died in childhood; and one who died in infancy. The father passed away in Pennsylvania, in 1869, and the mother afterward came to Wood county, her death occurring in Plain township in 1882.

Mr. Park acquired his education in Pennsylvania, and worked on the home farm from early boyhood until the Civil war was inaugurated. Loyal to the Union, and anxious to aid in its preservation, he enlisted in 1861, in an Ohio Cavalry company at Lowell, Mahoning county. He served for four years, participating in some seventy battles and skirmishes, among them Cold Harbor, Five Forks, the Wilson raid in 1864, Sheridan's raid in 1865, Knoxville, Strawberry Plains, Cumberland Gap, and battles of the Wil-

derness. He was at the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. At St. Louis, Mo., September 11, 1865, he received an honorable discharge, and returned home with a war record of which he may well be proud.

Mr. Park located in Mahoning county, where he remained for twenty-two years. During the war, in 1864, he had married Miss Mary A. Kramer, a native of Pennsylvania, and to them were born the following named children: Edmund, a farmer of Michigan; Armand, a farmer of Wood county; Alma, wife of G. English; Leroy, Jessie, Elsie, Orlie, and Laverna. In 1892, Mr. Park was again married, his second union being with Marie J. Boyer, a native of Fremont, Ohio. Their only child died in infancy.

Our subject came to Wood county in 1879, locating in Plain township, where for two years he operated a farm. In 1881 he came to Middleton township, and purchased forty acres of land which he operated until 1893, when he sold out and opened his present store in Dunbridge. By close application to business, and honorable dealing, he has built up a fine trade, and thereby secured a comfortable competence. He belongs to Robert Stewart Post No. 690, G. A. R., and the Patriotic Order of Sons of America. He has served as school director for three years, is a Republican in politics, and is regular in attendance at the Presbyterian Church.

ANTON ASMUS. The fertile lands of Ohio offer excellent inducements to those who wish to engage in agricultural pursuits, and a prominent representative of the farming interests of Wood county is the gentleman whose name begins this sketch. A native of Germany, he was born in Nassau, April 3, 1836, and is a son of Henry and Catherine (Hush) Asmus, also natives of that country. He received a good education in the public schools, and his time between the ages of fourteen and eighteen was spent as a clerk in a hotel. He then determined to seek a home in America, and bidding adieu to friends and native land, in 1854, he embarked on a westward-bound sailing vessel, which after forty-three days dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. He at once made his way to Sandusky City, Erie Co., Ohio, and in that county worked as a farm laborer for seven years, after which he operated a rented farm for five years.

During that time Mr. Asmus chose as a companion and helpmeet on life's journey Miss Catherine Shively, daughter of Henry Shively, a farmer of Seneca county, and a native of Pennsylvania. The lady was born in 1838, in Seneca

county, and the marriage was there celebrated in 1861. Six children graced their union—Sarah, wife of Henry Philips, of Washington township; Henry, a farmer of Middleton township, who married Catherine Hoffman; Mary; John, deceased; George, and Ora.

In 1866 Mr. Asmus brought his family to Wood county, locating in Middleton township, where he purchased a tract of raw land, which he cleared and improved. To this he has added from time to time until he to-day owns a fine farm of 110 acres. It has been drained, plowed and planted, and now waving fields of grain indicate good harvests, and tell of the thrift and enterprise of the owner. The home of the family is a beautiful brick residence, which was erected at a cost of \$2,000. A substantial barn, costing \$1,000, affords ample shelter for grain and stock, of which he raises considerable.

Mr. Asmus has served as school director for a number of years, and for four years was road supervisor. His political support is given the Democracy. He belongs to the Lutheran Church of Haskins, of which he has been trustee for ten years, and also Sunday-school teacher for a similar period. His life is an upright one, over which there falls no shadow of wrong, and he has prospered in his undertakings by use of the advantages which have surrounded him, and by industry, good management and sound judgment.

**SAMUEL MILLIGAN.** Among the honored settlers who gave their energies to the task of making habitable the waste places of Wood county, the subject of this sketch, now a wealthy retired citizen of Risingsun, holds a worthy rank. Although not so early in this field as some who have happily been spared to enjoy the fruits of their labors, he settled in an undeveloped spot where he contended with primitive conditions with true pioneer spirit. He entered upon life's pilgrimage June 19, 1819, in Walnut township, Fairfield Co., Ohio.

William Milligan, his father was a native of Maryland, born August 8, 1772. He was married there in early manhood, and soon after came to this State, locating near the Ohio river, where his first wife died. He was married there for the second time, and later removed to Fairfield county, where death again left his home bereft. He then wedded Miss Ann Crawford, of Fairfield county (our subject's mother), who survived him, living to the age of sixty-eight years, he having died at the age of sixty-three years, after an active life as a pioneer farmer. He was a large, ro-

bust man, with curly dark hair. There were eleven children by his three marriages (and five children—two sons and three daughters by the last), and of this large family our subject and his brother David are now the only survivors.

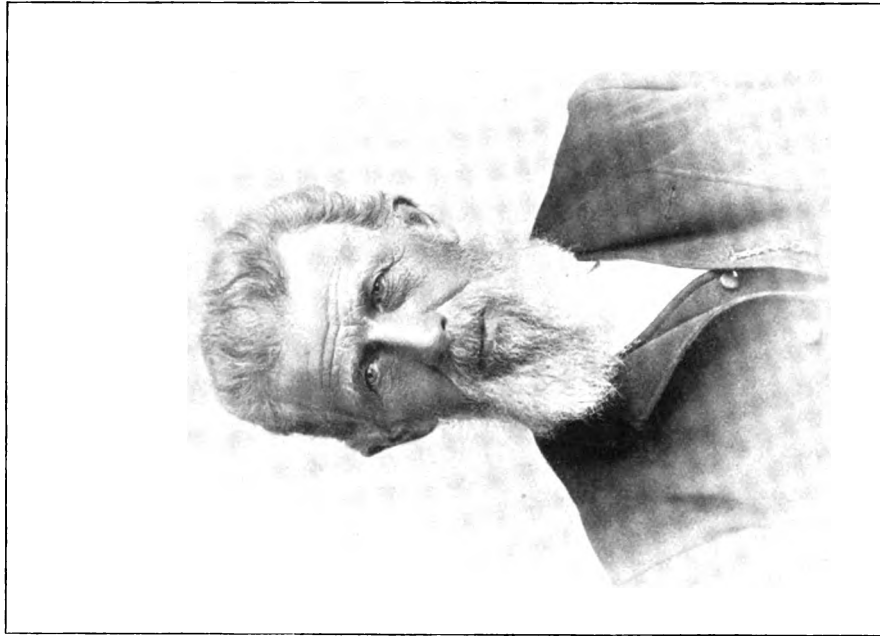
Samuel Milligan was the youngest son and third child of his mother, and was reared as a farmer's boy, gaining a much more intimate acquaintance with farm work than with books, although he attended the schools of the time and locality. He remained at home until he was about twenty years old, when his father died and he became, in a sense, the head of the family, being appointed guardian of his two younger sisters. He was married November 21, 1843, to Miss Mariah Palmer, a native of Fairfield county, and settled upon a part of the homestead, where he made a home for his mother and younger sisters.

He made several prospecting trips through this portion of the State, and in 1854 he rented a farm in Perry township, Wood county, to which he removed, driving through from his old home with a wagon. His work there was successful, and in 1856 he purchased eighty acres of new land in Section 35, Montgomery township. It was heavily timbered, and the greater portion of it was under water. Wild game was plentiful, and he has shot ducks many times upon his swamp, and would then get his horse and wade into the expanse of water to get them. On that same spot he has raised as fine a crop of grain as ever ripened in Wood county. He was a hard worker, and his robust health enabled him to accomplish much. As he redeemed one piece of land from the wild state he added another, until he now owns 160 acres, and his handsome competence has been acquired through his own efforts, as he started with but little from his father's estate.

Mr. Milligan's first wife died October 18, 1844, in Fairfield county, leaving one daughter, Mariah (now Mrs. Henry Bennett, of Mercer county, Ohio). Subsequently he married, for his second wife, Miss Louisa Tabler, who died in Fairfield county, on April 29, 1849, leaving a son—William (now a farmer of Trego county, Kans., of which State he was a member of the Legislature, serving one term as a Democrat, and he passed seven bills within the space of three months). Mr. Milligan was again married May 29, 1851, to Miss Rebecca Gessell, his present wife, who was born in Fairfield county, May 3, 1830, a daughter of John and Margaret Gessell, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. Eleven children were born of this union: John, who



*Rebecca Milligan*



*Samuel Milligan*



died at six months of age; Margaret A., now the widow of Joseph Furster, of Fostoria; Emma, who married Isaac Dicken, and died in Fostoria; James and Joseph B., farmers in Montgomery township; Mary J., now the wife of Fred Whitman, of Oro Grande, Cal.; Louisa, married to George Arnold, of Montgomery township; Jesse, who wedded Alta Byers, of Risingsun, and lives in Perry township; Orvilla, married to Ovid Byers, of Risingsun; and Arminta and Ira J., both at home. Increasing prosperity has enabled Mr. Milligan to assist his children substantially, and they are well-fitted for useful places in life.

In September, 1892, Mr. Milligan bought a home in Risingsun, and has since resided there, enjoying a well-earned leisure. Both he and his estimable wife have greatly impaired health by reason of their years of hard work, and it is fortunate indeed that their later days can see the reward of their labors. In spite of all the exposures and hardships our subject has experienced, he has never yet, with the exception of one occasion, required medical attention. They have been members of the Old-school Baptist Church for thirty-six years, and are devout and consistent in their faith, their high character, no less their past labors, gaining for them the esteem of all who know them. Although Mr. Milligan is a Democrat on State and National issues, he uses his judgment as to the relative fitness of the individual candidates in local politics. He has served two terms as township trustee, and for a number of years he was school director in District No. 7, where he did much to advance the cause of education, his own lack of opportunities in youth making him desire that the children of this and future days should be within the reach of thorough and practical instruction.

**JOHN DAVIS.** The essential qualities of success are not fortunate circumstances and influential friends, but indefatigable energy, industry that stops not at difficulties, a resolute purpose and perseverance. These qualities Mr. Davis possesses, and he is known as one of the leading farmers of Middleton township. He was born in Monroe county, Ohio, January 20, 1842. His father, Michael Davis, was born in Pennsylvania, where he followed the occupation of farming, and married Catherine Basinger, a native of Germany. Of their union the following children were born: John, Christian, Fannie and Rebecca. The father died in Monroe county, Ohio, and the mother afterward married Jacob Hiphire.

Mr. Davis, of this review, spent his boyhood in the usual manner of farmer lads, attending school in the winter and working on the farm during the summer months, in Putnam county, Ohio. When only eight years of age, he was thrown upon his own resources, and worked on a farm for his board until fourteen years of age, when he began receiving wages. He was employed at farm work and on the canals until thirty-three years of age, when he came to Wood county, locating in Middleton township, where he purchased seventy acres of unimproved land. This he cleared and transformed into finely cultivated fields, and to-day he owns and operates a valuable farm of ninety acres, improved with good buildings.

In 1875, in Putnam county, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Davis and Magdalena Mosier, a native of Allen township, and a daughter of John Mosier. One child graces their marriage—Edward, who was born August 10, 1878, was educated in the common schools, and now aids in the work of the farm. For six years our subject has served as school director, and is a warm friend of the cause of education. In politics he is a Democrat, and with his family attends the Lutheran Church in Waterville. Dependent on his own resources from the early age of eight years, he certainly deserves great credit for himself, and to-day he has the consciousness of knowing that he has not a dollar that he has not himself honestly earned. He is a popular citizen, well liked, and is deserving of honorable mention in the history of his adopted county.

**J. L. KRAMER,** a progressive and intelligent agriculturist residing near Bowling Green, was born in Hancock county, Ohio, February 3, 1855. Levi Kramer, his father, was a native of Fairfield county, born in 1825. For many years he was a contractor and builder near Columbus, Ohio, but in his later years he engaged in agricultural pursuits, first in Hancock county, and then in Wood county, where he died in 1888. He was married, in 1850, to Miss Margaret Beatty, who was born in Franklin county in 1828. She survives him and resides at the homestead, near Bowling Green. Six children were born of this union, our subject being the eldest.

Mr. Kramer's youth was spent chiefly in Hancock county, and after acquiring an elementary education in the schools near his home, he entered the academy at Fostoria, from which he was graduated February 3, 1881. He was married October 28, 1887, to Miss Christiana Ries, who was born in Huron county, April 8, 1867; she is a

very clever woman intellectually, and had taught school up to the time of her marriage. In this union intellect as well as heart are mated, and Mr. and Mrs. Kramer are students together on all the questions of the day, and the best books and periodicals are to be found in their happy home. Both are prominent workers in the Wood County Farmers Institute, of which Mrs. Kramer, a lady of considerable business tact, is now secretary. She has been highly complimented by the press upon her able and scholarly addresses and papers on various occasions,

Mr. Kramer held the office of secretary for six years previous to 1889, when his wife succeeded him. He is an energetic and enterprising business man, owning and operating a farm where he puts scientific theories to the test of practice. He and his wife are active members of the U. B. Church at Portage, taking especial interest in the Sunday-school, of which Mr. Kramer has been superintendent for six years, and Mrs. Kramer, a good musician, is the organist.

JOHN MERCER, whose well-cultivated farm indicates his industrious and energetic nature, was born April 4, 1831, in Columbiana county, Ohio, and is a son of George Mercer, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Wood county, in 1833, locating in Liberty township, where his remaining days were passed.

Our subject was therefore only two years of age when he became a resident of this county. Upon his father's farm he spent the days of his boyhood and youth, early becoming familiar with the labors of the fields. He remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, when he began learning the carpenter's trade, which he followed for three years. With the capital he acquired through his own efforts, he then purchased 100 acres of land in Liberty township, and with characteristic energy began its development and improvement. This work he continued until 1885, when he removed to his present farm in Middleton township. He here owns sixty acres of rich and valuable land, and a fine residence and good barns add to its attractive appearance, and make it a very desirable property. All this he has acquired through his own efforts, and he may well be proud of his well-merited success.

On April 13, 1858, Mr. Mercer was united in marriage, in Middleton township, with Amanda Creps, a native of Perrysburg, Ohio, born November 26, 1833, and a daughter of David and Rosanna (All) Creps. They became the parents of nine children, namely: Emma A., born Feb-

ruary 15, 1859, wife of Henry E. Morris; Shebner A., born May 19, 1862, a farmer of Liberty township; Owen, born June 3, 1865, a farmer of Jackson township; Leonard S., born August 21, 1871, operating the old homestead; Milla, born November 6, 1875; Walter, who was born September 20, 1860, and died February 28, 1864; Clara A., who was born May 29, 1867, and died in January, 1873; and two who died in infancy.

Mr. Mercer has several times been called to public office by his fellow townsmen, who recognize his worth and ability. He has served as trustee for six years, was school director for ten years, and a member of the township board of education for eight years. He belongs to the Disciples Church, and gives his political support to the Republican party. In all the relations of life he has been found true and faithful to the trust reposed in him, and his friends throughout the community are many.

J. H. WESTERFIELD, a leading farmer of Montgomery township, was born in Scipio township, Seneca Co., Ohio, November 27, 1853, son of J. William and Catherine (Overholt) Westerfield, both of whom were natives of Hanover, Germany, the former born in February, 1811, and the latter in November, 1816. In that country the name is spelled Westerfeldt. Being the son of poor parents, the father received no aid in starting out in life for himself, and in the fall of 1853, with his little family, he started for the New World in hope of improving his financial condition. After a voyage of seven weeks they landed in this country, and made their first home in Seneca county, Ohio. From there they came, in 1868, to Wood county, locating upon a thirty-five-acre tract of land in Section 2, Montgomery township, in the midst of the wilderness, where a modest log cabin served as their home.

In the family were five children, namely: Mary E., who became the wife of Reuben Kiser, and died in Sandusky county, Ohio, March 24, 1869; Engle, who died at sea, October 28, 1853, while the family were coming to America; J. H., the subject of this sketch; William, a farmer of Montgomery township; and Amanda, now Mrs. Frank E. Wirebaugh, of Montgomery township. The parents are both now deceased, the father dying October 29, 1889, and the mother January 6, 1888, and rest in the Bradner cemetery. Religiously they were Lutherans. The mother, who was strong and robust, was a good weaver, and was of great assistance to her husband in early days. At the time of his death he was the owner of a good farm of seventy-five acres, and

possessed all the thrifty habits characteristic of the German race. His ballot was cast in support of the Democratic party.

The common schools afforded our subject his educational privileges, and his labors were devoted to the improvement and cultivation of the home farm until he attained his majority, when he began working at the carpenter's trade, which he followed for three years. In the spring of 1879 he purchased forty acres in Section 1, Montgomery township, from George Bierly, for \$2,000, for which he was compelled to go in debt over \$1,500. On laying aside his trade, he began working as a farm hand for that gentleman, and on January 5, 1882, married his daughter, Miss Malinda E. Bierly, who was born February 3, 1860, and they now have four children—Bertie R., Addie, Helena and Milo. Mr. Westerfield began his domestic life upon his forty-acre farm, where he has since resided. In 1885 was erected his comfortable dwelling, and six years later his barn was built. He is numbered among the self-made men of Montgomery township, his accumulations being the result of his own industry, obtained by self-denial and economy, and the exercise of a naturally good judgment, both in regard to agricultural pursuits and business matters. Though not strictly partisan, he usually supports the Democratic party, and for nine consecutive years served as a member of the Bradner school board, filling that position when the new building at that place was completed; for two years he was president of the board. An active member of the Lutheran Church, he is at present superintendent of the Sunday-school at Bradner; his excellent wife belongs to the Protestant Methodist Church.

George Bierly, the father of Mrs. Westerfield, was born in Miles township, Center Co., Penn., July 17, 1819, and as there were no free schools his education was limited to four weeks' attendance at English schools, but he received considerable instruction at Sunday-school. At the age of eighteen years he learned the wheelwright and wagon-maker's trades. On April 25, 1844, in Center county, Penn., was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Bierly and Miss Sarah Magee, who was born in Union county, that State, and is the daughter of James and Elizabeth (Bucher) Magee, in whose family were seven children, three sons and four daughters. Her father came from Londonderry, Ireland, to the United States at the age of fifteen years, being eleven weeks upon the ocean, and was married in Union county, Penn. By trade he was a weaver, making carpets, table cloths, etc. Both himself

and wife died in Center county, Penn., he at the age of sixth-three years, and she at the age of eighty-eight.

With his wife Mr. Bierly came to Wood county, April 2, 1857, locating on a partially improved tract of eighty acres in Section 1, Montgomery township, for which he paid \$2,700 cash, and they still live upon that place. They have now traveled life's journey together for over fifty-two years, sharing its joys and sorrows, its adversity and prosperity, and are still well-preserved old people, highly respected by all who know them. In early life Mr. Bierly was a Democrat, but since Lincoln ran for the Presidency has been a stalwart Republican. His wife holds membership with the Methodist Protestant Church. The following children graced the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bierly—Alfred and Edward, who died in infancy; Cyrus, at home; Nancy, wife of Peter Plants, of Bradner, Ohio; Lorenzo D., who died at the age of twenty-one years; Thomas N., of Wood county; Emma E., now the widow of F. S. Furbrush, of Bradner; and Malinda E., who is the only member of the family born in Ohio, and is now the wife of J. H. Westerfield, whose name introduces this sketch.

F. E. WIREBAUGH, an agriculturist of energy and ability, who is residing in Montgomery township, Wood county, was born near Bucyrus, Ohio, May 6, 1863, and when but a boy was brought to this county by his parents, N. P. and Elizabeth (Anderson) Wirebaugh, who located first in Freedom township, thence removing to Section 30, Montgomery township. Later they took up their residence upon a farm in Section 17, of the same township, and on selling out there located in Section 1, Montgomery township, where the father made his home until his removal to Risingsun, Ohio, his present place of abode. The mother died while living near Bradner, this State. In their family were four children—F. E., of this sketch; Charles E., who died at the age of twenty-two years; Laura, now Mrs. Charles Aldrich, of Toledo; and Bert E., of Risingsun. Since the death of his first wife the father has been again married.

The education of our subject was such as the district schools near his home afforded, and during the days of his youth he assisted in the labors of the farm, thus becoming familiar with his chosen calling. On leaving home, at the age of twenty-one years, he started out in life for himself as a farm hand. In April, 1888, in Freeport township, Mr. Wirebaugh was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Westerfield, who was born



June 13, 1861, in Scipio township, Seneca Co., Ohio, and is the youngest child of J. William and Catherine (Overholt) Westerfield. One child now graces their union—Walter R., whose birth occurred December 15, 1894. Mr. Wirebaugh began his domestic life upon a rented farm in Freedom township, and later one year was passed upon a rented farm in Section 1, Montgomery township. In the spring of 1891 he removed to his present place, then comprising fifteen acres, but now has a fine tract of thirty-five acres, under a high state of cultivation. In 1893 he remodeled the house, which was the old homestead of his wife's people, and now has a very comfortable and attractive dwelling. Besides his agricultural pursuits he also has charge of two oil leases, having a general supervision of affairs and looking after the oil pumping. Mr. Wirebaugh is a decided Democrat, but is no politician in the sense of office seeking, preferring to devote his entire time to his business interests. An industrious and enterprising man who has already won success, we feel assured that he is destined to become one of the substantial citizens of Wood county. His estimable wife is a member of the Lutheran Church.

ABRAHAM KEEFER, one of the oldest pioneers of Perry township, and a most estimable citizen, was born July 23, 1822, in Orange township, Richland Co., Ohio, son of William and Barbara (Kreps) Keefer.

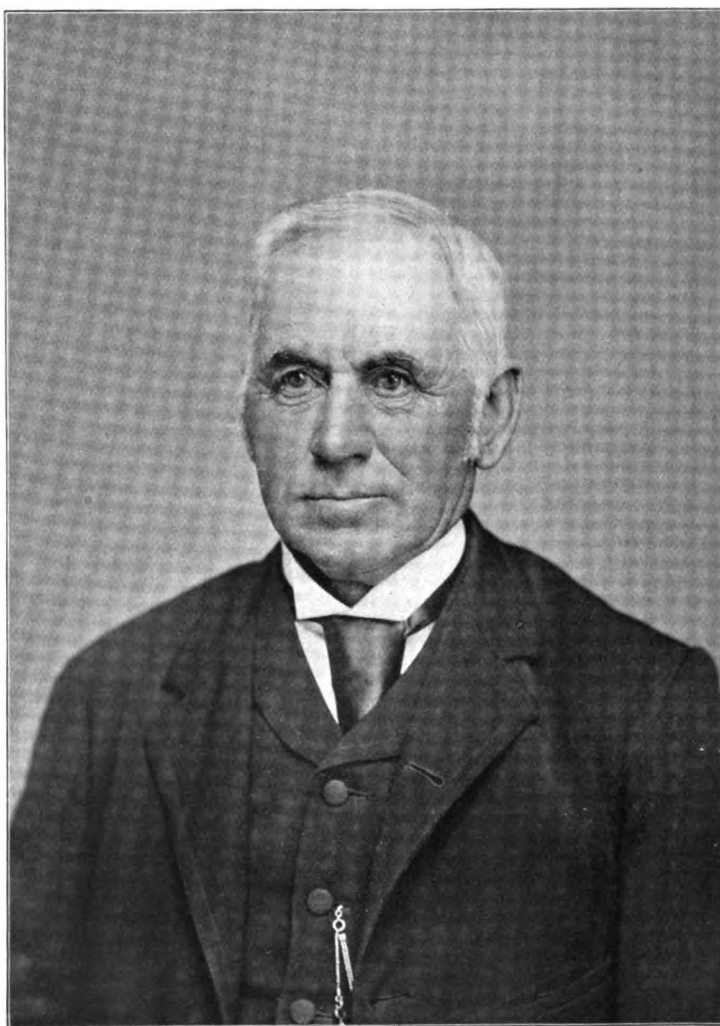
Our subject, who is the eldest son, when old enough assisted in supporting his parents. He went to school in Orange township until seventeen years of age, at which time he came to Wood county, which was then, for the most part, a dense forest. On December 22, 1844, he was united in marriage with Miss Christina Bare, a daughter of Nicholas Bare, and a native of Pennsylvania. At that time he was \$25 in debt, and owned an axe, a wedge and a wife. He was to have, for the clearing, forty acres of land to use for ten years. Commencing work in Section 28, he secured from the profits of this hard bargain a beginning in life, and upon the expiration of the time he left the land and moved to forty acres in Section 21, which he had bought two years before at a cost of \$450. Ten acres of this were cleared and had on it a log house, the first home he ever had that he could call his own. From this time he worked and prospered, and later on added, at different times, forty and eighty acres more. In July, 1858, before the last purchase of eighty acres, he moved to his present place, which then contained a log hut, and in July of the fol-

lowing year he moved into the house he now occupies.

To Mr. and Mrs. Keefer were born the following children: Eliza J., who died in infancy; M. D., who died in Perry township at the age of thirty-eight, leaving five children; Catherine, married to I. C. Conley, of Perry township; William, who died at the age of ten years; Nancy, who died when seven years old. The mother of these died April 29, 1889, and was buried at Center. On May 10, 1891, Mr. Keefer married Mrs. Eliza (Wiseman) Frink, a native of Washington township, Hancock Co., Ohio, who was a daughter of James and Elizabeth (Sommers) Wiseman. This wife died May 19, 1896, at 2.30 A. M. The previous day she had prepared supper for herself and her husband, conducted the family worship that evening, and retired feeling as well as usual. She is buried in the cemetery at Fostoria.

Mr. Keefer first voted the Democratic ticket; but on the formation of the Republican party he joined it, and in 1892 again changed his political views, and voted in the ranks of the Prohibitionists. He has served as treasurer and trustee of Perry township, as the choice of the Republican party. He is a member and one of the pillars of the Union Methodist Church, to which he has belonged since 1858, and has been a class-leader for thirty-two consecutive years. At present he is one of the trustees, and is a most liberal contributor to the Church work. On May 2, 1864, he enlisted in Company E, 144th Regiment, of which he was first lieutenant, doing guard duty at Wilmington, Del., and serving until August 24, 1864. He is a quiet gentleman, well-preserved, and an earnest worker in the cause of Prohibition. He enjoys the best of health, and, at the age of seventy-three years, "Does not know of an ache or pain." He is the owner of 160 acres of excellent land, which he has drained with 3,300 rods of tile, and all but thirty acres of which he has cultivated from its primitive condition.

William Keefer, father of our subject, was born in October, 1801, in Mahoning county. His parents moved from Pennsylvania to Richland county at an early day, and settled in Orange township (now Ashland county). Mr. Keefer left there for Perry township, where he bought eighty acres in Section 28. He and his wife moved into a small cabin of round logs, with clapboard roof, no doors nor floors, the hearth made of mortar, under which a groundhog had burrowed and made his home. The only clearing on the place was the spot oc-



*A. Keeper*



cupied by the cabin. There was wild game in abundance, bears, turkeys, etc. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Keefer were: Abraham, our subject; Mary, now the widow of Peter Bare, of Eaton county, Mich.; Barbara, who married Eli Culbertson, and died in Eaton county; Margaret, who married Andrew Burns, of Eaton county, and is deceased; Catherine, who became the wife of John Hays, and died in Henry county, Ohio; John, who enlisted July 30, 1862, in Company B, 111th Regiment, O. V. I., and was taken prisoner in action at Lenoir, Tenn., November 16, 1863, and died in a Rebel prison at Richmond, March 20, 1864; and Christopher, a farmer, in Perry township. Mrs. Keefer died October, in 1837, and was buried in Richland county. Mr. Keefer, for his second wife, wedded Miss Barbara Bare, by whom he had four children: Christina, who died young; Susan, who became the wife of Frank McConnell, and died in Toledo, Ohio; Sarah (now Mrs. William Fox), of Defiance county, Ohio; and Eliza (Mrs. Albert Becker), who died in Toledo. Mr. Keefer departed this life in Perry township, at the age of sixty-four years; Mrs. Keefer died about 1849, and both are buried at Center, Perry township. Mr. Keefer was at one time a Democrat, and later became a Republican, belonging to that party at the time of his death. He was a member of the Lutheran Church when in Pennsylvania, but as there was no Church of that denomination convenient in Perry he joined the Methodist one. He was a man of few words, a hard worker, and possessed of a peaceable disposition.

ALLEN S. FERGUSON comes of a family whose loyalty and devotion to the country was well manifested during the Civil war, and in all the relations of life our subject has been found true and faithful to the trusts reposed in him. This Ferguson family is of Irish origin, and was founded in America by Samuel Ferguson, the grandfather of our subject, who was born on the Emerald Isle and crossed the Atlantic when a young man. In Pennsylvania, he wedded Mary Miller, a lady of German extraction. He was a weaver by trade, and followed that business during the greater part of his life. His death occurred in Belmont county, Ohio, at a ripe old age.

The father of our subject, James Ferguson, was born in Pennsylvania, and was a millwright by trade. At the age of eighteen he accompanied his parents to Belmont county, where he wedded Mary Scroggs, a lady of Scotch descent. For two years they lived in Shepherdstown, Ohio, and then removed to Tuscarawas county, Ohio,

locating near Cumberland, on Conotton creek. In 1853 they came to Wood county, making the journey by team, and the father entered forty acres of land in Section 33, Jackson township, from the government, and erected thereon a log cabin. He afterward worked at his trade in different parts of the State, but died in Jackson township, October 28, 1878. His wife passed away some years previous. They had seven children, namely: John, a farmer in Jackson township; Allen S.; Eliza Jane, deceased wife of Demos Leatherman, of Jackson township; James M., a farmer of Jackson township; Sarah Ann, deceased wife of Jesse Ruff, of Jackson township; Samuel M., of Jackson township; and Mrs. Cynthia Wright, deceased. The father and all of his sons were soldiers in the Civil war. John was a member of Company G, 21st O. V. I., and later of Company K, 111th O. V. I. James M. belonged to Company L, 1st O. H. A.; and Samuel M. to Company K, 29th O. V. I.

Our subject was a child of two years when the parents went to Tuscarawas county, where he acquired his education in the district schools, and learned the trade of a carpenter and millwright with his father. At the age of nineteen he came to Jackson township with his brother-in-law, Mr. Leatherman, for whom he worked during the summer. In the winter he engaged in hunting coons, deer and turkeys, and the game brought good prices in the city markets, he realizing more from this source of income than from any other work in those days.

In Pleasant township, Hancock Co., Ohio, January 28, 1858, Mr. Ferguson married Alice Mitchell, who was born in Lancaster county, Penn., June 18, 1836, a daughter of Robert and Miriam (Butler) Mitchell. The family removed from Pennsylvania to Fairfield county, Ohio, thence to Hancock county, and subsequently to Jackson township, Wood county, where the parents passed away. Our subject and his wife began their domestic life on a farm in Jackson township. Mr. Ferguson purchased forty acres of land, erected a log cabin, and began to improve his property; but when the war broke out, he felt that his country needed his services, and he enlisted in Company G, 21st O. V. I., at McComb, for the three-months' service. When his term had expired he returned home and engaged in the erection of a school house.

In June, 1863, Mr. Ferguson sold his first farm and purchased forty acres in Hancock county, to which he removed his family. He then re-enlisted in Company L, 1st O. H. A., and going again to the front, served until the

close of the war as a valiant defender of the Union cause. When he again came home he sold his Hancock county farm, and purchased eighty acres in Jackson township, Wood county, on which he erected two dwellings. He afterward traded ten acres of this property for forty acres of his father's land, and subsequently sold an additional ten acres. In connection with his brother, J. M., he also bought a forty-acre tract in Jackson township, and then traded the land which he received from his father for his brother's forty acres, so that he there had eighty acres. This he later sold, and bought forty acres of the farm which he now owns, and which he has since doubled in extent. In addition he owns several town lots, and a third interest in the opera house in Hoytville, also eight shares in the creamery there. He is a man of excellent business ability, of sound judgment and sagacity.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson have been born five children—Eliza Jane, wife of John L. Tyner, of Jackson township; Aaron B., of Hoytville; Myrtie M., wife of Milton J. Hoot, of Hoytville; and Maud M., at home. Mr. Ferguson is a stalwart Republican and an active worker in his party. He was first called to public office as assessor, afterward served for three years as supervisor, for four years was trustee, two years township clerk, six years justice of the peace, census enumerator in 1880, and for six years as county infirmary director. He was also mayor of Hoytville for one term, and school director for a number of years. In these various positions he has discharged his duties with a promptness and fidelity that has won him high commendation. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity of Deshler, Ohio, and to the Grand Army of the Republic at Hoytville, and holds membership with the Christian Church. He is now living practically a retired life, enjoying a well-earned rest and the fruits of his former toil.

**WILLIAM WESTERFIELD.** Among the influential and progressive farmers of Montgomery township the subject of this sketch occupies an honorable position. He was born in Scipio township, Seneca Co., Ohio, on February 25, 1856, and is the son of John William and Catherine (Overholt) Westerfield, who brought him to Wood county during boyhood. His education was acquired in the district schools, which at that date were not as far advanced as at the present time. Early becoming familiar with farm work upon his father's place, he decided to follow that vocation throughout life, and assisted in the operation of the home farm until after the death of his par-

ents. For a time he then worked for others, but in 1894 purchased twenty acres in Section 2, Montgomery township, adjoining another twenty-acre tract, which was a part of the old homestead belonging to him. In 1891 he erected a very pleasant house upon his farm, where he now makes his home, and devotes his entire time and attention to the cultivation of his land.

Although Mr. Westerfield regularly votes the Democratic ticket, and is a staunch supporter of his party, he cares nothing for political preferment. He is a steady-going, honest, industrious man, quiet and unassuming in manner, and has the confidence and regard of all who know him. By his earnest, persistent efforts he has now secured a good home and farm, and well deserves the success which has come to him. Besides his farming operations he has also worked at the carpenter's trade, being employed at tank building in Bradner.

**ELIJAH H. HOPPER**, a well-known agriculturist of Webster township, was born in Lucas county, Ohio, June 1, 1841. His family is of English origin, and his grandparents, William and Mary Hopper, were lifelong residents of the county of Kent, England. George Hopper, our subject's father, was born there in 1808, and in early manhood came to the United States, locating first in New York State, where he was married, in 1830, to Miss Annie Robbins, who was born in New York, June 12, 1808. Nine children were born to them: Rufus, deceased; William, deceased; Mary, the wife of Samuel Lyman, of Leesburg, Ind.; Priscilla; James J.; Elijah H.; Luella, the wife of Fred Leathers, of Michigan; Augustus H., a resident of New York; and Benjamin, who lives in Toledo. In 1840 our subject's father came to Wood county, and bought 160 acres of land in Troy township, which he improved. He was a man of excellent qualities, much esteemed by those who knew him, a Republican in politics, and a member of the M. E. Church. He died in 1878, followed two years later by his wife.

Mr. Hopper attended the district schools of Troy township during his boyhood, and in 1863 went to Webster township and bought ninety-six acres of fine land near Fenton, which he has since cultivated. His industry and frugality have met their due reward, and he now has a handsome residence and a barn of the latest model. He is chiefly engaged in general farming and stock raising. He was married in 1863 to Miss Catherine S. Allen, who was born in Sandusky county, in 1842. They have had four children,

two of whom died in infancy. The others are Mary, who married Adrian Hiser, and Ada, the wife of Eugene Morris, of Stony Ridge.

In the year 1895, Mr. Hopper lost his barn and all of his out-buildings by fire, occasioned by combustion. He afterward sold his farm and purchased a vegetable and fruit farm in Findlay, Hancock Co., Ohio, upon which he and his wife moved, and where they still reside.

Mr. Hopper holds a high place in the community, and has held positions of trust in the township most of the time for twenty years. He is a leading member of the M. E. Church, and has been influential in the Sunday school for thirty-eight years.

**WILLIAM HEUER.** In political office, in his business career, and in his private life this gentleman has ever displayed a fidelity to duty and high moral principle, that has justly gained him a place among the prominent and respected citizens of his adopted county, and it is with pleasure that we present to our readers the record of his life. He was born in Prussia, Germany, May 25, 1848, and is a son of Frederick and Mina (Voga) Heuer, also natives of Prussia. When a young man the father served as a soldier in the German army, being first called out in 1848, and after that, on two different occasions. In the spring of 1857, with his wife and family, he sailed from the Fatherland on the vessel "Marcus," which after nine weeks and three days dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. The voyage was a very stormy one, and the vessel was driven far from its course.

Mr. Heuer took his family at once to Lorain county, Ohio, and purchased twenty-five acres in Sheffield township. This he afterward sold, and bought fifty-eight acres where he was living at the time of his death, in 1865, at the age of forty-nine years. His widow still lives in the old homestead, and has a life interest in the estate, which was sold by the heirs to the Johnson Steel Company, and a large plant has since been erected thereon. The children of the family were: William; Julius, of Lorain county; Harvey, who was drowned in 1885, at the age of twenty-five years; Charles, of Lorain county; Elizabeth, wife Andrew Robinson, of Lorain county; Mary, wife of J. L. Hohn, of Milton township; and John, of Lorain county.

Our subject began his education in his native land, and completed it in the district schools near his early Ohio home. At the age of sixteen he left the parental roof, and engaged in service on freight boats which plied between the islands and

Cleveland. He was afterward mate on a schooner for five months, and made a trip by way of the lakes to Quebec, Canada, with the intention of going to Prussia, but instead re-shipped on the old schooner, "Van Volkenberg," which sailed for San Francisco, Cal., stopping at different points on the way. The ship was laden with sugar and coffee, and at San Francisco took on a cargo of merchandise. His parents hearing no news of him supposed he had been lost at sea, but after the two-years' voyage of this schooner was over, he returned to his home, and engaged in the manufacture of cheese in Lorain county.

Mr. Heuer was married in Elyria, Ohio, June 26, 1867, to Anna Maria Brown, who was born in Germany. They then removed to Berrien county, Mich., where Mr. Heuer purchased thirty-five acres of land which he operated until 1871, when his buildings and improvements were all destroyed by fire. He then sold his land and returned to Lorain county, where he operated the family homestead for two years. He next began work on the dock at Lorain, as foreman of the C. L. & W. Railroad Co., and continued in the employ of that company for fifteen years. In October, 1887, he traded his property there for his present farm of 100 acres in Milton township, and has since resided in Wood county. Only eight acres of this was then under cultivation, but he has made excellent improvements upon it, erected a fine residence and good barns, and the well-tilled fields yield to him a golden tribute in return for his care and labor.

To Mr. and Mrs. Heuer have been born three children—Lorenzo, an oil man of Bays, Ohio; William, who is working in the oil fields at Gibsonburg, Ohio; and Minnie, at home. The family attend the Disciples Church, of which our subject is a member. In politics he was formerly a supporter of the Republican party, but is now a staunch Prohibitionist. He has served his school district as director for some years, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend, while to all interests calculated to benefit the community he gives a liberal support. He is himself a well-read man, and is ever found on the side of progress and advancement.

**SAMUEL B. CESSNA,** an enterprising young business man and agriculturist of Montgomery township, residing near Risingsun, has already won a reputation for his industry, shrewdness, and able management of affairs. He was born in Bedford township, Bedford Co., Penn., September 13, 1862, the son of James B. and Margaret (Elliott) Cessna, and grandson of James

Cessna (deceased), who was sheriff of that county four years, and held the office of justice of the peace some forty years. The family has had a high standing in that locality for several generations, and the members for the most part have been long lived, the grandparents of our subject on both the paternal and maternal sides having attained the advanced ages of over eighty years.

James B. Cessna, father of our subject, was born in Bedford, Bedford Co., Penn., September 28, 1838. In his younger days he taught school, and then took up farming pursuits, in which he still continues, being owner of 360 acres of fine land in Bedford county, Penn., improved and equipped with substantial buildings. He married Miss Margaret Elliott, by whom he had four children, three sons and one daughter, viz.: Sylvester T., Samuel B., Pendleton A., and Alida Blanche, who died in her tenth month. The mother of these passed from earth at Centerville, Bedford county, June 6, 1896, in the sixty-second year of her age, and was buried in Bethel M. E. cemetery, in the Cumberland Valley. She was a strict member of the Methodist Episcopal Church up to the time of her decease. Mr. Cessna is now living in Centerville, Penn., his business and public cares having been laid aside some years ago. In his active days he held various township offices, and was an influential worker in the ranks of the Democratic party.

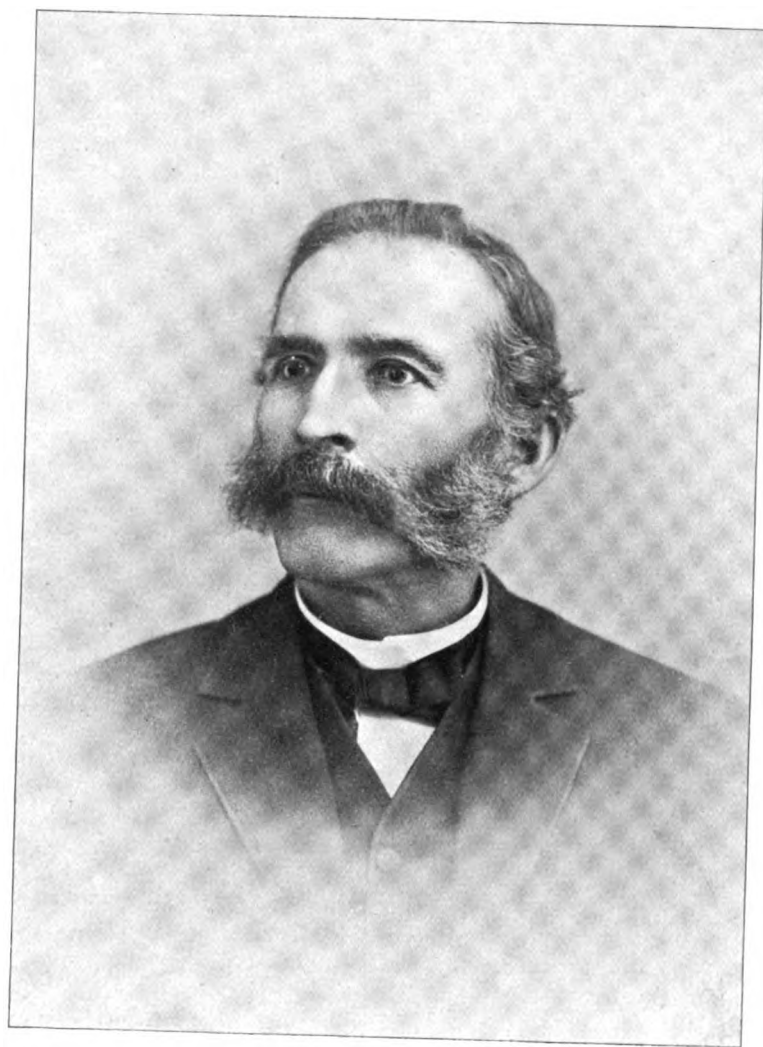
Samuel B. Cessna, our subject, was reared as a farmer's boy, with the usual district-school advantages, and plenty of work at home. On attaining his majority he came to Fostoria, Ohio, where some relatives were living, and for two years rented a farm near Longley, Ohio. Although his father offered him 120 acres of land at his early home in the Cumberland Valley, he chose to remain in this region, and in the spring of 1888 he purchased his present farm of eighty acres in Section 26, Montgomery township, where in 1893 he built an elegant residence, supplied with water and other conveniences seldom found outside of cities. Soon after coming to this county he engaged in various lines of work in the oil fields, such as rig-building and dressing tools, and at times as field-boss, pumper, and operator, and as he prefers this to the actual labor of the farm he employs others to attend to the latter, under his general supervision. Steady-going, honest, industrious and progressive, his success has been marked, and he is regarded as certain to become one of the substantial men of his locality.

In the fall of 1883, Mr. Cessna was married in Bedford, Penn., to Miss Emma Wertz, daughter of John Wertz, one of the most prominent agriculturists in the Cumberland Valley. Mrs. Cessna is a leading member of the Church of God, and with her husband takes an interest in every worthy movement. Socially he belongs to Risingsun Lodge, K. of P., and politically he is a Democrat on the State and National issues, but in local elections votes for the "best man."

ELIAS SIMON (deceased), who in his lifetime was one of the most highly respected citizens within the limits of Bloom township, is a fit representative of the honored family of that name. He was a son of Henry and Catherine (Stemple) Simon, the former of whom was born June 7, 1796, the latter on July 10, 1798; they were married October 5, 1822, and died May 15, 1872, and April 2, 1836, respectively.

Mr. Simon was born August 12, 1827, in Mahoning county, Ohio, where he attended an excellent German school. When he was but a few months over seventeen years old his parents moved to Wood county, accompanied by five of their children—Jonas, Carolus, Elias, Abigail and Joshua. They drove through the woods with three wagons, bringing their household goods. Our subject's father had met with financial reverses in Mahoning county, and he made a new start in life upon a tract of eighty acres of timber land on what is now known as the North Ridge road. A rude log house, which he had built previously, furnished a shelter for the newcomers, and their first meal was cooked by the side of a brush heap. Our subject did many a hard day's work in clearing and breaking the soil of this farm, but he also found some time to attend an English school on the old Leathers farm, where Cornelius Simon, a cousin, was the first teacher. At the age of twenty-one he began to work on his own account, chopping and clearing for one year, and then working in a sawmill as a laborer. His savings were invested in 120 acres of land, his brother's estate, near Bairdstown, bought from the heirs, and its purchase left him nearly \$1,000 in debt.

On August 2, 1855, Mr. Simon was married to Miss Margaret Frankford, a native of Springfield, Mahoning Co., Ohio, born March 15, 1837, daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth (Kugler) Frankford, who came to Wood county in 1852, and located on a farm in Weston township. They were both natives of Ohio, the father born May 11, 1805, in Springfield township, Mahoning county, the mother born August 11, 1804. They



*Elias Linna*





were married August 27, 1826; the former died August 19, 1891, at Roca, Neb., the latter having passed away January 2, 1857, in Weston township, Wood Co., Ohio. The young couple began housekeeping upon the farm which became their permanent home. Mr. Simon continued to work in the sawmill and carried on his farm, at the same time hiring some of the work done. In 1864 he enlisted in Company E, 144th O. V. I., and was sent to Wilmington, Del., where he was on guard duty until August 22, 1864, when he was discharged at Columbus.

In 1868 he built a sawmill upon his farm, and, notwithstanding many predictions of failure, his energy and thorough knowledge of the business enabled him to make a success of it, and in three years he had paid off every obligation. He has been noted for his knowledge of milling machinery, often repairing for others. In 1889 he gave up his mill to his sons, Jackson and Delton, who conducted it for some time. There are two oil wells upon the place, producing about fifteen barrels per day, and on this farm was drilled the second gas well in the township. Mr. Simon's right wrist had been strained by overwork in lifting, and he afterward lived a semi-retired life, finding much pleasure in reading. He possessed strong intellectual powers, which should have been developed in youth. In 1878 he built one of the most substantial brick houses in the township, and his old home gives evidence not only of his worldly prosperity, but of his intellectual aspirations and artistic tastes. His wife had but limited educational facilities in her youth, but with ready adaptation she has availed herself of later opportunities at home, as her duties would permit. They have had five children: Mary E., born December 11, 1856, died February 6, 1857; Jackson, born March 16, 1858, now resides in Hancock county; Delton, born October 7, 1860, is farming the homestead and conducting the mill; Maud, born November 3, 1865, married Frank Elston, of Garrett, Ind., a Baltimore & Ohio railroad engineer, Chicago division; and Tressie, born August 9, 1875, now a successful music teacher, is at home.

Elias Simon, the subject of this sketch, died at ten minutes past eleven in the forenoon of September 21, 1896, of apoplexy, and was laid to rest September 24, in Bloom Chapel cemetery, Bloom township. He, as is also his widow, was a leading member of the Liberal U. B. Church of Bairdstown, in which he held every office, and was the principal financial supporter. When the new church was being erected he loaned a large sum of money, and afterward cancelled the debt.

Mr. Simon was no office-seeker, but took a keen interest in public affairs, and was in early years a Republican, but in later years voted with the Prohibition party.

JOHN LOUY is a strictly self-made man, who owes his success in life to his individual efforts, to enterprise, undaunted perseverance, and unfaltering industry. His career has also made him a man of broad sympathies, and he is ever ready to extend a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself. Mr. Louy was born September 11, 1831, in Marzlich, near Trier, Prussia, and is the eldest of nine children born to Henry and Margaret (Kirche) Louy. The other members of the family are: Magdalena Clapper, of East Toledo, Ohio; Regina, widow of George Frische, of Toledo; Antony, a farmer of Milton township; Peter, deceased; Elizabeth, wife of Jacob Diemer, of Toledo; Henry (1), who died in childhood; Henry (2), also deceased; and Mary, who passed away. The father was a farmer in Prussia, and in 1862 came with his wife to America, landing at New York, whence they came direct to Milton township, Wood county, where they resided some years. They then removed to Toledo, Ohio, where his death occurred in October, 1867; his wife died in 1871.

John Louy, the subject of this sketch, received a good education in the common schools of his native land, and at the age of fourteen began work as a farm hand at a shilling per day. He was thus employed until coming to America. On April 12, 1855, he left home, sailing from Havre, France, on the 16th, on the vessel, "Connecticut," which after thirty-three days reached New York. One day, while crossing the deck, he fell down an open hatchway, and was picked up in an unconscious condition, with his shoulder broken. His clothing being removed in order to get at the hurt, someone managed to confiscate some gold coins he had sewed inside the lining of his vest—his only capital. Just before landing he sold his trunk and bedding for eighteen cents, and this was all the money he had with which to begin life in the New World, and this small sum was expended for bread. He then started for Tiffin, Ohio. At Dunkirk, N. Y., he was obliged to wait for some time, and while gazing longingly at the tempting display in a restaurant window, the proprietor came out and asked him what he wanted. He was unable to speak a word of English, but the owner took him to a house some distance away where a German girl was working, who acted as interpreter between the two. On learning that he was hungry, the man took him back to the

restaurant and gave him a good meal. After many hardships he reached his destination, but had to walk all the way from Sandusky to Tiffin, Ohio. He there made his home with his uncle, Nicholas Kirche, and after three weeks secured work in a brick yard. Later he was employed as a farm hand, and in grading the railroad near Lima, Ohio. He was afterward made section hand on the railroad, and subsequently served as brakeman. He was next engaged in laying track from Toledo to Lima, and then became section foreman from Toledo to Perrysburg. To Custar he was sent as section boss, and in a short time he became express and station agent at that place. On abandoning that position he embarked in merchandising, and later erected a large store into which he put an extensive stock of general merchandise, which he sold out. He became interested in the lumber business, and at one time owned two sawmills and a stave factory. He also bought and sold 800 acres of land, and has thus been connected with various business enterprises.

Mr. Louy was married in Maumee, Ohio, September 16, 1860, to Miss Julia Ann Ganshirt, who was born in Kappal-am-Rhine, Baden, Germany. Their children are: John Henry, who was born September 15, 1861, and is chief train dispatcher at Lima, Ohio; Ellen, born August 4, 1863, now the wife of Henry Rechener, of Lima, Ohio; Josephine, born March 31, 1865, widow of Frank Drummer, of Lima, Ohio; Mary Ann, who was born December 23, 1867, and is living at Lima; Charles, born June 26, 1869, also a resident of Lima; Andrew William, born March 26, 1871, now a medical student at Toledo, Ohio; George Albert, born April 20, 1873, yard clerk for the Dayton & Michigan railroad, at Toledo, Ohio; Joseph H., born April 7, 1875, fireman on the Dayton & Michigan railroad, with residence at Lima, Ohio; Fred Edwas, born February 21, 1877, at present engaged in teaching; Frank Albert, born February 17, 1879, clerking for the Standard Oil Co., at Lima, Ohio; and Genevieve Wilhelmina, born March 15, 1881, now in a convent at Lima, Ohio. When our subject landed at Custar in 1859, there was but one Catholic family in the vicinity, that of Edward Byrnes, and the first mass was performed on the present site of that now thriving town, Father Bauer, D. D., of Fremont, Ohio, officiating, later in an old log cabin. Now there are seventy-two families who worship in the Catholic church at Custar.

Mr. Louy is now living retired, enjoying the fruits of his former toil. He owns a valuable farm of eighty acres in Milton township, a large

store building with hall rented, and a spacious and beautiful residence in Custar, which was erected in 1872, at a cost of \$5,340.00. In politics he is a stanch Democrat, has been treasurer of Custar for two years, and councilman for two years. In religious belief he is a devout Catholic, and has been trustee of the Church.

JAMES KELLEY, deceased, was one of the leading and influential citizens of Middleton township, and his death was felt by the entire community. A native of the Keystone State, he was born in Northumberland county, September 5, 1826, and was a son of Joseph and Mary (Reed) Kelley, also natives of Pennsylvania, where they spent their entire lives. In his boyhood days their son James attended the district schools of the neighborhood, and aided in the labors of the home farm.

In March, 1852, in Pennsylvania, Mr. Kelley was united in marriage with Miss Annie Palmer, who was born in that State June 14, 1825, a daughter of Daniel Palmer. Three children were born of this union. Daniel, born June 9, 1853, was educated in Middleton township, and at Toledo, Ohio, and in August, 1879, he married Ettie Chapman, who was born April 25, 1856, a daughter of Sylvester Chapman, of Sandusky county, Ohio. For nine years he has been an employe at the Toledo State Hospital. William, born April 16, 1857, now operates the old homestead. He was married in 1888, to Flora Camm, who was born in Huron county, April 8, 1860, and they have one daughter, Alta. Elwood, born in Plain township, this county, July 31, 1862, married Nellie Miller, and has two children. He has been employed at the Toledo State Hospital for seven years.

The subject of this review removed from Pennsylvania to Wood county in 1862, and located in Plain township, where he remained one year, then moved to Hancock county, where he carried on farming for six years. In 1869 he came to Middleton township and purchased seventy-two acres of land, which, with the aid of his sons, he cleared and improved, continuing its cultivation up to the time of his death. He was a man of sterling worth, honorable and upright in all things, was a loyal citizen, a faithful friend and a loving and devoted husband and father. He served as school director of his township, gave his political support to the Democratic party, and was a consistent and earnest member of the Baptist Church. He passed away January 5, 1891, and one more name was added to the list of honored dead, but his memory will be

kept green in the hearts of his friends for many years. Mrs. Kelley, a most estimable lady, has since conducted the home farm, and displays excellent business ability, while her many womanly graces of character have won her high regard.

**HENRY SARVIS.** The life of this gentleman has been prominently connected with the history of Wood county since early pioneer days, and many interesting incidents can he relate of the time when this region was but sparsely settled, and gave little indication of its present highly cultivated and prosperous condition. He was born in England, and was the fifth in a family of nine children—four sons and five daughters. His father was a man in comfortable circumstances until, through the failure of a bank, he lost much of his property. As his children grew up he would say to them: "All I can do for you now is to give you a good common-school education, and teach you a trade; the rest you must do for yourself. Industry, perseverance, a wise economy, and honorable dealing will bring you success in life. Let your reading be historical and practical, and take the Bible for your guide through life." A favorite volume of the father's was a history of the United States.

When Henry Sarvis was a lad of twelve years he was sent to a boarding school in a farming country, where he first became acquainted with agricultural life, and this and his United States history exerted a great influence on his after career. After leaving school he was engaged in making piano keys in the piano factory, of Broadwood & Co., London, until nineteen years of age, his father holding a responsible position in that establishment. When Henry was nineteen, his brother-in-law had to go to Canada to look after some property, and our subject sailed with him. After a short time spent in Canada, he went to New York, where he accidentally met his brother-in-law, and together they returned to England; but Mr. Sarvis had resolved to save money enough to establish a home in America. He resumed work at his trade, and soon afterward married a farmer's daughter, who proved to him an efficient and capable helpmeet on life's journey. An old-time friend, John Wright, proposed to him that they come to America, and after consulting with his wife, Mr. Sarvis determined to try his fortune in the New World. They were also joined by a boy of fifteen, and the four started for New York in the spring of 1844.

On reaching that city Mr. Sarvis and his wife went up the Hudson river, then by canal to Buffalo, and parted with their friend, Mr. Wright,

in Cleveland. Leaving their luggage in Detroit, they made their way to the home of Mr. Sarvis' brother-in-law, about ten miles from Chatham, Canada, but he could not secure the land he had hoped to in that locality, and so returned to Chatham. While sitting outside the "Exchange Hotel," thinking what to do next, he became engaged in conversation with a gentleman there who said he lived in Perrysburg, Ohio, and the result was that Mr. Sarvis and his wife accompanied this gentleman to Wood county. They had a letter of introduction to a Mr. Isaac, living on Hull Prairie. Their newly-found friend, Mr. Spafford, told them of the excellent advantages afforded by this country; but the sight which greeted them soon after their arrival seemed anything but hopeful. For two days they remained in the hotel at Perrysburg, and the next morning started for the Prairie, about eight miles distant. Every few rods, so deep was the mud, they had to stop and clear the wheels before they could proceed. It may well be imagined that the progress was slow, and when they reached the Prairie its appearance was much more that of a lake, for it was covered with water, sometimes several feet deep. They found the driving through the water, however, better than driving through the mud, and finally reached a substantial log house, all surrounded by water. On presenting their letter of introduction—for this was the home of Mr. Isaac—they were cordially welcomed in the true spirit of pioneer days. The prospect for comfortable homes in this locality, however, seemed to be very poor, but they were assured by their newly-found friends that the inundation was an unusual one, and that they looked for a bright future.

The next morning the host drove Mr. Sarvis to the different farmers on the Prairie, who all seemed hopeful, and believed they would soon have good farms. Mr. Sarvis purchased eighty acres of land at \$2.50 per acre, on which stood a log cabin, and forty acres at \$1.25 per acre. He also bought two yoke of oxen and two cows, and began breaking the land. He planted a crop, but again all that region was flooded, and in the autumn it was parched by the hot August sun. For several years this was the condition of things, and the families were forced to endure many hardships and trials, such as are entirely unknown to the settlers of to-day. At length a meeting was called, and the settlers on Hull Prairie discussed the advisability of draining the land. Mr. Sarvis was asked for his opinion, and said that he would like two weeks' time in which to study the question. During that time he wrote a letter to the

editor of the *Journal*, in connection with Mr. Isaac, and the editor requested that they write a communication of this sort every other week. It was done, and as a result the "ditch law" was passed, the Prairie was drained, and was transformed into a most valuable and productive tract of land, its farms being now unrivaled in excellence and richness. It was also through the instrumentality of the settlers on Hull Prairie that the county fair was first instituted, and the work of progress and improvement has been carried steadily forward by them, until they may well be proud of their improved homes, and what they have accomplished.

Mr. Sarvis' first wife died February 25, 1880, and was buried at Perrysburg, Ohio. Mr. Sarvis married Miss Alice Terry, who was born in England in 1858. They have no children. Mrs. Sarvis has two brothers—Thomas, formerly a surgeon in the British army, and now living in England; William, a business man in England. There is also a sister living there—Mrs. Harcourt. Mr. and Mrs. Sarvis are members of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics he is a Republican. His well-spent life, and honorable, upright career have gained for him the warm friendship of the neighbors, and the high regard of all with whom he has come in contact.

JOHN PERRIN, the earlier part of whose life was a most checkered one, is now a most extensive land owner in Middleton township, having to-day a valuable farm of 500 acres, highly cultivated and improved with all the accessories and conveniences of a model farm of the Nineteenth century. He belongs to that class of honored men known as "self-made," who, dependent upon their own resources, have worked their way upward from humble surroundings to positions of affluence.

Mr. Perrin was born in Nova Scotia, near Pictou, March 19, 1828. His father, James Perrin, was also a native of Nova Scotia, born of French parentage, and followed the occupation of farming in that province. There he married Helen Byers, a native of Scotland, born November 17, 1795, and they became parents of nine children as follows: Jane, wife of James Young; Mary, deceased; John; Josephine, wife of Foster B. Pratt; Catherine, deceased wife of Stephen Langell; William, postmaster at Roachton, Wood county; and three who died in childhood. From his native province the father of this family came to Ohio, afterward removing to Indiana, where he and his wife both died in 1838, the latter on September 27, of that year.

As will be seen, our subject was ten years old when death deprived him of both his parents, at which time the children took up their residence in Perrysburg, Wood county, where they remained until the spring of the following year, the family circle being then broken up, John making his home with William Russell. With him he worked for his living some eighteen months, at the end of which period he went to Seneca county, Ohio, there working for Isaac Ingraham, also eighteen months, but from him he "ran away," returning to Perrysburg. Here for about a year and a half he worked for Charles Shepard, his remuneration being three dollars per month, he part of the time attending school, and then returned to Seneca county, where he was employed on the farm of a Mr. Ingraham, who, later, removed to Henry county, our subject accompanying him, and remaining with him till he was eighteen years old. All he claims he got from Mr. Ingraham was his board and inferior quality, and a sparse quantity of clothes, his wardrobe at the time of leaving Ingraham's employ consisting of but one suit of clothes. Nothing daunted, young Perrin hired out at \$12.00 per month, saved his earnings and in course of time, in 1848, bought 120 acres of wild land in Henry county, near Liberty Center, about the same time taking up the pursuit of fishing, which he followed in connection with farming up to 1853. In that year he set out for the then "New Eldorado"—California—to try his luck in the gold diggings. He set out from St. Louis by boat to Council Bluffs; but, the steamer becoming disabled, he, with some 500 others, had to be landed in the woods where they remained four days suffering greatly from hunger. A steamboat, however, arrived opportunely, and took the temporarily marooned adventurers to Independence, Mo., where Mr. Perrin joined a company of 101 other travelers who formed themselves into an "outfit," the entire company setting out for the gold fields in April. The journey occupied six months, our subject walking most of the way, and doing the hunting for the party, his previous experience in that line, in Ohio, and general knowledge of woodcraft, proving of much value to the party.

Arriving at the gold fields, Mr. Perrin immediately commenced mining, which he followed five years, not with much success, he says, after the first year, at the end of that time taking a prospective trip up the Frazer river, in British Columbia, where he mined for gold three years, in this venture meeting with good success, and a proportionate degree of adventure. He there,



*John Pennie*



however, experienced the greatest hardships. There were some 30,000 people on the Frazer river, no law had been established, and the Indians killed many whites, while the whites killed many Indians in return, so that each man had to protect himself. Mr. Perrin relates many an exciting tale of his experiences, the Frazer river itself, a large stream of water, in the springtime a perfect torrent, being in itself a source of considerable danger, as it had to be navigated with small boats, and many people lost their lives by drowning. Provisions most of the time were scarce, and death from starvation was not infrequent during the winter of 1858-59. Robbers were also a source of great anxiety to the gold-diggers, who had to hide their treasure as fast as they found it. In 1861 Mr. Perrin ascended the Frazer river as far as Cariboo, where a new gold field had been opened out, and he there purchased a rich claim, but in the month of October, that year, the snow was so deep he could not work his claim, and as a consequence had to remain idle there and all alone, monarch of all he surveyed for the time, with nothing to read save the labels on the cans of provisions he had with him; and this highly interesting literature he says he committed to perpetual memory, "canned salmon," "pickled beets," etc., being a sort of mental pabulum, the contents of the cans serving for the inner man. Here he remained some six years, made money, and became the owner of many rich claims, paying for some as much as \$20,000. From Cariboo Mr. Perrin went to Oregon and Washington Territory, intending to revisit the Frazer river, but while in Portland, Ore., he made up his mind to return to his old Ohio home, which he did, and has remained there ever since.

Much has been written about travel and adventure, and did Mr. Perrin's innate modesty permit him to give his personal mining experiences to the world, he could fill a good sized volume with exciting scenes and hair-breadth escapes rarely met with in a single lifetime.

On his return home in 1868 after an absence of fifteen years, Mr. Perrin found his land in Henry county sold, his relatives, with whom he had never communicated, having given him up for dead. He now, however, purchased 300 acres of land in Middleton township, Wood county, covered with timber and water. Tiling and draining was necessary to make this cultivable, while the trees had to be cleared away ere crops could be planted. Ultimately the boundaries of the farm were extended until it now comprises 500 acres of very valuable land, covered in summer time with waving fields of grain, and where the

surrounding good buildings and modern improvements tell the passer-by of the thrift and enterprise of the owner.

On December 16, 1891, Mr. Perrin married May Halbert, a most estimable lady. Her father, Henry Halbert, was born in New York, April 6, 1838, and throughout life has followed farming. In 1865 he came to Middleton township, Wood county, and purchased a farm which he yet operates. He was married in New York, to Maria L. Hogan, who was born at Rome, that State, September 15, 1842. They have five children: Harriet, born December 27, 1860, deceased wife of Dr. H. W. Legalley; Henrietta, born June 17, 1863, wife of Oliver Mears; May F., born August 3, 1869, now Mrs. Perrin; Edward, born September 23, 1879; and Miles, born December 5, 1882. Mr. and Mrs. Halbert now reside in Haskins. Mrs. Perrin is a graduate of the Haskins High School, taught school some six years, and is an accomplished lady.

To the Republican party Mr. Perrin gives his support. Aside from his farming interests, he is a stockholder in the Bank of Perrysburg, and he is in all respects one of the best known men in the county. His experiences have been varied; but he has steadily worked his way upward, and today ranks among the substantial citizens of the community, owing his success to persistent labor, thorough application and honorable dealing. Pleasant and genial in manner, he is very popular with all classes, and together with his amiable life partner commands the respect of all.

JOHN RUDOLPH was born in Germany, September 5, 1848, and is a son of Frederick and Mary (Kroeger) Rudolph, who were natives of the same locality. The father was born January 4, 1815, and the mother on January 18, of the same year. In the fall of 1868 they sailed from Hamburg for New York, but after being on the water for twenty-six days the vessel, having been damaged by storms, was forced to put into port at Halifax, where it remained for repairs five days. After reaching New York, Mr. Rudolph and his family came directly to Cleveland, Ohio, and a year later to Wood county. They located on forty acres of wild land which was unimproved save with a log cabin. There the father still carried on agricultural pursuits; his wife died April 28, 1895. In the family were only two children—John and Sophia, the latter now the wife of Joseph Rossow, of Milton township.

Our subject attended school between the ages of six and fifteen years, and afterward worked at various employments until twenty-one years of



age, when he came with his parents to America. As he could not secure work in Cleveland, he went to Iowa, where he secured employment as a farm hand at \$14 per month, and board. After some time he returned to the Buckeye State, and has since been a resident of Wood county. He aided in clearing his father's farm, selling the timber to the railroad company.

Mr. Rudolph was married in Custar, May 14, 1879, to Miss Christina Wismer, who was born in Prussia, Germany, August 25, 1855, and is a daughter of John and Caroline (Henning) Wismer. They now have six children: Frank, a freight agent in Toledo, Ohio; and Fred, Daniel, Mary, Annie and George, all at home. Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph began their domestic life on a forty-acre farm which our subject purchased of his father. He has made excellent improvements upon this place, and his commodious and pleasant residence is one of the best in the township. He has served on the school board for a number of years, and is deeply interested in all that pertains to the welfare of the community. His political support is given the Republican party. He is a prominent member of the Lutheran Church, and is serving as trustee and Sunday-school teacher.

A. GEORGE GALLIER. The splendid farm owned by this gentleman, in Center township, is a standing monument to his industry, perseverance and good management. He comes under the category of self-made men, having been thrown upon his own resources early in life, and has succeeded only by the exercise of his steady, earnest application to his duties. Just at this time he is one of the prominent representatives of the agricultural interests of Wood county.

Mr. Gallier was born in Herefordshire, England, February 24, 1848, and is a son of Samuel and Annie (Amond) Gallier, who were the parents of the following children: Millie F., wife of John Jinkson, of Salt Lake City; Jane, widow of John Dryer; William, a landscape gardener, of Toledo, Ohio; Annie, wife of Robert Barnes, of Wood county; Mary, who makes her home in Salt Lake City, Utah; A. George, of this sketch; Esther, still a resident of England; and two who died in infancy. The father followed the occupation of a common laborer, and died in his native land in 1866, but the mother still makes her home in that country.

Our subject received a very limited education in the schools of Herefordshire, and when a small boy entered a store where he was employed for three years, receiving one pound for the first

year and two for the second, together with his board. He then obtained a position as page in the home of a wealthy gentleman, where he remained for five years, receiving only his board and clothing and five pounds per year. On the expiration of that time he became a hotel clerk, being thus employed until reaching the age of twenty-one, when he started in business for himself on a small scale. After a year, however, at the solicitation of a brother who had previously located here, he resolved to come to America. He landed on the shores of the New World in 1871, and in Toledo, Ohio, found employment as a gardener, which occupation he followed there for nine years, when he came to Wood county, locating in Center township on forty acres of unimproved land, which he had purchased. This wild tract he cleared, ditched and tiled, erecting thereon a good house, barns and other outbuildings, besides planting an orchard. To this later he added another tract of forty acres, and now has eighty-two acres of arable, to the development of which he gives his entire attention.

Before leaving his native land Mr. Gallier was married in Herefordshire, July 1, 1869, to Sarah Jones, and they have become the parents of the following children: William, born July 8, 1872; H. A., September 11, 1874; John, June 28, 1876; Monroe, January 27, 1878; James, January 2, 1880; George, November 5, 1883; Millie, April 27, 1886; Walter, October 9, 1888; Mabel, September 22, 1891; and Myrtle, May 9, 1894. Mr. Gallier is quite prominent in local affairs, and politically is a staunch Republican. For several years he has served as school director and president of the board of education, and is at present supervisor of his township, which position his son William filled last year, having run on the ticket with his father, and receiving more votes than he. Our subject is a genial, pleasant gentleman, widely and favorably known, and he and his family attend the United Brethren Church.

JOHN R. MARWICK, a retired farmer, living at Bowling Green, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, August 13, 1835. His parents were William and Ann (Amos) Marwick, the former of whom, born in England in 1796, died there in November, 1859. The mother was born in 1792, and died in 1853. Religiously she was a Baptist, and her husband was an Episcopalian. They had twelve children, of whom four grew to maturity: Mary Ann married James Earl, and is living in Australia; she came from England to Wood county, and then removed to her present

home. Sarah is the wife of William Walker, who lives in England. William went to Australia in 1853, and is in the gold fields there. John R. is our subject.

Mr. Marwick grew up in England, coming to America in 1855. His means were limited, and he walked from Toledo, Ohio, to Bowling Green, and went to work by the month on a farm in the vicinity. He had been reared as a drover in "Merrie England," and found life here in the wilderness hard and uncongenial. In 1856 he was married to Miss Susanna Wakefield, who was born in Cambridgeshire, England, July 28, 1832. She is the daughter of John and Mary (Barley) Wakefield, who came to America in 1851, and located at Monroeville, Huron Co., Ohio, moving from there in 1857 to Wood county, where they lived in Plain township. Mr. Wakefield built a house in Bowling Green, where he spent the latter part of his life. He was born in 1795 and died in 1869; his wife was born in 1798 and departed this life in 1885. Six of their children grew to maturity, namely: John, who died in Plain township; Mary, who died soon after her marriage; Sarah, married to John Wills, and now residing in Chillicothe, Mo.; Susanna, wife of our subject; William, living in Bowling Green; and Lizzie Jane, wife of James Wright, living in Weston, Ohio.

Mr. and Mr. Marwick first settled in Erie county, Ohio, then coming to Bowling Green located in Plain township, and finally in Washington township, where they now own eighty acres of land. They have one child, William R., born May 29, 1857, who married Miss Ella Crum and resides in Bureau, Ohio; they have four children—Earnest, Nellie May, Arthur and Marie.

Mr. Marwick is a Republican, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church. He also belongs to the I. O. O. F., and his wife is a member of the Daughters of Rebekah. They are model citizens of Bowling Green, where they are well-known for their hospitality and philanthropic works.

**JACOB SOMMERS.** Among the worthy citizens who claim Ohio as the State of their nativity, none are more deserving of a conspicuous place in the history of Wood county than this gentleman, whose honorable and well-spent life has gained him the high regard of all with whom he has been brought in contact. He was born in Medina county, Ohio, June 2, 1858, and is a son of Frederick and Rosana (Groah) Sommers, who came with their family to Wood county in 1860. Our subject attended the district school at Flint

Hill, in Portage township, and also the common schools of Liberty township. His vacation periods were spent at work upon the home farm, and at the age of eighteen he began running an engine in a sawmill, where he was employed for two seasons. He afterward worked as a farm hand in Seneca county for one year, but, returning to Wood county, secured a situation as a farm hand with John Metzger, of Liberty township. Later he operated the old homestead.

On March 8, 1885, in Portage township, Mr. Sommers married Ellen Knight, who was born in Ottawa county, Ohio, December 27, 1864, and is a daughter of Thomas W. and Elizabeth (Warren) Knight. The young couple began their domestic life on the Bradshaw farm in Liberty township, which Mr. Sommers rented for a year, and then returned to the old family homestead, where he resided until removing to his present place in November, 1893. In connection with his brother Fred, he purchased 120 acres of land. His home is a comfortable dwelling, and he has made many excellent improvements upon the farm.

To Mr. and Mrs. Sommers have been born a daughter, Mabel Matilda, born December 4, 1885. The parents are active and leading members in the Disciples Church, and Mr. Sommers belongs to the Odd Fellows Society of Portage. He has served as school director for some time, and gives a hearty and willing support to all measures calculated to advance the general welfare, educational or otherwise.

**JACOB BALEY.** There is probably no man in Bloom township wider or more favorably known than this gentleman, who came to that section of the county in the pioneer days, and is recognized as one of the important factors in its progress and development. He is a native of Ohio, born in Canfield township, Mahoning county, April 19, 1820. His father was a Pennsylvanian by birth, and married Miss Catherine Sanon, by whom he had nine children, namely: Lavina, Elizabeth, Jacob, Eliza, Catherine, Peter, Jeremiah, Amanda and John. The parents departed this life in Canfield township, Mahoning county.

Until reaching the age of seventeen or eighteen years, Jacob Baley assisted in the work on the home farm, and at intervals attended the schools of his day. He was then bound out to William Lyman to remain until twenty-one years old, but left him and for three months worked for William Giger; then he worked for Christian Dustman for seven months, receiving ten dollars per month for his services, and during that time

lost only two days. The following winter he lived with Jacob Hammon, and went to school, helping with the work and doing chores. The next spring he worked several months for Mr. Hammon, and at odd times or on wet days young Baley worked in the blacksmith shop for a Mr. Wonsetler, and later on he arranged with him to learn the trade, and remained with him one and a half years, then worked for him on the shares for about a year. Later he went to Poland, Ohio, and worked in the same manner for Jacob Lee. In this way he earned money enough to buy a partial outfit for himself (making the rest), and began business at the four corners of the roads leading to Youngstown, Boardman, Canfield and Austintown, Ohio.

On November 10, 1840, our subject was married, in Mahoning county, to Miss Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham and Catharine (Crous) Simon, born May 6, 1822, in Mahoning county, Ohio. In the spring of 1847, Mr. Baley sold out and with a small one-horse wagon brought his wife and three children to Bloom township, locating in Section 21, where he had bought land the year previous. On his eighty-acre farm he built a log shop, and his father-in-law brought his tools here sometime later. He had only received \$14 from his father's estate, and by his trade earned the money with which he paid for his land. The settlers in this section were widely scattered, so that at first work at his trade was not rushing, even though his patrons came for miles around, and much of his blacksmithing was paid for by his customers in clearing his land for him. For six weeks the family lived at Bloom Center, while a log house, 16 x 20 feet, was made ready for occupancy. He continued to work at his trade, in addition to his agricultural pursuits, and as his income increased secured more land until he was the owner of 260 acres, but has now given 160 acres to his sons, still retaining the remainder.

For over fifty-five years, Mr. and Mrs. Baley have now traveled life's journey together, sharing with each other its joys and sorrows, its adversity and prosperity, and they have reared a family of which they may justly be proud. They are as follows: Delilah, born November 23, 1841, is the wife of W. S. Richard, of Bloomdale, Ohio; Harriet, born May 6, 1844, is now Mrs. Alfred Simon; Mary, born September 13, 1846, is the wife of Thomas Loman, a grain merchant of Newmarket, Iowa; John is a prominent resident of Wood county; Martha A., born August 28, 1851, is the widow of Alfred Stephens, of Knobnoster, Mo.; Amanda, born November 5,

1853, is the wife of Byron Frederick, of Bloom township; Simon C. is a leading citizen of Wood county; Lucy A., born June 11, 1858, married D. L. Kunkler, and died October 26, 1894 (the first death in the family); and Olive E., born August 1, 1860, is now Mrs. Morrison Brunstetter, of Butler, Indiana.

Mr. Baley is a fine specimen of physical manhood, being six feet and one inch in height, and weighing 185 pounds, and though he is still quite active, in his younger days he was very strong, being able to perform a big day's work very easily. He still engages in blacksmithing to a limited extent. He has always voted the Democratic ticket, and has been called upon to serve as school director of District No. 5, supervisor and treasurer for three years. He is truly a self-made man, and there are no more highly respected citizens in Wood county than Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Baley.

W. T. THOMAS, M. D. This prominent physician and surgeon, who, at this writing (1896), is filling the responsible office of mayor of North Baltimore, is one of the best-known citizens of Wood county, where for many years he has taken an active part in political matters. A politician, like a poet, seems to be "born, not made," and the peculiar qualifications which fit a man to fill the many arduous and trying positions belonging to an active public life must be inherent in his nature to make him successful in such a career.

Dr. Thomas was born in Wayne county, Ohio, November 28, 1851. His father, Levi Thomas, was a native of the North of Ireland, and was obliged to leave his native land on account of his religious faith, being a Roman Catholic. He came to America in 1846, finally settling in Ohio. He married Susan Lawrence, who was born at Lancaster, Penn., and, in 1853, the family came to Wood county, where they located in Henry township. The father died December 21, 1850, the mother in 1895. The paternal grandmother of our subject is still living near Wauseon, Ohio, at the remarkable age of 105 years.

Our subject did not learn to speak the English language until he was ten years old. He then entered a select school at Weston, also attending one at South Toledo, and learned so rapidly that when seventeen years old he began teaching. This occupation he followed some eleven years, in the meantime studying medicine. He was graduated from Starling Medical College, Columbus, Ohio, in May, 1881, after a three-years' course, and soon after located in North Baltimore, where he built up a successful prac-



*Mr J Thomas M D*



tice. Under the term of President Harrison, Dr. Thomas was appointed postmaster of the city, serving as such four years, until the opposing political party came into power.

Dr. Thomas has always had a penchant for politics, and is by nature intended for a leader among men. He served as clerk of Henry township for eight years, and resigned the office of mayor to accept the Federal appointment as postmaster. He had been chairman of the Republican Executive Committee of Wood county for three terms, and a member of the County Central Committee a number of times. He has repeatedly been a delegate to Congressional and Gubernatorial Conventions, and in other ways has for years been prominently identified with the politics of the city, county and State. He is a man of ability, keen foresight and shrewd judgment, and has the confidence of the people to a large degree. After resigning his position as postmaster, in 1893, he attended the Chicago Polyclinic, in which he took a post-graduate course. He is very popular in the community, and has an extensive practice. The Doctor is a contributor to the *St. Louis Medical Brief*.

By his first marriage, to Miss Nancy De Rode, Dr. Thomas had two children: Jessie and Susan. His present wife, to whom he was married July 2, 1888, was Miss Flora Clough, who was born in Perrysburg, Ohio, March 12, 1859. They have one child, Bertha, born July 29, 1891. Dr. Thomas is an active member of the I. O. F., the K. of P. and the Woodmen of the World.

JAMES JOHNSTON is one of the honored pioneers of Portage township who, by developing a good farm from the forest, has materially aided in its growth. He has met with a well-deserved success in his calling, and his fine, well-ordered farm (pleasantly situated in Section 9), with its carefully cultured fields, its neat buildings, and all their surroundings, denote the skillful management, industry and well-directed labors of the owner.

The birth of Mr. Johnston, our subject, occurred Richland county, Ohio, March 1, 1819, and he is a son of John and Elizabeth (Humphrey) Johnston, the former a native of the North of Ireland, and the latter of Irish descent, but born in Pennsylvania three weeks after the landing of her parents in this country. When a young man the father came to the United States and was married in Pennsylvania. Before the war of 1812 he came to Ohio, and participated in that struggle under Gen. Harrison. By occupation he was a farmer, and about 1816 removed to

Richland county, becoming one of its earliest settlers. His family consisted of the following children: Thomas died in Fostoria, Ohio; Jennie, who was never married, died at the age of sixty years; Fannie married William Underwood, and died in Portage township; Cynthia first wedded James Scott, and later married Edward Coyne, who died in Libby prison; James comes next; William died in Portage township, in September, 1895; John lives in Toledo, Ohio; Robert died in Portage township; and Cyrus resides in Illinois.

In the district schools of his native county James Johnston began his education, and in April, 1837, came with his parents to Wood county, locating in Section 10, Portage township, where his father had entered 480 acres of land some years before. They made the trip by wagon, driving the stock, and their first home here was made of round logs. Here the father died at the age of sixty-six, and the mother at the age of sixty-seven years. Their remains were interred in Sargent cemetery. In politics he was a Whig, and always attended religious services, his sympathies being with the Presbyterian Church, where he was baptized when a child, though he never joined any denomination.

James continued his studies in the village of Portage after coming to this county, and at the age of twenty years left home, beginning work as a farm hand. He also drove stock east of the mountains in Pennsylvania. On March 16, 1843, in Portage township, he was united in marriage with Miss Susanna Durler, who was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, April 29, 1824, and when five years old was brought to America by her parents, John and Mary (Unkey) Durler. They embarked on a sailing vessel at Havre, France, which, after a voyage of seventy-five days, dropped anchor in the harbor of New York. Their first location was in Starke county, Ohio; later they removed to Tuscarawas county, and in 1837 settled in Portage township, Wood county, in Section 2. The parents both died in Fulton county, Ohio. Mrs. Johnston was one of their family of six children, two sons and four daughters, and is entirely self-educated, having never attended a school a day, but taught herself to read.

On the farm which his father had entered in Section 9, Portage township, Mr. Johnston began his domestic life, and there has continuously resided, with the exception of two years spent in the village of Portage. The home was brightened by the presence of seven children: John, born January 12, 1844, is a farmer of Portage town-

ship; James, born June 1, 1846, was killed by a falling tree in June, 1867, in a storm, while on his way home from Indiana; Lewis, born December 11, 1849, died at the age of five years; Cyrus, born July 28, 1853, is an agriculturist of Portage township; Parsida, born March 4, 1856, is now Mrs. Aaron Crom, of Portage township; William, born November 16, 1858, carries on farming in Center township, Wood county; and Mary E., born September 29, 1862, is the wife of George Sterling, of Henry township, this county.

The parents are faithful members of the United Brethren Church, in which he has served for over forty years as steward. They have traveled life's journey together for more than half a century, sharing its joys and sorrows, successes and reverses, and throughout the county they are widely known and highly respected. As a representative man of the community, and an old pioneer, Mr. Johnston stands pre-eminent, and his public-spiritedness and charity are proverbial. His first Presidential vote was cast for William Henry Harrison, the Whig candidate, and on the formation of the Republican party he joined its ranks. He has served as supervisor and school director in District No. 2.

CHARLES BATEMAN SAXBY, editor of the *Wood County Herald*, of Weston, is conducting the paper with signal ability and success, and holds a prominent position among the young journalists of Ohio, none of whom have better prospects for a brilliant future in their chosen career. He is a native of Wood county, born at West Millgrove February 8, 1865, the fourth in the family of five children born to Bateman H. and Martha H. (Musser) Saxby.

His father was born at Normanton, on the river Trent, England, Thursday, July 6, 1826. He left his native place on Sunday, May 13, 1855, at 10 A. M., and on the 22nd of the same month boarded the sailing vessel "Calhoun," bound for America. He arrived at Austinburg, Ohio, Wednesday, July 18, and the following fall removed to Fostoria, where he worked at the tailor's trade until October, 1864, at which time he went to West Millgrove. While living in Fostoria he was made a Mason, becoming a charter member of Fostoria Lodge. In 1857 he started on a tour through the Western States, and after his return he was united in marriage, on Wednesday, October 13, 1858, with Miss Martha Henrietta Musser. He conducted a tailor shop and grocery at West Millgrove, but in 1885 gave up the former. During the Civil war he enlisted in the Union army, but was not permitted

to serve on account of disability, though he drilled with the home guards. He made the old silk battle flag of the noted 49th Regiment. His death occurred at West Millgrove, Monday, September 12, 1892. His wife, who was born at Deerfield, Portage Co., Ohio, Sunday, December 16, 1838, removed with her parents to West Millgrove in 1853, and still makes her home there. Before her marriage she taught school in this county. She became the mother of five children, three sons and two daughters, but only two survive: Charles B., the subject proper of this review, and Edgar Allen Saxby, a druggist of Pemberville, Ohio, who was born at Fostoria Wednesday, July 8, 1863, and is a registered pharmacist; he is now serving his second term as grand trustee of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Ohio.

Jacob Musser, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was born at Petersburg, Ohio, in 1803, and in 1824 was married to Miss Sydonia Garrison, whose birth occurred in Pennsylvania in 1808. They became the parents of eight children, of whom Mrs. Saxby is the fifth in order of birth. Mr. Musser located in the wilderness of Portage county, Ohio, at Deerfield, when the wolves were so numerous that they would howl about the cabin, and even look in at the windows. In 1845 he removed to Ravenna, Ohio, and eight years later became a resident of West Millgrove, this county. By trade he was a blacksmith, and he followed that occupation all through life. In 1827 he was elected first lieutenant of the Second Rifle Company of the First Regiment, Second Brigade, Fourth Division in the Ohio Militia, and was afterward made captain, being sworn into service Monday, August 30, 1830, by Samuel D. Harris, brigadier-general of that brigade. All his old military papers are now in the possession of the brother of our subject. He died at West Millgrove, Friday, February 11, 1870, and his wife departed this life Thursday, March 10, 1884, at the age of seventy-six years.

The early life of Charles B. Saxby was spent at West Millgrove, where he attended the public schools, and during vacations worked in his father's store or upon farms, very seldom being found out of employment. During the summer months of 1882 and 1883 he served an apprenticeship with a house painter. On Tuesday, September 30, 1884, he went to Weston, where he secured a position on the paper which he now edits, and commenced to learn the printer's trade, working four months for nothing, and paying his own personal expenses with the exception of his board. S. E. Burson was at that time proprietor of the

paper. When Mr. Saxby arrived in Weston he was possessed of \$1.05, having refused to accept financial assistance from his father, as he desired to make his own way in the world as his father had done before him. After serving four months he received a salary of \$3 per week for two years, and industriously stuck to his position until his apprenticeship expired. On Saturday, January 1, 1887, Mr. Saxby, through the assistance of Judge Frank M. Young, secured a position on the *Wood County Gazette*, published then at Bowling Green, Ohio, and on that paper remained until Saturday, March 2, 1889, working for A. W. Rudolph, its able editor and manager. He held every position from "cub," to solicitor, reporter and collector.

On Wednesday, March 6, 1889, Mr. Saxby was united in marriage with Miss Nettie L. Dull, only daughter of John L. Dull, then a prominent dry-goods merchant of Weston, who is now engaged in selling agricultural implements. Our subject secured a position in his father-in-law's store, and there remained until Wednesday, May 1, 1889, when he again resumed newspaper work as collector and solicitor on the *Sentinel*, which had just been consolidated with the *Gazette*. He remained five months, settling up the large subscription accounts of both papers, and after its completion collected delinquent tax in Perry, Montgomery and Bloom townships, for the county treasurer, which was a very responsible position for a young man to hold. He commenced work in his father-in-law's store again on Monday, December 2, 1889, and remained in his employ until the twenty-sixth anniversary of his birth, February 8, 1891, but during the previous summer he had driven a huckster wagon "for his health" as well as for the revenue connected with it. However, the newspaper desire could not be overcome, and he returned to Bowling Green, where he took his old position on the *Sentinel-Gazette*, as reporter and general utility man. On Friday, July 31, 1891, in connection with J. D. Conklin, then postmaster of Weston, he purchased the *Wood County Herald*, the paper on which he had set his first type, and has held the position of editor and manager up to the present time. On December 4, 1891, Mr. Conklin sold his interest to A. S. Coward, and the firm is now Saxby & Coward. It is a bright spicy paper, and, the editor being a versatile writer, it is eagerly sought by the intelligent reading public.

Politically, Mr. Saxby is a Republican, having cast his first Presidential vote at Bowling Green, for Harrison and Morton. He was elected clerk

of Weston township, Monday, April 7, 1890, was re-elected Monday, April 4, 1892, serving two full terms, and was nominated for the office of mayor of Weston at the spring caucus of 1895, but failed of election by a small vote. On Monday, April 6, 1896, he was elected cemetery trustee for a term of two years. He was elected a member of the central committee in 1891 and '96, and a member of the county executive committee in 1895. During the year 1892 he was Wood county's representative of the Ohio Republican League on the executive committee, and at the State Convention held at Columbus, in 1893, he was chairman of the Wood county delegation. He was a delegate to the State Republican Conventions in 1892-3-4-6. Mr. Saxby has been a member of the township election board, either as clerk or presiding judge of every election held since the fall of 1891, and has received the appointment as presiding judge for the spring of 1897.

Mr. Saxby takes considerable interest in civic societies. On Tuesday, January 31, 1893, he joined Anthony Wayne Tent No. 140, K. O. T. M., as a charter member, and was elected past commander. He was also elected a representative to the Great Camp, and during its session at Piqua, Ohio, August 15 and 16, 1893, was elected great sentinel of that body, and re-elected at Toledo, Wednesday, August 15, 1894. At Cleveland, Ohio, Wednesday, August 14, 1895, he was elected great second master of the guard for a term of two years, and is now serving as record-keeper of the lodge at Weston. He joined Weston Lodge No. 681, I. O. O. F., Friday, February 2, 1894, and in July was appointed warden, installed vice-grand in January, 1895, and noble grand, Friday, July 19, 1895. On Tuesday, May 19, 1896, he took the Grand Lodge degree at Lima, Ohio. On Friday, May 29, 1896, he was elected recording secretary. In the month of September, 1894, both he and his wife joined Kokosing Lodge No. 303, D. of R., and on Wednesday, May 6, 1896, he joined Kenilworth Lodge No. 340, K. of P., and was elected K. of R. & S., August 26, 1896. Mr. Saxby holds membership with the Buckeye Press Association, and is a member of its executive committee, and also belongs to the Wood County Country Press Association, in which he is serving as treasurer. He is a popular and influential man, possessing an energetic spirit, good executive ability and an excellent judgment, which will not fail to bring him success.

Mrs. Saxby was born in Weston township,



Wood county, Tuesday, January 12, 1869, and is the daughter of John Lewis Dull, who served in the Union army during the Civil war as a member of Company I, 144th O. V. I. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church, Neibling Woman's Relief Corps, Emerald Hive No. 42, L. O. T. M., and Kokosing Lodge No. 303, D. of R. She takes a very active part in all Church work, and is a most estimable lady. At the marriage of our subject and his wife, Rev. James Long, her grandfather, officiated. They have three children—Helen Kathryn, born Monday, November 17, 1890; John Bateman, born Friday, January 26, 1894, who died Sunday, May 27, following, and Mildred Nettie, born Sunday, July 5, 1896. They have a very pleasant home of their own at the corner of Locust and Clark streets, where their many friends always find a hearty welcome.—[October 20, 1896.]

JOHN SATTLER, a prominent agriculturist of Perrysburg township, and one of the oldest residents of that locality, was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, in 1830. His parents, Philip and Christina (Rau) Sattler, were natives of the same province, and came to America in 1851, passing thirty-one days on the voyage between London and New York. After their arrival they spent three months in New York City, and then went to Hamburg, N. Y., a year later coming to Ohio, and locating first in Cuyahoga county, and then in Mercer county, where they remained three years. In 1863 they came to Wood county, and bought 100 acres of land, still in its primitive condition, near Stony Ridge. Here the father died in 1875 at the age of seventy, his wife surviving him until 1894, when she departed this life, aged ninety-one years. They had four children, of whom our subject was the eldest; Philip died in Perrysburg township in 1879; Joseph resides in the same township; Catherine married Joseph Armbruster, and died in 1876.

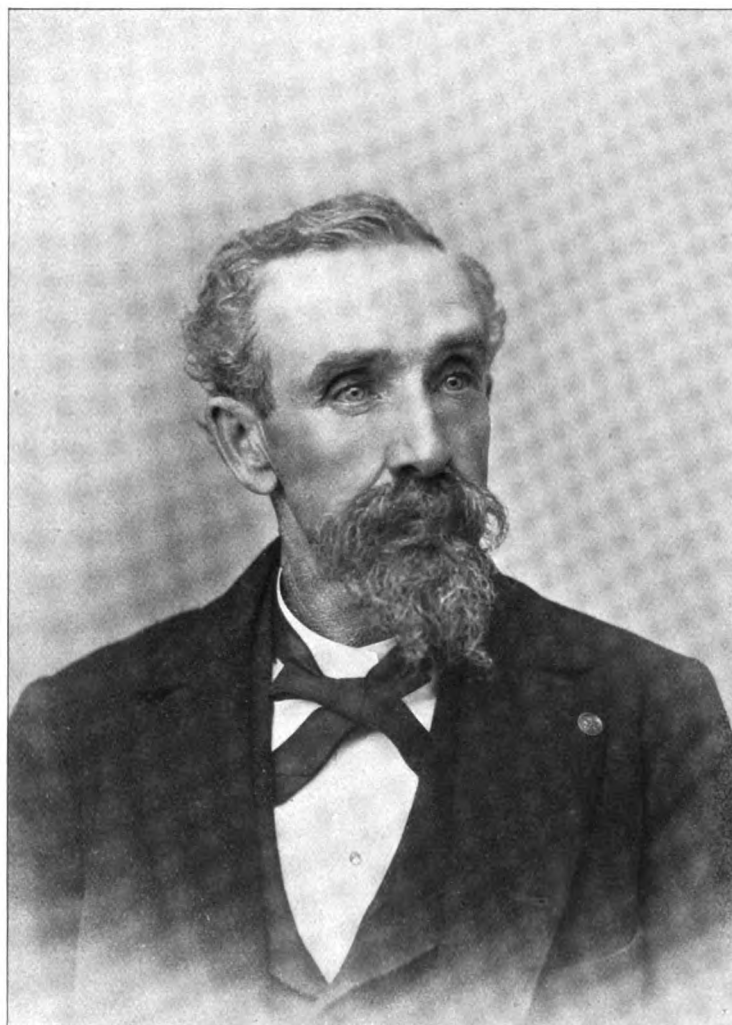
Mr. Sattler received a good education in the schools of the Fatherland, but he learned to read and write the English language by private study, after he came to this country. He was married, in 1857, in Rockport township, Cuyahoga county, to Miss Magdalena Haller, a native of Baden, Germany, and of this union seven children were born: Catherine married Paul Greulick, of Troy township; George died February 20, 1879; Helen married Barny Grabenstetter, and died March 4, 1888, leaving two children, Matilda and Marie; John B. married Louisa Beaurigard, and resides in Virginia; Joseph A. also lives in Virginia, and Philip and Josephine are at home.

In politics, Mr. Sattler is a Democrat, and he takes an influential part in local affairs, having been township supervisor for two years, and a member of the board of education of his township for sixteen years. Since 1882 he has been a director and agent of the Lime City Farmers Mutual Fire Association.

FRANK ROGERS, a highly-esteemed citizen of Middleton township, is a native of Ohio, having been born in Seneca county, February 8, 1845.

Amos Rogers, his father, was a native of New York, and by occupation a cooper and farmer. From the Empire State he removed to Fulton county, Ohio, where he carried on agricultural pursuits until 1851, when he came to Freedom township, Wood county, and there operated a farm for a time. Subsequently he engaged in the hotel business in Genoa, Ottawa county, where his remaining days were passed. In Seneca county he was married to Effie Booram, a native of New York, and they became the parents of nine children: Amanda, wife of John Russell, of Bowling Green; Harriet, wife of Joseph Long, of Genoa, Ohio; Frank; Alanson, of Center township; Edward, a cooper of Findlay, Ohio; Martha, wife of Thomas Waugh; Emery, an operator at Toledo; Francis, deceased; and James, who is justice of the peace at Scotch Ridge. The father is deceased; the mother is now living at Scotch Ridge.

The subject of this review acquired his education in the public schools of Wood county, and gave his father the benefit of his services until after the breaking out of the Civil war. Prompted by a spirit of patriotism, he enlisted, January 1, 1864, in Company K, 21st O. V. I., under Capt. Canfield and Col. Neibling. He participated in the battle of Buzzard's Roost and in the Atlanta campaign. After the fall of that city he was on detached duty during winter, participating in the battle of Nashville. Rejoining his regiment at Goldsboro, N. C., he was in the battle of Jonesboro, with Sherman in his march to the sea, and was in the grand review at Washington, in 1865. On July 11, 1865, he was discharged, having made for himself an honorable war record. He was with his regiment all the time, attached to the 14th Army Corps, 1st Division, 3rd Brigade. Returning to his home in Freedom township, he there attended school for six terms, afterward removing with his father to Genoa. He then located in Clay township, where he purchased forty acres of land that he operated and improved, in connection with work at the cooper's trade, which he followed some six



*Frank Rogers*



years. He then purchased a bowl factory, carried the same on for a year, and in 1882 he removed to Dunbridge, where for four years he was engaged in the manufacture of bowls, also of hoops and lumber. He then purchased eighty acres of land in Middleton township, upon which he erected a residence at a cost of \$3,000; also built a substantial barn and added other improvements, thereby making his farm one of the best in the county. In connection with agricultural pursuits he is secretary of the Dunbridge Oil Company, and a stockholder in the Elevator Company.

On February 24, 1870, Mr. Rogers married Melvina Wentworth, daughter of James Wentworth, of Erie county, Ohio, and they have one child, Nettie, born in 1872, now the wife of Dr. J. Pope, of Dunbridge. The family are identified with the Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Rogers is an elder. In politics he is a Republican, and has served as justice of the peace and notary public of Wood county. Socially he is a member of Wood County Lodge, F. & A. M., and of Crystal Chapter, Bowling Green, Ohio; also a member of Robert Stewart Post No. 690, G. A. R., of Dunbridge. His integrity is above question, his life has been an honorable and upright one, and he has the confidence and good will of all with whom business or social relations have brought him in contact.

GEORGE W. URIE, who has spent his entire life in Wood county, was born in Bloom township, October 4, 1847. The paternal grandfather, Solomon Urie, was a native of Pennsylvania, whence he came to Ohio at an early day, first locating in Richland county, and later became one of the pioneers of Ashland county. His next removal made him a resident of Cass township, Hancock county, but his last days were spent in Eaton county, Mich. When he came to Ohio there were few settlements in the western part of the State, and in his efforts to secure a home for his family, he endured all the hardships of a true pioneer.

Joseph Urie, the father of our subject, was born in Richland county, Ohio, June 5, 1825, and was reared on the frontier, his education being such as the district schools of those early days afforded. He removed to Hancock county when that portion of the State was almost entirely in its primitive condition. On November 19, 1846, he was married to Miss Elinda Robbins, who was born in Columbia county, Penn., July 9, 1824, and was a daughter of Daniel and Rhoda (McCarty) Robbins, early settlers of Bloom

township. The wedding ceremony was performed by Squire Chilcote, of Perry township, Wood county. They located upon a farm in Bloom township, and, as Mr. Urie was in limited circumstances, his start in life was slow. For a time he followed threshing, working for Ora Baird, and later removed to Ashland county, where the only brother of our subject, Milton T., was born February 17, 1850. While there the family resided upon the land which now comprises the County Poor Farm of Ashland county. From there the father removed to Eaton county, Mich., renting a farm of John McConnell, a great hunter, though he owned at that time land in Montcalm county, Mich., and, after a residence in Eaton county, he returned to Bloom township, Wood county, buying a farm in Section 35.

At West Millgrove, Joseph Urie enlisted in the Union army August 6, 1862, becoming a member of Company B, 111th O. V. I., which was later made a part of the Second Brigade, Second Division, Twenty-third Army Corps. At the battle of Lenoir Station, Tenn., he was taken prisoner, and was confined in Libby prison and at Andersonville, Ga., where, after nine months he starved to death, dying August 10, 1864. His sufferings were terrible, and his body was never recovered by his family. Like so many brave and loyal men during that struggle he laid down his life for his country. Urie Post, G. A. R., of Bloomdale, is named in his honor. This left the widow with her two sons, who carried on the farm, where she lived for many years. She died at the home of our subject in Bloomdale, July 9, 1891, a most highly respected lady, and an earnest and devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The primary education of George W. Urie was obtained in the district schools, and he completed his studies by one term's attendance at the schools of Findlay, Ohio. In 1871 he was united in marriage with Mrs. Sarah Rosendale, *née* Noecker, widow of Thomas Rosendale, Sr., and to them was born a daughter, Lorena, who died in infancy. The wife died in 1874, and was interred in Shenandoah, Richland county. Up to the spring of 1872 farming had been the chief occupation of our subject, but at that time he joined the surveying party, then locating the B. & O. railroad through Bloomdale, being thus employed for about two years. After the death of his first wife he began the erection of a house for the accommodation of travelers in Bloomdale, which he conducted for some time in connection with the operation of his farm near that place. This property he later sold, and devoted his entire

time to agricultural pursuits, but now makes his home in Bloomdale, where he has a pleasant and commodious residence.

In Cass township, Hancock county, in September, 1893, Mr. Urie was again married, his second union being with Miss Lizzie Overholt, a native of that township, and a daughter of Christian Overholt, one of its representative farmers and citizens. This worthy couple hold membership with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which they contribute liberally, and he has served as steward and secretary of the board of trustees. Politically he is a stalwart Republican, and is at present serving as constable of the township. Though a quiet, unassuming man, he wins many friends, and his integrity, manliness and true Christian character have won the respect of the entire community.

CLARENCE W. THOMAS, who carries on agricultural pursuits in Plain township, is a native of the same, having first seen the light in that township, June 26, 1859, and is a worthy representative of a pioneer family of Wood county. He is a son of Silas and Eliza (Beach) Thomas, and a brother of L. P. Thomas, of Middleton township. In Plain township he attended school, and from an early age has been familiar with farm work in its various departments, for as soon as old enough to handle a plow, he began work in the fields on the old homestead. To his father he gave the benefit of his services until 1879, when he started out in life for himself, and in partnership with his brother, J. G. Thomas, purchased thirty acres of land which they cleared and improved. As success attended their efforts, they added to this property until they had more than one hundred acres at the time our subject sold out. The latter then purchased the old homestead of one hundred acres which he now operates, being successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. He has made excellent improvements on his land, and is a progressive, energetic and capable farmer.

On February 1, 1880, Clarence W. Thomas was united in marriage with Miss Maggie A. Jewell, daughter of Aaron Jewell, and their union has been blessed with two sons and one daughter — Albert, Orin and Mabel, all of whom are now attending school. Mr. Thomas is a warm friend of the cause of education, believing it to be the best preparation for life work, and for three years he served as school director. In religious faith he belongs to the United Brethren Church, holding membership with the Union Hill Church, of which he is trustee and assistant class-leader,

also superintendent of the Sunday-school. He does all in his power to promote the cause of religion, and has been an important factor in educational and social interests.

MANDEVILLE MILBOURN, a leading agriculturist of Bloom township, is a member of one of the most prominent pioneer families of that locality, and has himself passed through experiences, the like of which can never occur again in this now civilized region.

The Milbourn family is of old Virginia stock, their home being in Campbell county. His grandfather, Andrew Milbourn, reared a family of six children, among whom was Lot T., our subject's father, who came to Ohio when a young man and located for a time in Columbiana county. Here he met and married his first wife, Miss Abigail Reed, and in the summer of 1835 came to Bloom township and bought a tract of 160 acres of timber land, upon which he built a small log house for his family, who joined him in the fall. At that time there were no roads there except the irregular wagon track cut by the settlers from one house to another, and our pioneers were obliged to clear their way from Eagleville to their new home, following what is known as Bull creek most of the distance. Lot T. Milbourn was a leader in the community, active in politics, in early days as a Whig and later as a Republican, and he was for years a justice of the peace, and the clerk and a trustee of Bloom township. He was a great hunter, and the woods afforded him every chance to gratify his taste. In addition to farming he carried on the blacksmith trade, and made hoes and other implements of unusual strength for the rough work of that day. Notwithstanding his early disadvantages, he acquired a fair competence, and his later years were spent in quiet comfort.

Our subject, who was born December 18, 1841, was the youngest of eight children: Harvey, now a farmer of Bloom township; Julia A., Josiah, and Lycurgus, all three of whom have passed away; Leander, now a resident of Kansas; Lot R., who lives in Columbiana county; Thomas E., a resident of Iowa, and Mandeville. The mother of our subject died in 1848, and the father subsequently married Mrs. Hannah McNeely Whitacre.

Mandeville Milbourn attended the schools of District No. 3, his first teacher being Richard Martin. He assisted on the farm until the death of his father, which occurred in 1874, relieving him of care in his old age. He shared his father's love of hunting, and his single-barrel rifle,

which weighs twelve pounds and carries a ball that weighs forty-five to the pound, has brought down all sorts of game excepting bear. On one occasion he went out to hunt rabbits with his dogs, and startled a wild cat, which took refuge on the roof of the old log barn, where he crouched pending a renewal of hostilities. Fortunately the father returned from a hunting trip just then, and shot at the wildcat, wounding him so that he jumped down and was killed by the three dogs after a desperate fight, our subject carrying the carcass home with much pride. At another time he and his brother Lycurgus were hunting deer in Henry township, and, seeing a drove of six or more, they shot a large buck, who left the main herd and was pursued by the boys. Another shot rendered him desperate, and when the boys neared him he charged at Lycurgus, who bravely stood his ground, and by a well-directed blow with a hatchet laid the monarch of the woods low.

On January 1, 1864, Mr. Milbourn married Miss Rebecca Whitacre, daughter of Reason Whitacre, a well-known pioneer of Bloom township. They began housekeeping on a part of the old homestead, which he inherited from his father. Here he has made many improvements, including a handsome residence built in 1889. Five children were born of this union: Reason E., a dentist of North Baltimore; Lydia C., who married George Zody, of Sugar Ridge; Mary L., married to C. H. Sanderson, of Perry township; Horace M. and James A., at home, the latter attending school at Jerry City. The mother died November 14, 1895, aged fifty-two years, nine months, fourteen days, and was interred at Jerry City.

Mr. Milbourn's father helped to organize a company to take part in the war of 1812, but news came of the close of the struggle, and they stayed at home. The patriotic devotion of our subject was also thwarted, as, after enlisting in Company D, 111th O. V. I., and staying at Camp Toledo for three weeks, he was rejected on account of an accidental injury to his knee received some time before. He returned home and resumed his place in local affairs, befriending every progressive movement, and serving for three years as constable, and five years as township trustee; of late years, however, he has declined to be a candidate. His able discharge of his duties has given him an extensive influence among the Republicans of this county, and has won for him the esteem of all classes, regardless of party. He is a leading member of the Christian Church at Jerry City, in which he was

deacon for many years and is now elder; his wife was also a member of this Church.

GEORGE FURRY, a worthy representative of one of the honored pioneer families of this county, is a native of Ohio, born in Stark county, in 1831, and is a son of Jacob and Fanny (Butler) Furry, both natives of Franklin county, Penn., the former born in 1797, and the latter in 1804. In their native State they passed their childhood days, were married, and in 1829 removed to Stark county, Ohio, where the father followed his trade of shoemaking until coming to Wood county in 1833. In Troy township he entered a tract of land in Section 5, which he began to clear and improve, but later sold that property and purchased a farm in what is now Lake township, but was then a part of Troy township. He was the first settler on the Ridge, and was the second to make a purchase there. He died in Lake township, June 21, 1866, and his wife, who survived him many years, died on the old homestead on August 21, 1887.

Their family consisted of nine children. (1) Jacob H., who died at Pemberville, in July, 1895, had enlisted in the Union army in 1861, as a member of Company E, 72nd O. V. I., was wounded at the battle of Shiloh, after which he was honorably discharged and returned home, but in 1864 he re-enlisted in the same company and regiment, and was sent to the hospital. He was discharged in 1865. (2) George, of this sketch, is the next in order of birth. (3) William, who became a member of the same company as his brother Jacob, was taken prisoner at the battle of Guntown, and confined in Andersonville and Florence, being incarcerated for over nine months. He now resides on the old home farm in Lake township. (4) Mrs. Jane Whitmore makes her home in Haskins, Wood county. (5) Margaret died at East Toledo, Ohio, in July, 1890. (6) John, who also enlisted in 1861, in Company E, 72nd O. V. I., died at Woodville, Sandusky Co., Ohio, May 3, 1887. He gallantly served for three years in the Union army. (7) Catherine is the wife of J. B. McCutchen, of Troy township. (8) Mary wedded Martin Shook, of the same township. (9) Charles resides at Gibsonburg, Sandusky county.

Our subject was but two years of age on coming to Wood county with his parents, the trip being made with an ox-team and cart. He was educated in the district schools of Troy and Lake townships, and remained a member of his father's household until seventeen years of age, when he began learning the carpenter's trade, which he

would follow during the summer season. At the age of twenty-four he again took up his books and continued his studies for four years, at the end of which time he commenced teaching. That profession he has since followed during the winter months with the exception of two terms. In 1865, at Toledo, Ohio, he enlisted in Company G, 189th O. V. I., and was mustered into the United States service at Columbus, Ohio. He was appointed first sergeant, was stationed near Huntsville, Ala., and was mustered out as sergeant-major, being honorably discharged at Nashville, Tenn., September 28, 1865, after which he returned to his home in Wood county.

In Sandusky county, Ohio, in 1862, Mr. Furry was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Jane Manchester, a native of Fremont, Ohio, who died in Lake township, Wood county, in 1867, leaving two daughters, namely: Adda Luella, who died in September, 1892; and Sarah Jane, wife of Dr. A. G. Snyder, of East Toledo, Ohio. In Lake township, in 1870, Mr. Furry was again married, his second union being with Miss Elizabeth Wicks, whose birth occurred in Sandusky county. Her parents, John and Sarah (Hartsell) Wicks, were natives of Pennsylvania, whence they moved to Wayne county, Ohio, later to Sandusky, and finally located in Lake township, Wood county, where they both passed away, the mother in June, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Furry have seven children: Frank, who is married and resides at Stony Ridge, Wood county; Lottie Alinda, Mabel May, Hattie, Stella, Roy and Zoa.

In his political views, Mr. Furry is a Republican, and he and his wife are faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. For sixty-three years he has now made his home in Wood county, has witnessed almost its entire growth and development, and has been instrumental in helping to bring about the wonderful changes that have taken place. He has many warm friends throughout the county, and by all who know him is held in the highest regard.

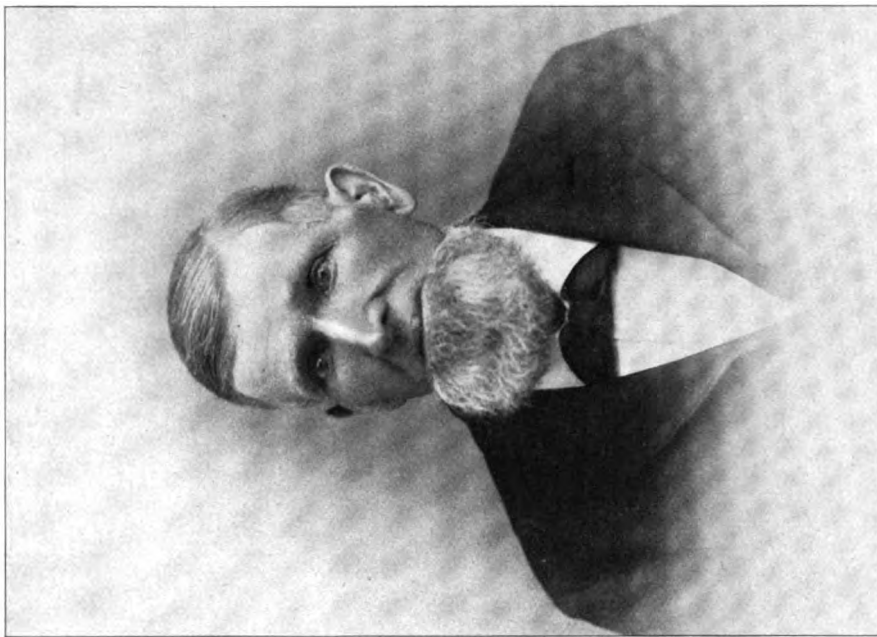
J. Q. ADAMS, a representative agriculturist of Washington township, was born in Orleans county, N. Y., October 8, 1824, and is a son of Elijah and Phœbe (Crosby) Adams, the former a native of Vermont, the latter of New York State. Elijah's parents were both drowned while crossing Lake Champlain on the ice, with a team, leaving to the care of others their only child, Elijah, who was adopted and reared by Jesse Hard, of near Manchester, Vt. But little is known of our subject's ancestry, not even the names of his grandparents. To Elijah and

Phœbe Adams were born seven children: Marietta, deceased wife of David Kempton; Sallie, who was the wife of William Turner, and died in Indiana; Lydia, who was the wife of Ransom Hollis, but both are now deceased; William, who was a cooper by trade, and has also passed away; J. Q., the subject of this sketch; Lyman, who resides in Monroeville, Huron Co., Ohio; and Guilford, who died in Huron county, in which county the father also departed this life, September 30, 1839, where he had resided since 1833. The mother then made her home with our subject, her death occurring December 26, 1877.

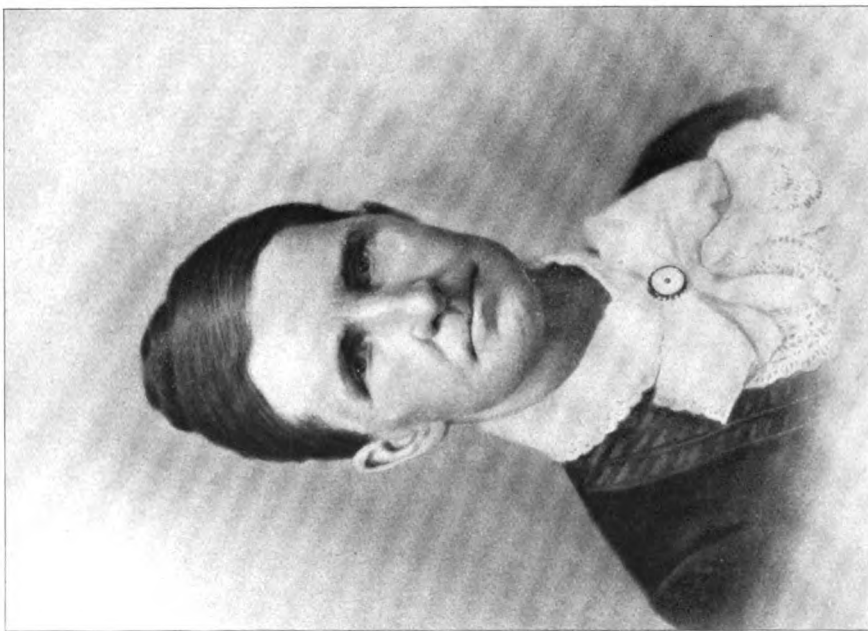
The district schools of Ridgefield township, Huron Co., Ohio, afforded J. Q. Adams his educational privileges; but at an early age he was compelled to lay aside his studies, and take up the sterner duties of life. From the age of fifteen he supported his mother, engaging in farming on shares. In March, 1857, he came to Wood county with his family, having the previous year purchased eighty acres of land in Washington township, which he at once began to improve, erecting thereon a good house, also barns, and planting an excellent orchard. To his original purchase he afterward added forty acres, but has now deeded that part of his property to his son.

Mr. Adams was married in Huron county, October 14, 1847, to Miss Jane J. Cadwell, of Lorain county, Ohio, and to them were born four children, of whom Garry and Harrison both died in 1863, and the youngest in infancy. Frank, the third son, was born August 11, 1857, on the old homestead, where he grew to manhood, receiving his education in the district schools of the neighborhood, and he has always aided in the operation of the home farm. For the past three years he has served as trustee of Washington township. In 1880 he wedded Mary Killyen, and they have four children: Floyd, born October 19, 1882; Ray, born July 8, 1884; Paul F., born October 1, 1885; and May, born May 21, 1887. The wife of our subject, who was a most estimable lady, died June 6, 1886, leaving many friends as well as her immediate family to mourn her loss. She was a daughter of Daniel D. and Laura (Williams) Cadwell, who were married in Pittsfield, Ohio, September 26, 1816, and had two children both born in Troy, Ohio: Mary Ann, born January 11, 1818, and Jane J. (Mrs. J. Q. Adams), born April 9, 1820. The mother of these died June 23, 1831, and the father subsequently remarried; the date of his death is not known.

In his political views, Mr. Adams is a stalwart



J. Q. ADAMS.



MRS. JANE J. ADAMS.





Republican, unwavering in his allegiance to his party, whose principles he believes are calculated to promote the country's best interests. While in no sense a politician, he has always taken an interest in his party, and several times has been delegate to conventions—both Congressional and county. For a number of years he served as trustee and supervisor, was also a member of the school board, and from April, 1886, to April, 1892, was a justice of the peace, during which time he solemnized several marriages. No case has ever been appealed from his court, showing that he held the hands of justice with a balance that was beyond the interference of any court, and to the satisfaction of all. In religious belief he is a Universalist, although his family attend the Presbyterian Church. For a time he was a member of the National Guards, and in the Masonic order he has attained the seventh degree in the Royal Arch Chapter, belonging to Lodge No. 451, of Tontogany, and the Chapter of Bowling Green.

J. WININGER, who for many years has been the postmaster at Hatton, and is also a prosperous merchant of that village, was born in Seneca county, Ohio, December 2, 1839, the son of Adam and Mary (Sheller) Wininger.

The father of our subject was a Pennsylvanian by birth, but was a pioneer settler of Seneca county, and, at the time of our subject's birth, was living one mile from what is now Fostoria, on land which is now included in the limits of that city. When he was a child his parents removed to near Berwick, Ohio, where they owned eighty acres of unimproved land. He attended the district schools in the intervals of hard work, and was often prevented from even this scanty amount of schooling on account of high water, which covered the wet, swampy land in this section, near Fostoria. The young people of to-day have but little idea of the trials and privations the youth of those pioneer times had to undergo in order to procure even the limited schooling which they received, and it is to their credit that they grew up to be, in most cases, intelligent, well-informed men who laid the foundations for one of the most prosperous commonwealths among the States.

Mr. Wininger remained on his father's farm until reaching his majority, when he learned the carpenter's trade, at which he worked at intervals for a number of years. On October 6, 1856, he was married, in Fostoria, to Miss Sarah Stevens, who was born in Pennsylvania, daughter of Benjamin and Catherine Stevens. Two children were born of this union: Laura E., who

resides with her father, and Adelia, now Mrs. Earl Dillon, of Seneca county, Ohio.

Mr. Wininger began his active life without any assistance, at first renting land near Fostoria, which he farmed until his removal, in the spring of 1873, to a tract of eighty acres of wild land in Section 3, Perry township, for which he paid \$1,000, a legacy which was left to his wife, about this time aiding him materially in its purchase. No improvements whatever were on this place; but the young man was a worker, and the effects of many days of hard labor were soon noticeable. Each year saw the land increasing in value, but by the time it had reached a high state of cultivation, the incessant work had begun to tell on its owner, and he was compelled to seek some less laborious employment. He concluded to start in the grocery business at Hatton, but so cautious was he about investing in an enterprise entirely unfamiliar, that he bought at first only about \$75 worth of goods, and not until 1885 did he remove his family to Hatton. It was soon necessary, however, to seek other quarters for the transaction of his rapidly-growing business, which has proved successful beyond his highest expectations. He now owns his store, the greater part of which he has built, and carries a stock of general merchandise, his trade being an extensive one, both in the immediate vicinity and throughout the township. He also owns and resides in the finest house in Hatton, and in addition to his farm of eighty acres, which he still carries on, is the owner of other valuable property.

On October 1, 1861, Mr. Wininger enlisted in Company D, 72nd Regiment, O. V. I., under Capt. Neuffer, and participated in all the battles in which his company took part until the latter part of June, 1863, when he was taken seriously ill at Vicksburg, Miss., and was sent to the hospital at Memphis. Later he was transferred to the Invalid Corps at St. Louis, where he remained two months; then was sent to Rock Island, Ill., and from there to Washington, D. C., where he was discharged in November, 1864. During the administration of President Arthur, Mr. Wininger was appointed postmaster at Hatton, and has retained that office ever since in spite of the changes in political leaders. He is a popular man, and has been successful in pleasing all classes by his excellent management of the duties of this responsible position. He is a staunch Republican, and has held a number of minor offices, though in no sense an office-seeker. He is deserving of much credit for the active share he has had in the growth and development of his section.

and it is to such men as he that Wood county owes her position as one of the foremost among the best counties of Ohio. His worth is appreciated by his fellow citizens, who hold him in high esteem. Mr. Wininger has had the sorrow of losing his estimable wife, who departed this life August 4, 1892, at Hatton, and was laid to rest in the cemetery at Fostoria.

PETER S. PAINTER, one of the most progressive and enterprising agriculturists of Bloom township, is a member of an old and highly respected pioneer family of that vicinity.

His ancestors were among the early settlers of Pennsylvania, and his grandfather, Adam Painter, came from that State to Columbiana county, Ohio, in the latter part of the eighteenth century, where he bought and improved a large tract of land. His son, Peter S., our subject's father, was born there August 21, 1798, and was reared as a farmer boy and given a good start in life, financially. He was a mechanical genius, and learned various trades without any instruction, being an expert carpenter and shoemaker. He was married August 29, 1822, to Miss Elizabeth Musser, a lady of English descent, who was a native of Maryland, born October 10, 1805, the daughter of Michael Musser. Although he owned an excellent farm in his native county, our subject's father decided to seek "fresh fields and pastures new" on the then frontier line of western Ohio, and disposing of his property he bought 600 acres of land in Bloom township, to which he brought his family in the spring of 1839. They traveled in an old-fashioned scoop-shaped wagon drawn by horses and oxen, and slept many nights in their rude vehicle or camped out near the road. A hewed log house was their first home, with wolves, deer, wild turkeys, and bears for neighbors, the latter making free with their stock unless guarded against constantly.

Of the twelve children of this pioneer couple, eight were born in Columbiana county: James died in infancy; J. Adam, born February 9, 1824, was a member of Company D, 99th O. V. I., and died at Nashville, Tenn., where he was buried; Margaret A. (deceased), born July 11, 1829, married Dr. D. K. Pratt, of California; Michael M., September 11, 1828, died at McComb, Ohio; Henry, November 11, 1830, lives in Nebraska; Samuel, December 8, 1832, lives in Oskaloosa, Ill.; Catherine A., December 15, 1834, married J. M. Sweeney, a native of Scotland, now deceased, and she resides in Hartford, Conn.; John, January 28, 1837, died in Wood county. Four other children were born in this

county: Sarah E., September 10, 1839, married William Russell, and died in Bloom township; Peter S., Jr., August 7, 1841; Nancy, November 11, 1843, married Abraham Hampshire, of Ottumwa, Iowa; and Hiram Z., born July 15, 1846, died in Bloom township. Our subject's father was a powerful man, six feet two inches in height, and weighing over 200 pounds. After a few years of toil at the new home, he died—December 7, 1845—and was buried at West Millgrove, his wife surviving him nearly fifty years, bringing up their large family of children to take useful and honorable places in life. She was known for miles around as the "Doctor," and was called for wherever there was any serious illness to nurse, and often to prescribe for the sufferer. She made many long trips through the woods on these errands, protected from the wild animals by a large, brown dog, "Beldy," who had more than one desperate and bloody encounter with wolves after which his wounds would be dressed as if he were a human being. The devoted labors of this noble woman were but poorly paid, and sometimes not paid at all, so far as outward return went. She possessed marvelous vitality, and lived until June 6, 1895, the last twenty years being spent in the home of our subject. During her first years in Wood county, she had a remarkable escape from death. Her husband was chopping a tree, and she came near without attracting his attention, and the tree fell toward her; but a large fork in it separated the branches, which struck the ground on each side of her, so that she was not injured. Her remains were interred in Bloom Chapel cemetery.

Peter S. Painter, our subject, went to live with an uncle, John Snyder, when he was seven years old, and at twelve began to work for neighboring farmers, doing any work suitable for his strength, which was unusual for a boy of his age. He was "at home wherever he took his hat off," and he did a great deal of work at cutting wheat by cradle in this and adjoining counties. He attended the district schools of his time, and the realization of their deficiencies makes him anxious that the rising generation should have the best advantages that can be given them. On August 15, 1861, he enlisted, in Bloom township, in Company H, 49th O. V. I. under Capt. O. B. Hays, and Col. W. H. Gibson. After training at Tiffin and Camp Dennison, they went to the front, taking stock cars from Cincinnati to their first engagement at Green River, Ky. His regiment was the celebrated "Black Swamp Jayhawkers," and during their entire service they were at the front, never being assigned to guard or

picket duty. Mr. Painter took no furlough, but remained on duty throughout the war, and participated in every battle of his regiment, except for a term of four weeks, in hospital, from a wound received at Missionary Ridge, November 25, 1863. He was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps, April 10, 1864.

After his return home he began farming "on his own hook," renting a place in Bloom township. On May 25, 1865, he married Miss Mary J. Swinehart, who was born March 31, 1841, in Perry township, where her parents, John and Elizabeth (Hale) Swinehart, were pioneer farmers, having come from Jefferson county, at an early day. Four children were born to this union: Clyde R., a lawyer of Bowling Green; Eva, a teacher in Bloom township; Malissa, a teacher; and Mollie, a teacher in Milton township, all three living at home.

Soon after his marriage, Mr. Painter bought forty acres of land in Perry township, making his first payment with \$250, saved from his \$13 per month as a soldier. Two years later he sold it, and bought the homestead in Bloom township, containing forty acres. In April, 1871, he moved to Clay county, Ill., buying a farm there, but in November, 1874 he returned to Ohio, having lost in the meantime about \$2,500. He rented land in Bloom township, and afterward bought eighty acres of it, which he improved, setting out fruit and ornamental trees, and erecting buildings. In 1894 he built a new barn, 45x75, which is one of the best of the fine modern barns of the township. His success is well deserved, as it is based upon hard work and wise management, and his fair dealing and upright principles have won for him the high esteem of his neighbors. He is a great reader, and keeps himself well informed upon the topics of the time. Politically, he is a Republican; but although he takes keen interest in the success of his party, he has declined all tenders of official positions, either in the township or county. He is a member of Urie Post No. 110, G. A. R., of Bloomdale.

REV. DAVID BRANDEBERRY, one of the most highly-respected citizens of this section of the country, is engaged in the work of the Methodist Episcopal ministry, serving the people of Bettsville Circuit, Seneca county. He was born in Bloom township, Wood county, December 6, 1854, and is the second son and fourth child of Thomas C. and Catherine (Miller) Brandeberry. He obtained his early education at District School No. 8, his first teacher being W. S. Richard, and, as he learned easily and rapidly, he

soon mastered the common English branches taught there. The greater part of his knowledge, however, has been acquired since leaving the school room, mostly by reading and observation. From the time he was old enough he assisted in the work of the home farm until his marriage, which important event in his life occurred on November 21, 1878, when Miss Lydia Bowers became his wife. She is a native of Ohio, born in Licking county, October 9, 1858, and is a daughter of Lewis and Rebecca (Bailey) Bowers. Her education was also secured in the common schools, and by her marriage she became the mother of a son—Edward D., who died at the age of seven months.

In June, 1890, Mr. Brandeberry was licensed as a local preacher of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He then pursued a four-years' course of study arranged by the bishops of the Church, and was graduated in 1894, receiving the highest grade in a class of nine. In 1895 he entered the Conference in a traveling relation, and is now pursuing another four-years' course of study in connection with his work. In 1894 he was appointed to serve Hammansburg and South Liberty. The following year he was on Hoytville Circuit, and in 1896 received his present appointment at Bettsville. Though only in the work a few years, Mr. Brandeberry has developed those qualities that have advanced him from one of the minor places to one of the best circuits in the Central Ohio Conference. He is an earnest Christian worker, and gains the love and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact. From the time he cast his first vote up to 1893, he always supported the Republican party, but is now a strong Prohibitionist. By his friends he has been offered political positions; but his aspirations are not in that line, though he takes quite an interest in public matters, desiring to see the most competent men placed in office. He possesses a farm of forty-one acres in Section 35, Bloom township.

JOHN W. FARK is an enterprising farmer of Troy township, pleasantly located in Section 11, and although his residence in this county is of comparatively short duration, he has already identified himself with the representative and progressive citizens. In April, 1883, he located upon his fine farm of 116 acres, then only partially improved, which he had purchased the previous year, coming here from Toledo, Ohio, and has since devoted his time and attention to general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Fark was born in Woodville township,

Sandusky Co., Ohio, in 1854, and is a son of Ernst Henry and Louisa (Miller) Fark. The father, who was a native of Hanover, Germany, was unmarried on locating in Sandusky county, and at an early day he also worked in Perrysburg, Wood county. For his first wife he wedded Mary Borchesding, who died in Woodville township, leaving two daughters—Caroline, wife of Henry Ernsthausen, of Freedom township, Wood county; and Mrs. Eliza Hartman, of Lucas county, Ohio. In 1853, in Woodville township, Sandusky county, was celebrated the marriage of Ernst Henry Fark and Miss Louisa Miller, who was born in Germany, and is a daughter of Diedrich Miller, one of the early pioneers of Woodville township, where he helped to build the pike, and there spent his remaining days. Mr. and Mrs. Fark still make their home in Woodville township, where he developed a farm from the forest, and reared a family of seven children, who are still living, namely: John W., of this sketch; Henry, who resides upon the home farm; William, who is foreman of a telegraph line of Toledo; Mrs. Kate Aufderhide, of the same city; August, who is married, and is engaged in bookkeeping in Toledo; Mrs. Emma Hoodlebrink, of Woodville; and Fred, at home.

Like most farmer boys, John W. Fark was reared, and in the schools of Woodville township obtained his education. At the age of twenty-two he left the parental roof, being for two years employed as a farm hand, and then went to Toledo, where he worked at car repairing for two months during the day time, and then was made night inspector, which position he held for one year. His next employment was in a foundry, but after a short time he entered a sash factory, and on leaving that place secured work on a telegraph line. He next came to Troy township, Wood county, where he has since resided.

At Toledo, in 1881, Mr. Fark was joined in wedlock with Miss Louisa Havekost, whose birth occurred in Monroe, Mich. Her parents, John and Anna (Behrens) Havekost, were both natives of Germany. The father, who was an ocean sailor, went in 1849 to California, where he worked in the mines for a time, after which he returned to the Fatherland, and on again coming to the United States located near Monroe, Mich., where he and his wife still live. Seven children have been born to our subject and his wife—Ernest John, Charley H., Lewis, Annie, Lorena, Gertrude and Mabel, the latter of whom died September 7, 1896, aged eleven months. The parents are members of the Lutheran Church at Woodville, and in politics he is a Democrat, by

which party he was elected in 1890 as trustee, and still continues to fill that office. For six years he efficiently served as a member of the school board, and for two terms was supervisor.

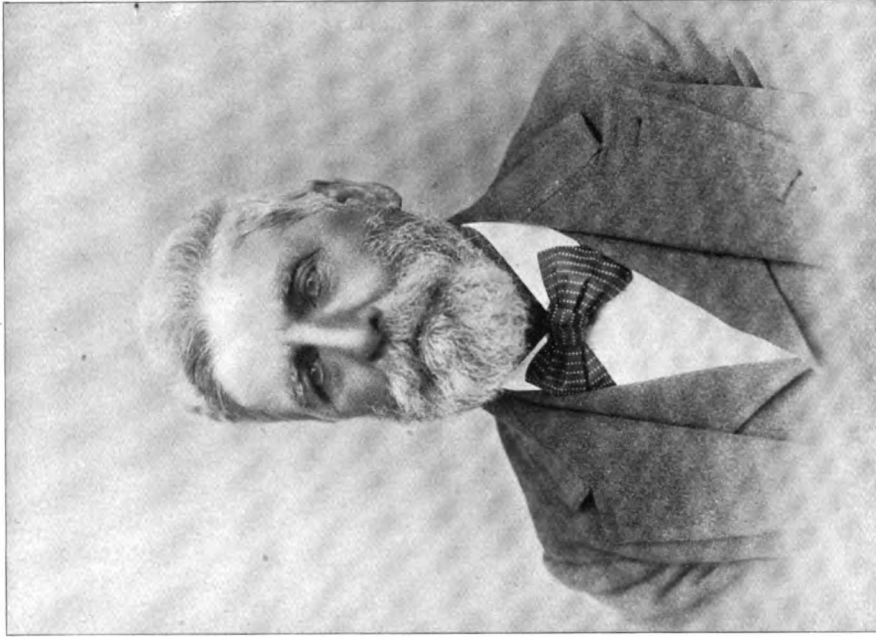
GEORGE HAMPSHIRE, for many years one of the leading well-to-do farmers and extensive landowners of Portage township, Wood county, is now living retired from active work, enjoying the prosperity which he acquired by hard work during his early years. He is a native of Ohio, born February 1, 1831, in Morgan county, near Eagleport, son of Jonas and Mary (Swope) Hampshire.

Jonas Hampshire was born October 16, 1808, in Baltimore county, Md., son of Barney Hampshire, who in 1811 removed with his family to Ohio, locating first in Muskingum county, where they lived seven years, and thence removing to Morgan county. Barney Hampshire was drowned in the Muskingum river. He was the father of eleven children—four sons and seven daughters. Jonas Hampshire was married in 1830, in Morgan county, to Mary Swope, daughter of Jacob Swope, and two children were born to them there—George and Henry. In the fall of 1832 the family removed to Seneca county, locating in Jackson township, where Mr. Hampshire had entered 160 acres of land, and they were pioneers in that region, the country being very sparsely settled at the time of their arrival. They continued to reside there for over twenty years, in 1858 removing to Wood county and settling on a farm in Section 34, Portage township. Here Mr. Hampshire had invested in 200 acres of farm land, on which the timber was still standing, no trees having been chopped except by coon hunters. He cleared the land, however, and continued to improve it during his lifetime, converting it into a valuable property. A hard-working man, he met with well-merited success, at the time of his death being the owner of 316 acres of land east of Jerry City, and thirty-three acres south, residing on the latter place for some years previous to his decease. He gave each of his children a farm. He became quite prominent in Jackson township, Seneca county, where he served as township trustee and assessor, and he was an ardent believer in the principles of the Democratic party. Having a natural aptitude for military tactics, he took great interest in such affairs, and was captain of a company of home militia in Jackson township, Seneca Co., Ohio.

Of the children born to Jonas and Mary Hampshire the following named lived to maturity: George; Henry, who lives in Garden City, Kans.;



MRS. NANCY HAMPSHIRE.



GEORGE HAMPSHIRE.



Emanuel, of Garnet, Kans.; Abraham, now living in Ottumwa, Iowa; Rachel, who married Solomon S. Frederick, and died in Henry township; and Catharine (Mrs. John Cupp), of Hammansburg. The mother of these died in 1866, in Portage township, and for his second wife Mr. Hampshire wedded, on December 11, 1866, Mrs. Hannah (Clinger) Sanderlin. To this union were born three children—Jonas W., of Portage township; Aminda, who died in young womanhood; and John, who is a farmer of Bloom township. Mr. Hampshire passed from earth July 29, 1892, in Bloom township, and was laid to rest in Jerry City cemetery. He was a member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Hampshire possessed a strong will, and force of character, traits which marked the whole course of his life, and which were no small factors in his success and popularity.

George Hampshire passed all his early life in a pioneer region, and he was initiated into the mysteries of agriculture in a new country at a tender age. They lived two miles from a school, and, work at home being plenty, he as the eldest son could not be spared from the farm, so that the greater part of his education has been acquired by his own efforts. On December 4, 1851, he was married, in Jackson township, Seneca county, to Miss Nancy Foster, who was born in that township February 8, 1833, daughter of Christian Foster, who came to Seneca county from Perry county, this State, in an early day. After his marriage our subject farmed on his father's land, in Seneca county, until January 31, 1865, when he removed to Wood county, taking up his home on an eighty-acre tract in Section 33, Portage township, of which at that time but two acres were cleared, and seven acres chopped, and the dwelling and farm buildings were but rude structures. Mr. Hampshire was obliged to go in debt \$500 for this tract, and he at once set to work to make it productive, succeeding so well that he was later enabled to buy eighty acres adjoining his original purchase. He also has 110 acres in Bloom township, being the owner, altogether, of 270 acres of excellent farm land. Mr. Hampshire does not now engage in active farm work, having acquired a snug competence for his declining years. He is, indeed, a self-made man, and throughout his business career he has retained his honorable standing among his fellowmen, who esteem him for his many sterling qualities. He has been trustee in his township two terms, and has also served as school director, but he is no politician, and, though he is a Democrat in sentiment, he supports the best man, regardless of party ties.

Mr. and Mrs. Hampshire have had children as follows: Amanda (now Mrs. Daniel Smith), of Liberty township; Mary E. (Mrs. A. W. Lefler), of Toledo; Jonas H., who was deputy sheriff of Wood county and a registered pharmacist, and now living on a farm of ninety acres of his own, one and one-half miles from Bowling Green; Magdalena R. (Mrs. J. D. Simons), of Findlay, Ohio; Lucinda, living at home; Alice M. (Mrs. Charles Harnard), of Jerry City; Amelia (Mrs. John Harrison), of Portage township; Christ C., a farmer of Bloom township; Charles W., at home; and Cora E., who died when four years old. In religious connection Mr. and Mrs. Hampshire are active members of the Radical United Brethren Church, and he is at present serving as trustee.

GEORGE M. PALMER, a leading citizen and representative farmer of Montgomery township, residing in Section 28, was born in Penfield township, Lorain Co., Ohio, January 17, 1857, and is a son of Randolph P. and Esther C. Palmer. His father, whose birth occurred in Camden, N. Y., in the year 1820, migrated to Penfield township, Lorain county, in 1835, with his parents, Edward and Lucretia (Babcock) Palmer, where the former died, but the death of the latter occurred in Wood county. Both, however, were interred in Lorain county.

Randolph P. Palmer had good educational advantages for his day, and for six years was a successful teacher in the schools of Lexington, Ky. On November 16, 1847, in Grafton township, Lorain county, he wedded Mrs. Esther C. Pearmain, who was born at Mayfield, N. Y., April 29, 1820, and was the widow of Edward Pearmain. Her father, William McConnell, was the son of George McConnell, a native of Scotland, and a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, who at one time was the tutor of a son of the Duke of Hamilton, and later of Noah Webster. Her father, who was a cripple for many years, was a man of much more than ordinary intellect, and for thirty-five years served as justice of the peace in New York, in which State he lived before coming to Ohio. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Jerusha Hale, was born in Pittsfield, Conn., a daughter of Joseph Hale, and a relative of the celebrated John P. Hale. Mr. McConnell died at Lagrange, Ohio, December 30, 1863, where he located on coming from New York, and his wife passed away at Grafton, Ohio, August 9, 1856. They were devout Methodists. They reared a family of ten children—three sons and seven daughters. Al-



though he owned a farm, he never actively engaged in its operation, as his crippled condition would not permit it. Being a good scholar, he was also an able writer.

It was in 1860 that the father of our subject came to Wood county, locating first in Montgomery township, but after a short time removing to Freeport (now Prairie Depot), where he conducted a hotel in an old log building. Later he replaced this by a frame structure, where he continued to carry on the hotel business in connection with work at the carpenter's trade, and also owned a farm adjoining the village on the north. On May 2, 1864, he joined Company K, 144th O. V. I.; and died July 14, 1864, of typhoid fever in the hospital at Fort Dix, Md. His remains were interred at that place. He was considerably above the average man, intellectually, and being a great reader was well-informed on topics of general interest. In politics he was first a Whig, and later a Republican. After the death of her husband Mrs. Palmer sold the hotel property, and removed to the farm, where she remained until her children were grown. Her death occurred at the home of a daughter in Oneida, Kans., January 26, 1891. In the family were four children: Wilton, born December 24, 1849, who is a physician of Los Angeles, Cal.; Cleantha E., born September 19, 1852, Mrs. George Dale, of Los Angeles; George M. and Laura I., born September 25, 1858, now Mrs. David Gilmore, of Oneida, Kansas.

George M. Palmer was only a child when brought to Wood county by his parents, who first located in Section 13, Montgomery township, near the county line, after a short residence there removing to Prairie Depot, where our subject attended the common schools. Being a warm friend of the cause of education, the improvements made in the schools are in accordance with his ideas. During his youth he assisted in the work of the home farm, but at the age of twenty-one he entered the general store of S. E. Tilton as a clerk, and there remained for seven years. On February 1, 1883, in Montgomery township, Mr. Palmer was united in marriage with Miss Agnes W. Telfer, who was born in Pennsylvania, January 7, 1859, daughter of John and Martha (Craig) Telfer, the former of Scotch and the latter of Irish extraction. They came from Deerfield, Ohio, to Montgomery township, Wood county, and here the father died. In their family were seven children—three sons and four daughters. Seven children graced the union of our subject and his wife: John R., born May 5, 1884; Kenneth W., born March 5, 1886;

Esther M., born May 25, 1888; Roland C., born July 22, 1890, died August 21, 1892; Thomas T., born July 15, 1892; Margaret E., born July 3, 1894; and George McKinley, born September 16, 1896.

Palmer's addition to Prairie Depot was so named because it was taken from a part of Randolph P. Palmer's farm, and our subject purchased the remaining thirteen acres, which adjoined the village. After residing there for some time, he traded it for a tract of land in Section 13, Montgomery township; but on March 20, 1892, he removed to his present farm in Section 28, comprising sixty acres of excellent land. He also owns 120 acres in Marseilles township, Wyandot Co., Ohio. Upon his present farm he has five producing oil wells, and upon the old farm adjoining Prairie Depot, was found the most fertile field in the township. He is one of the most progressive and prosperous farmers of the locality, and is well-informed on the leading topics of the day. A stanch Republican, he has much more than a voting interest in the success of his party; for three terms was clerk of his township, and since 1894 has been trustee. Socially he is identified with the I. O. O. F., the Sons of Veterans and the Patrons of Industry, and he merits and receives in the highest degree the respect and confidence of the community in which he lives.

E. M. FRIES, an able young attorney of Bowling Green, junior member of the firm of Parker & Fries, was born in Bloom township, September 29, 1866, the fifth in a family of seven children born to his parents, who were natives of Lehigh county, Penn., where the ancestors of both had settled at an early period. His father's people were of Scotch and English blood, but had lived so long among the Pennsylvania-Dutch that they spoke their language.

Solomon Fries, our subject's father, was born November 24, 1824, and his mother, Louisa Charlotte Steckel, a lady of Dutch descent, was born in 1835. They were married in Tiffin, Ohio, where for several years Mr. Fries followed the bricklayer's trade, and in 1862 they removed to their present home in Bloom township.

After some years of attendance at the district school, our subject spent two years in the academy at Fostoria, and the same length of time in the Ohio Normal University, at Ada, taking the course in civil engineering in addition to his work in the literary department. After leaving school he taught one year, and then entered the employ of the L. E. & W. R. R. as civil engineer. A year

later he went to Seattle, Wash., where he remained eighteen months, working for the city engineer and for a land company. Returning to Ohio, he took a course in the Cincinnati Law School, graduating in 1893 with the degree of LL.B. He then came to Bowling Green, and after a year of preliminary work in an office he became a partner of Robert S. Parker. His fine native talents and thorough training give warrant to his large circle of friends in their expectations of a successful career. In politics he is a Republican.

GEORGE W. HEDGE, an extensive lumber dealer residing at Prairie Depot, is one of the best-known and most popular citizens of Montgomery township, and was born in the town of Abbeyville, Medina Co., Ohio, February 22, 1848. He is the eldest child of his parents, George B. and Catherine M. (Crawford) Hedge.

When our subject was seven years old the family moved to Wood county, and he entered District School No. 3, in Montgomery township, which was taught by Mrs. S. C. Guernsey. He had already attended school in Medina county, entering at the early age of four years. He was very apt at learning, and after spending some time in the district school was sent to a private institution at Prairie Depot, taught by a Mr. McPeck. His father was at this time in the saw-mill business, and the lad early acquired a knowledge of its details, so that when seventeen years of age he took entire charge of the mill, early displaying the ability which has manifested itself in the more extensive operations of his later days.

Mr. Hedge remained at home until his marriage, December 28, 1873, in Prairie Depot, to Miss Melita Graham, daughter of John and Melita (Anderson) Graham. She was born January 8, 1852, in Montgomery township, and was educated in the district schools of that locality. The young couple located on twenty acres in Section 20, Montgomery township, which, with the exception of a clearing of three acres, was in its primitive condition, covered with trees and brush, which had to be cleared away before a house could be erected. On this place Mr. Hedge lived, cultivating his land, and at the same time working in the mill with his father, who had made him a partner in the business when he was only twenty-two years old. They had in operation at this time a self-acting shingle machine, which was the first one of the kind in this part of Wood county. This partnership continued until February,

1888, when it was dissolved, and in June, 1889, our subject started the mill which he is now operating. On January 5, 1874, Mr. Hedge was the victim of a terrible accident, from the effects of which he will never recover. He was caught in a belt, and dragged under the shaft and thrown some distance, his right arm being torn into pieces, the hand being thrown in one direction, and other portions in different places, while the bone at the shoulder was entirely stripped of flesh for some nine inches. It was a horrible sight, but Mr. Hedge walked unassisted to his house, a distance of thirty rods. Many a man would have succumbed to such a shock, but his great vitality aided his rapid recovery, and in four weeks he was again ready to attend to business. Although the loss of his arm has been a great hardship, he has mastered every detail of his business, and has been remarkably successful in all his undertakings. His saw, planing and feed mill is an extensive plant, built in modern style, equipped with the latest machinery, and from ten to twelve men are employed the year round. In connection with this he has a large lumber business, and handles all kinds of woods, both native and foreign. He has erected the dwelling in which the family lives, his home place has been transformed into fertile fields and fruitful orchards, and comfortable buildings, with all modern conveniences, have taken the place of the primitive structure in which he at first made his home. Mr. Hedge now owns 284 acres of land in Montgomery township. He is a stockholder in the Wood County Fair Association, and is one of Montgomery township's leading men and representative citizens. His grand success in a business, wherein a majority fail, can be attributed to his thorough knowledge of its requirements, and to his fair and honest methods of dealing. There is no detail in his establishment, no matter how intricate, that he is not perfectly familiar with. While suffering under the disadvantage of having but one arm, he can skillfully operate machinery that many men with both arms would not be able to manipulate. While he had no capital in the way of money with which to start in life, his association with his father, as a member of the firm of George B. Hedge & Son, gave him great prestige and credit, which in later years he has never abused, and as an individual he stands as high as that firm ever did. Mr. Hedge has a delightful home, in which he takes great pleasure, and there are few men in Wood county in private life who have so extensive and so valuable a circle of acquaintances. One child, only, has blessed the union of our subject and his wife, a daughter,

named Carrie. For many years she was a great sufferer from inflammatory rheumatism, but through the best medical skill that money could procure, and the tender nursing of her devoted parents, she has finally recovered. In his political views Mr. Hedge is in sympathy with the Democratic party, but supports good men for office, even if they happen to be of some other political faith. He belongs to the I. O. O. F. at Prairie Depot, and both he and his wife are members of the Rebekah Lodge.

JOHN W. KNIGHT, one of the worthy citizens that England has furnished to Ohio, was born September 1, 1852, in Taunton, England, and is a son of Thomas and Eliza (Warren) Knight, also natives of the same country. He was about four years of age when his parents removed to the Isle of Guernsey, one of the Channel Islands. There he attended French schools and became thoroughly conversant with the French language; he also had an English governess at home. When a youth of nine summers he was brought by his parents to America on a German vessel, which landed at New York, October 10, 1861, and the family took up their residence in Sandusky, Erie Co., Ohio.

Our subject attended the public schools of that place, and completed his education in a business college in that town. Subsequently he was for five years employed in the printing office of the *Sandusky Journal*, but was obliged to abandon that vocation on account of ill health. He then came with his parents to Wood county, and here followed farming continuously until 1891, when he turned his attention to the development of oil wells, and now owns and controls fifteen wells, from which he derives a good income. He also served as postmaster at Trombley, to which position he was appointed during President Cleveland's first administration, being the first incumbent in the office.

Mr. Knight was married in Liberty township, October 30, 1878, to Mrs. Apalinda (Mercer) Whitacre, widow of Samuel Whitacre. She had two children by her first marriage: Olearius T. and Eletha O., both students in Bethany College, West Virginia. The children of the second marriage were Lloyd, who died at the age of sixteen months; and Deyo R., at home. Our subject has prospered in his business undertakings, owing to his well-directed efforts. He is now the owner of 490 acres of land, lying in Liberty, Henry, Jackson and Weston townships, 120 acres of which came by inheritance to Mrs. Knight, from her father, Daniel Mercer, late of

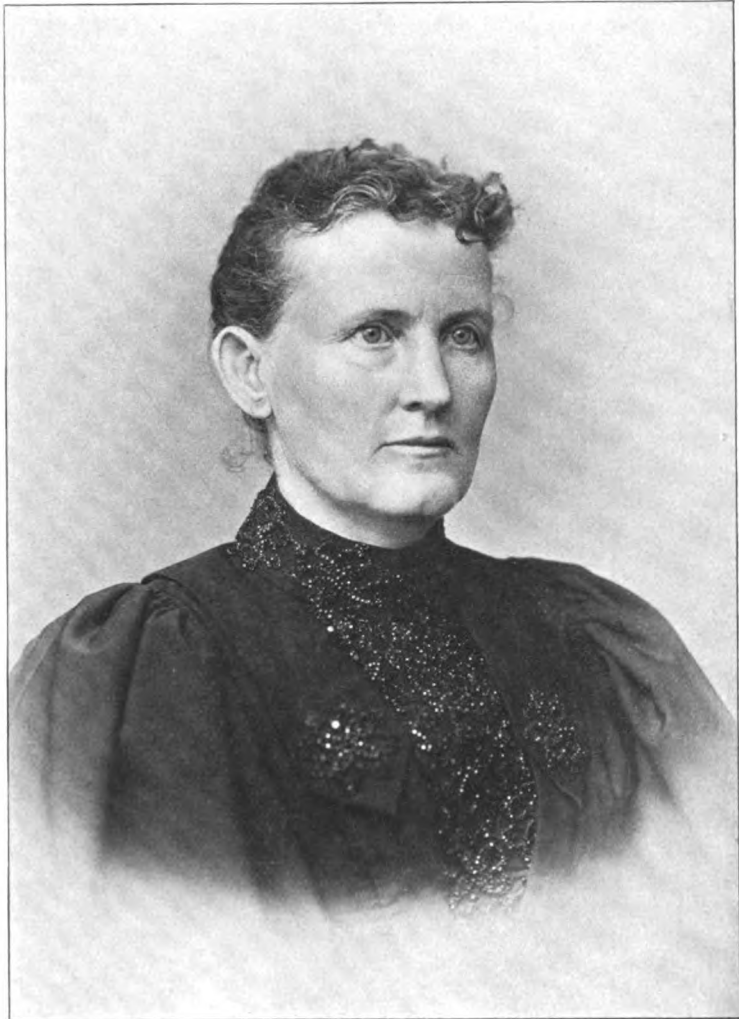
Bowling Green (familiarily known as "Uncle Dan"), and from the Whitacre estate. Mr. Knight has erected a handsome barn, as good a one as the county affords, also a poultry house and yards, which are worthy the notice of many poultry owners. He also owns on his premises an electric-light plant, lighting his residence and barn, all the building and fixing being done during the year 1896. In politics our subject was formerly a Democrat, but is now a stalwart Prohibitionist. For many years he has served as school director, and the cause of education finds in him a warm friend, while in Church work he takes an active part, and is now elder in the Disciples Church.

JOSEPH BENDER is one of the industrious and skillful farmers, fruit growers and gardeners of Center township, and one of the representative men of that portion of Wood county. He is the owner of a splendid farm, all of which is highly cultivated; his residence, which is a very handsome and commodious one, his fine barns and outbuildings, add materially to the appearance of the place, and to its value from a financial point of view. He is a native of Crawford county, Ohio, born June 8, 1830.

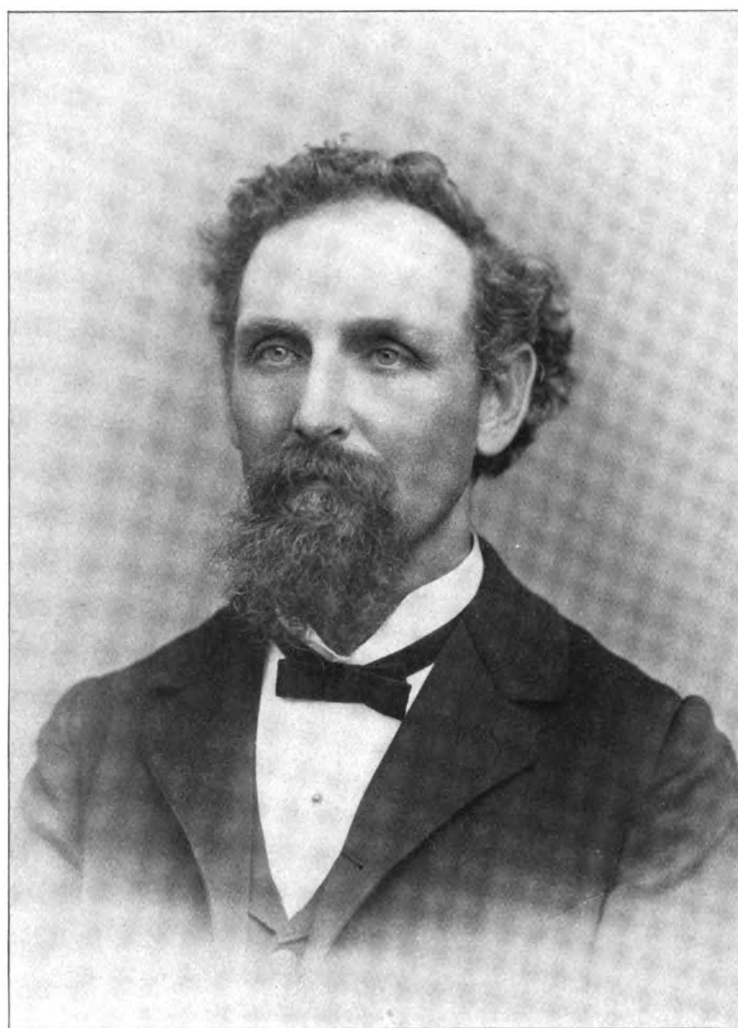
His father, George Bender, was born in Cumberland county, Penn., where he learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, which he followed there, but when still a young man removed to Crawford county, Ohio, and there engaged in farming. He wedded Mary Failor, and they became the parents of seven children: Elizabeth, wife of Nelson Close, of Crawford county; Andrew F., a retired farmer of Michigan; Mary, wife of John Ealy, an agriculturist of Crawford county; Susan, wife of John Kyser, a very systematic and industrious farmer, a prominent Grange lecturer, and a representative of his county in the State legislature; George, a time-honored minister of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ; Samuel, deceased; and Joseph, of this sketch. The father died in Crawford county, and the mother, who preceded him to the world beyond, passed away in 1832.

Joseph Bender continued on the home farm until reaching his majority, receiving as good an education as could be obtained in the common schools of that period, which education he supplemented by two years attendance at Otterbein University, and then spent three years teaching school. He then went to Wyandot county, Ohio, which was mostly inhabited by Indians, and remained there several years, devoting his time and attention to the cultivation of a





*Mrs Apalinda Knight.*



*John H. Knight*



farm of seventy acres, which he converted into a valuable tract. On selling out, he came to Wood county, buying forty-six acres of land in Center township. There he built a fine residence at a cost of \$2,000, put up good barns and out-buildings, and, besides general farming, gives a great deal of attention to fruit growing—having an excellent orchard, and other land planted in berries. He finds a ready sale for his products in the markets of Bowling Green, and on his place has some very fine Jersey cows—the best in the county—in which he takes an especial pride, and he is fast becoming an extensive breeder and shipper of A. J. C. C. stock.

In Wyandot county, in 1854, Mr. Bender was married to Miss T. M. Wilcox, and to them were born two children: Wilder Pease, born August 14, 1855, received his primary education in the district schools, and was graduated with high honors from Otterbein University in the classical course in the class of 1880, of which class he was elected orator; he then took a course in theology, and was ordained a minister of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, in 1883; he is now a prominent minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the Central Ohio Conference, and is at present stationed at Port Jefferson, Ohio. His wife was Miss Kate Kershner, of Bowling Green. Sherman Larkum, the younger son, was born July 5, 1857, received his primary education in the district schools, and was a student in Otterbein University until his junior year, when he was obliged to give up his literary pursuits and cherished desire of the profession of law, on account of failing eyes; he is now in the employ of the United States Express Company at Toledo, Ohio. He married Miss Jessie Stackhouse, of Fremont, Ohio.

Mr. Bender is classed by his fellow citizens as one of the public-spirited and representative men of the township, and merits and receives the warmest confidence and esteem of the entire community. He is a worthy and sincere Christian gentleman, holding membership with the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, of which he has been trustee, besides holding other offices, and his family also hold the same faith. He and his two sons take an active interest in everything for the welfare of their township and county, and use their right of franchise in support of the Republican party.

JOHN H. MONASMITH. Among the young and energetic farmers of the county is this gentleman, who is successfully operating a fine farm in Bloom township. He is a representative of one of the

honored pioneer families, his parents being Elias H. and Elizabeth (Flaughter) Monasmith, and was born October 14, 1865, in Section 28, Bloom township.

The father's birth occurred in Mahoning county, Ohio, March 10, 1831, and he was one of the eleven children of George and Esther Monasmith, the others being John P., Susan, Elizabeth, Samuel, Henry, Mary A., Lydia E., Martin, Levi and Martha C. Five of the number served in the Union army during the Civil war—Samuel, Henry, Martin, John P. and Elias H., the latter belonging to Company E, 144th O. V. I., serving until honorably discharged at the close of his term of enlistment. He was first married in Mahoning county to Elizabeth Musser, who there died, leaving one child—W. E., now a resident of Bloom township. It was in 1859 that the father arrived in Wood county, entirely without means, owning only a horse and buggy. He had recently passed through a siege of typhoid fever, which, together with the expenses of his wife's sickness and death, exhausted his resources, and he was \$100 in debt. Rinehart Simon kindly offered him a home until he could obtain work. For his second wife he wedded Elizabeth Flaughter, one of the fifteen children—seven sons and eight daughters—of Jacob and Elizabeth Flaughter, and they became the parents of three children—Flora, now Mrs. Adam Exline, of North Baltimore, Ohio; John H., subject of this review; and Frank W., a farmer of Bloom township. The mother, who was a Methodist in religious belief, died in September, 1890, and was laid to rest in Bloom Chapel cemetery. Later the father married Elizabeth Kistler, of Newton Falls, Ohio. At the time of his first purchase of forty acres of land in Bloom township he had \$80 to pay on the same, and he took up his abode in the house once occupied by Smith, the noted horse-thief, who had fled from the community at the time his thefts were discovered. Besides his farming operations, Mr. Monasmith also engaged in ditching to a considerable extent, and continued to make his home in Bloom township, engaged in improving the farm to its present fine condition, until April 1, 1895, when he removed to Newton Falls, Ohio, where he is now living retired, though he still owns ninety acres of valuable land in Bloom township. He became one of the well-to-do farmers and highly respected citizens of the community, honored alike by young and old, rich and poor. His political support is given to the Republican party.

John H. Monasmith acquired a practical education in District School No. 8, and, in addition



to his farm duties, at the age of fifteen years he began ditching for his father, which business he followed until after reaching his majority. On April 13, 1891, in Bloom township, he was united in marriage with Miss Ella Ridgely, a daughter of William H. Ridgely, and their union has been blessed by the birth of three children—Emma C., born March 22, 1892; Pearl M., born September 7, 1893; and Ervy C., born August 27, 1895.

Mr. Monasmith is a straightforward agriculturist and business man, honorable in all his dealings, and is destined to win success in his chosen calling. He has done much in the work of placing the old homestead under a high state of cultivation, so that it yields him bountiful returns. He is identified with the Republican party, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while his wife belongs to the Disciples Church. They are earnest Christian people, and are the center of a large circle of warm friends.

JOHN H. Cox, who carries on farming operations in Plain township, is a native of the county, having been born June 2, 1853, in Center township, and is a son of Joseph and Jane (Underwood) Cox.

Joseph Cox was born September 30, 1802, in Virginia, whence, in 1816, he moved with his parents to Findlay, Ohio, which at that time was but an Indian village, known as Fort Findlay. On September 2, 1838, he married Jane R. Underwood, and to them were born twelve children—eight sons and four daughters—of whom seven sons survive. Five of the eight sons served in the war of the Rebellion, fighting for their country, and one of them, Joseph U., never reached home again, dying from wounds received at the battle of Murfreesboro. Of the four daughters, two died in infancy, the other two growing to womanhood, and dying within about one year of each other. The father was a pioneer of Wood county, and his life was one of hardships; but he was always upright and honest in all his dealings; was equally patriotic, and ever zealous for the right. He died December 7, 1878, aged 76 years, 2 months and 7 days.

Our subject was educated at the district school of Perrysburg township, and worked on his father's farm until 1889, when he bought eighty acres of land in Plain township, known as the "Chapman Farm." On this he has placed many improvements, and converted it into a valuable property. In 1879 he married Miss Naomi De Selms, who was born in Ottawa county, in 1855, a daughter of Jason De Selms. Of this

union have been born eight children, namely: Ethel G.; Jessie M. (deceased); Lucretia L.; John W.; Ralph E.; Clyde H.; Jason D., and Dwight L. (deceased). Mr. Cox has served as school director in both Perrysburg and Plain townships, and is a member of the United Brethren Church, at Bowling Green.

JAMES MILLER, a retired agriculturist, residing in Bowling Green, was born in Cambridgeshire, England, July 12, 1838. When he was about four years old, his father came to America with his family, and after a voyage of six weeks landed at New York, from there going to Cleveland, subsequently to Medina, Ohio, and finally settled in Wood county, April 15, 1854.

The father of our subject, William Miller, was born in Soham, Cambridgeshire, England, September 13, 1801, and was married in 1828 to Elizabeth Turner, whose birth took place December 11, 1802, in Reading, Berkshire, England. William Miller was a tailor by occupation, and after coming to this country worked at his trade in the various places in which he lived, owning a shop in Medina. After coming to Wood county he purchased a farm in Liberty township, on which his family resided while he carried on his occupation, working for some years for Austin VanBlarcum, of Portage. He afterward went to Kansas with one of his sons, and died at Clifton, that State, June 28, 1877, his wife having passed away many years previous, her death taking place March 28, 1848.

Mr. Miller, Sr. was a man of fine proportions and weighed 180 pounds. He was an intelligent, active man, a great reader and well-informed. He and his wife were devoted members of the Episcopal Church, and were consistent Christian people. In politics he was a Republican, and was a loyal citizen of his adopted country. To him and his estimable wife the following children were born: Sarah married Charles Waters, now deceased, and lives in Medina, Ohio; Henry, died when fourteen years old; Ann married Isaac Waters, and they now reside in Kansas; Robert is a banker in Tiffin, Ohio; William died February 16, 1887, in his fifty-third year; James is our subject; Thomas is a farmer in Clifton, Washington Co., Kans; Eliza is the wife of Arbor Tebbit, of Medina, Ohio; the ninth child died in infancy.

James Miller grew up on his father's farm in Liberty township, and obtained a good education in the district school of Liberty township. He was first married August 14, 1861, to Miss Mary Parmenter, who was born at Portage, Ohio, De-

ember 7, 1841, and died March 23, 1876, leaving three children: Henry, born April 14, 1864, died October 26, of the following year; John Sherman, born September 3, 1865, married Mrs. Johnson, and lives in Bowling Green; Clara E., born October 21, 1872, died April 1, 1892. Mr. Miller was again married April 15, 1877, his bride being Miss Zerelza C. Aller, who was born June 20, 1854, in Geauga county, Ohio. Of this union four children have been born, namely: Ernest Wm., born March 28, 1878, is attending school in Bowling Green; Grace E., born October 22, 1879, and Royal J., born June 20, 1885, also in school; and True E., born January 30, 1888.

Mr. Miller owns a good farm of eighty acres which is in the oil belt, and has some wells upon it; he is now living retired from active business, but takes an interest in the growth and welfare of his town and county, and is always ready to do his share to assist in public enterprises. With his estimable wife he is a member of the Disciples Church, to which Mrs. Miller has belonged since thirteen years of age. He was at one time a Republican, but of late years has affiliated with the Prohibition party, and uses his influence in the promotion of temperance principles. He has many warm friends in Bowling Green and vicinity. Mrs. Miller is a daughter of Zacheus and Lucy Ann (Martin) Aller, both of whom were born near Syracuse, N. Y., of which place their parents were early settlers, and where they were married. In 1861 they removed to Wood county, settling in Liberty township, where the father died in 1863, when fifty-one years of age. The mother subsequently married Daniel Mercer (whose sketch will be found on another page of this work), and is residing in Bowling Green; Daniel Mercer died September 23, 1896, leaving a widow and seventeen children.

JOHN McLAIN, a prominent citizen of Grand Rapids township, the owner of a fine farm, and a leader in local affairs, was born in Holmes county, Ohio, March 30, 1833. He is of Scotch descent, his grandparents, Sarah and John McLain, having emigrated to America about the end of the last century, and located upon a farm in Mifflin county, Penn., where their son Robert, our subject's father, was born October 12, 1802. During the boyhood of Robert McLain, the family moved to Jefferson county, Ohio, where his father engaged in salt manufacturing and the distilling of spirits.

Robert M. McLain was married, in Jefferson county, to Miss Rachel B. Barton, a lady of Ger-

man and Irish parentage, and a native of Mifflin county, Penn. After their marriage they moved to Holmes county, and lived there about thirty years; then, in 1852, they moved to Wood county, and bought, first, 160 acres of land in what is now Grand Rapids township, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the father dying in 1880, the mother preceding him to the grave by two years. They held a prominent place among the early settlers of their vicinity, their sterling qualities of mind and heart winning the regard for them of all who knew them. Twelve children were born of their union, of whom the last two died in infancy. The others were: Elizabeth, now the widow of David Hannah, of Henry county, Ohio; Sarah, who married James Vorhes, both now deceased; Samuel, who was a soldier in the Civil war, and died while in prison at Salisbury; John, our subject; William, a member of the police force at Toledo; Nancy, who died in girlhood; Martha, wife of Emanuel Guyer, a farmer of Weston township; Thomas, deceased at the age of four years; Nancy Jane, the wife of S. Burwell; and Mary J., who died at the age of four years.

John McLain, whose name opens this sketch, received his early education at his native place, the school house of his district being a log cabin, with greased paper in the windows as a substitute for glass. He worked upon his father's farm until he was twenty-five years old, when he bought sixty acres of land near Grand Rapids, which he cleared and improved, and to which he has since added until he now owns 125 acres, all under cultivation, and some valuable town property. He no longer shares in the active work, delegating that to other hands; but he still superintends the estate, residing, however, in the town of Grand Rapids. He is a veteran of the Civil war, having enlisted at Perrysburg, August 8, 1862, in Company D, 111th O. V. I., under Col. Bond and Capt. J. E. McGowan, and served throughout the struggle. His regiment was assigned to the 23d Corps, army of the Ohio, and participated in over thirty important engagements, including those of Knoxville, Atlanta (entire campaign), Nashville and Franklin. Mr. McLain was fortunate in escaping the bullets of the enemy, but received a serious injury from falling into a washout. He was discharged at Cleveland, June 29, 1865, and soon afterward engaged in the hardware business in Toledo, which he carried on for five years, when he returned to his Wood county farm. He was married October 1, 1858, to Miss Eliza J. Brown, a daughter of Alexander Brown, a leading citizen

of Weston township. Two children came of this marriage: Lillie A., born August 14, 1859, died September 21, 1875; and Edward, born August 25, 1868, now a promising young agriculturist of Henry county, Ohio. The mother of these died of heart disease, January 25, 1884, and our subject afterward wedded Miss Angeline Hiner, daughter of Henry Hiner, a prominent farmer of Wayne county, Ohio. They have no children.

Mrs. McLain is an able and generous worker in various lines of philanthropic effort, and a leading member of the Home Missionary Society and the Aid Society of the M. E. Church, in which denomination our subject is also an active worker, having been a trustee for fifteen years, also holding the offices of steward, class leader and Sunday-school superintendent. His good judgment, enterprising spirit and fine executive ability have often been turned to the service of the community at large, and he is a favorite candidate of the Republican party in his locality, having served as supervisor fifteen years, school director fifteen years, and assessor two years; in 1890 he was census enumerator, and he is now serving his second term as township trustee. During the winter of 1875-76 he was in the United States mail service between Sandusky and Chicago. Socially, he is a member of the G. A. R., Post No. 24, at Grand Rapids, Ohio, which he organized, and he has been commander (with the exception of a few years) since its organization, active and earnest in the work of caring for and assisting his needy soldier comrades.

HENRY A. ROBERTSON is a representative of one of the honored pioneer families of Wood county. His father, Amelius Robertson, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1822, and with his parents came to this country during his childhood. The family was one of the first to settle on Hull Prairie, and there the father of our subject secured eighty acres of land, which he transformed into a highly cultivated farm. He soon became recognized as one of the leading and influential citizens of the community, and for sixteen years served as a justice of the peace. He was united in marriage with Margaret W. Frazer, who was born in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1827. Their union was blessed with eight children: Henry A.; Dr. James F., who was born May 22, 1855, and is a practicing physician in Kansas; John A., who was born November 27, 1858, is operating the old homestead; George, born August 23, 1861; Mary A., born September 2, 1863, wife of O. M. Ulrich, of Dayton, Ohio;

Fray A. D., born September 21, 1865; Margaret E. R., who was born April 3, 1869, and died April 24, 1870; Marjory F., born September 16, 1872, now keeping house for her brother. The father of this family died July 7, 1888, and the mother passed away September 24, 1894.

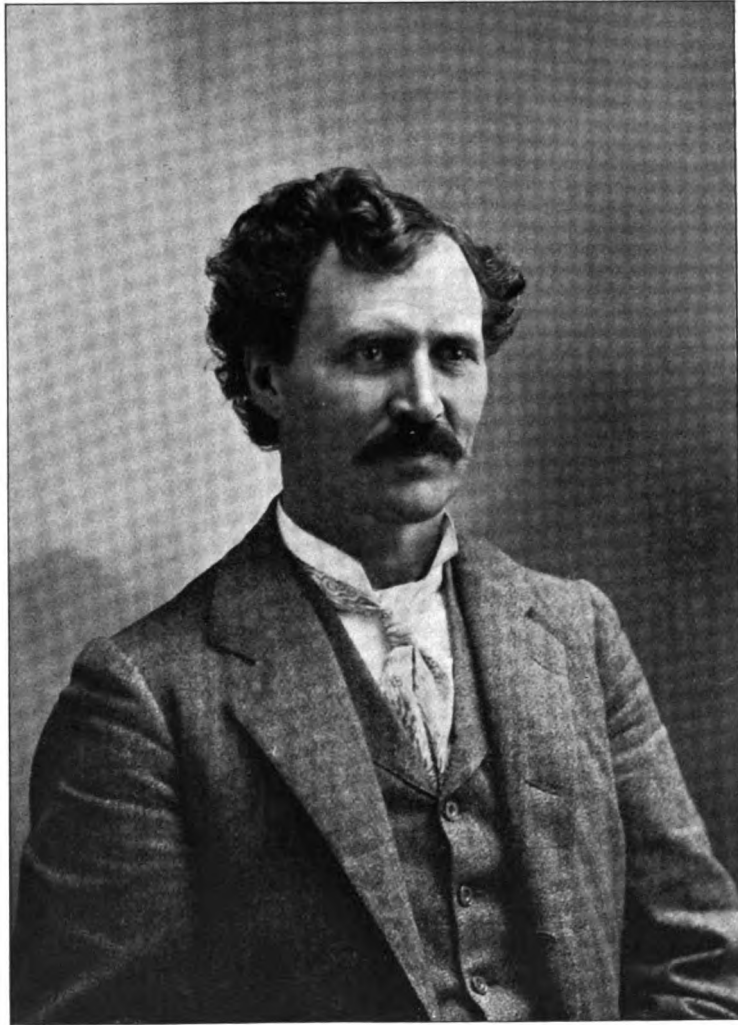
Our subject began his education in the log school house near his home, and there became familiar with the rudiments of knowledge; but subsequently he pursued a course of study in the State University at Columbus, Ohio, becoming a civil engineer. Since that time he has followed his chosen profession to a greater or less extent. He is now residing on the old homestead, and is extensively engaged in the raising of fine poultry.

Mr. Robertson gives his political support to the Republican party, but has never been an office seeker. He has, however, served for one term as road supervisor. In manner he is quiet and unassuming, and his genuine worth, his genial and affable manner and his sterling qualities have won him the friendship and regard of many.

ALBERT G. HENRY, M. D., a prominent and enterprising physician of North Baltimore, is a native of Hancock county, Ohio, born November 5, 1849. His paternal grandfather, John Henry, was a native of Pennsylvania, and died in Hancock county. The grandmother died in Findlay at the advanced age of ninety-three years.

James L. Henry, father of our subject, was born June 9, 1821, in Perry county, Penn. Coming to Hancock county, Ohio, he bought a farm there, and later served as superintendent of the Hancock County Infirmary; was also elected sheriff of the county. He married Miss Frances Dodge, who died in Hancock county, in 1861; her husband followed her to the home beyond April 1, 1884. Their children were as follows: Albert G., subject of this sketch; Edward; J. C.; Araminta, who married G. Chase, of Findlay; Sophrona, the wife of Alonzo Baker; Lizzie D., who married Charles Pendleton, of Findlay. Mr. Henry married a second time, and by that union had one son, Claude.

Dr. Henry was reared in Hancock county, and was graduated from the Ada Normal School in 1870. He began teaching when only sixteen years old, going to school in his leisure moments, and reading medicine. His preceptors were F. J. Baldwin and S. S. Yoder, M. D., the latter of whom was also a member of Congress. Dr. Henry was graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Michigan in 1873, and commenced to practice medicine in North Balti-



*A. J. Henry M.D.*



more on June 23, of the same year. In 1881 he completed a post-graduate course in Columbus Medical College, Columbus, Ohio. When the town began to develop Dr. Henry became known as one of its leading spirits and active and enterprising citizens, and gave almost every enterprise the benefit of his assistance, among which were the glass companies, town water works, electric light plants, etc. He built the first drug store, and built and owns the Henry Opera House Block, one of the finest structures in the county. He also instituted and backed a steam laundry company. In 1894 his opera house was destroyed by fire, causing a loss of \$25,000; however, he promptly rebuilt it. It is 45 by 153 feet, with a seating capacity of 1,000. Dr. Henry is also owner and manager of the North Baltimore Electric Light & Power Company, which is valued at \$50,000. He is the owner of eighty acres of land near North Baltimore, on which are ten oil wells, and thus it will be seen that Dr. Henry is a large property owner. He is a prominent member of society, has a large practice, and his genial nature has won for him many friends. He is surgeon for the C. H. & D. R. R., and the B. & O. R. R.; is a member of the Baltimore & Ohio Railway Surgeons Association, of the Northwestern Ohio Medical Society, of the State Medical Society, and also of the American Medical Association. Politically he supports the Democratic party.

In 1874 our subject was married to Miss Emma F. Eaton, who was born in Hancock county, October 31, 1851. They have had two children, Carl and Cleah, the latter of whom was taken away March 7, 1896, at the early age of eighteen years; she was an accomplished musician, a devoted daughter and a lover of home, and the void in the family circle can only be realized and understood by those who have passed through similar trials.

JOHN RUSSELL, a wealthy, retired agriculturist residing in Bowling Green, is a native of this county, born in Center township, March 19, 1838.

His father, Joseph Russell, was born in Mahoning county, Ohio, where his parents, who came from Pennsylvania, were among the earliest settlers. He married Miss Eliza Dupes, and afterward moved to Wood county, and took up 600 acres of land, a part of which is now in the possession of our subject, by purchase. He returned with the family to his old home several times, and engaged in farming there, but finally settled down in Wood county to stay, and died

there in 1865, at the age of seventy-two. His wife departed this life January 9, 1889, aged seventy-seven years. They were true pioneers, patriotic, energetic and courageous. Three daughters and five sons were born to them, and of the latter, five did gallant service in the Union army during the Civil war, and passed through many engagements without receiving any serious wounds. Our subject was the fourth child in this family. The others are: Jane, who married W. Underwood; James; Sarah (deceased), who married Joseph Anderson; Joseph; Susan, the widow of George Garner; Britton, and Charles, all residents of the county.

Mr. Russell made the most of the educational opportunities afforded by the district schools near the old homestead when he was a boy, and later engaged in farming as an occupation. In 1862 he volunteered in Company K, 21st O. V. I., and served under Sherman, taking part in all the principal battles of the army of the West. He was married, February 16, 1864, while at home on a furlough, to Miss Amanda Rogers, who was born in Seneca county, Ohio, August 11, 1839. After being mustered out, July 30, 1865, he returned to the old farm in Center township, where he lived twenty-seven years. He still owns 100 acres there, and holds the original papers which passed the title from the government to his father. A few years ago he bought a fine property at the county-seat, where he and his wife now reside. He has one daughter, Clara E., born June 16, 1867, who was married September 13, 1887, to E. L. Crum, of Wood county; they have two children, Ruth and John. Mr. Russell is a Republican in politics, and a charter member of Wiley Post, G. A. R. He and his wife are among the leading members of the M. E. Church, and active helpers in every worthy cause.

JAMES M. BROWN, one of the most prominent citizens of Perrysburg township, residing near Dowling, was born in Bellefontaine, Logan Co., Ohio, April 27, 1830. His parents, Harlin S. and Mary A. (Colvin) Brown, were natives of Kentucky, but were married in Logan county, in October, 1829, and lived there for some years, the father following the trade of shoemaker. Eleven children were born to them: Elizabeth, deceased; John C., now a resident of Monticello, Ind.; Joseph H., deceased; Rosana and Mahlon S., deceased; Annie E., now the wife of James H. Linton, of Botkins, Ohio; James M., our subject; Thomas A. and Margaret J., deceased; Wilson W., of Dowling, Ohio; and Charles L., residing in Roscommon, Michigan.

Squire Brown, as his friends call him (and his friends are found wherever he is known), received his early education in the schools of Newtown, Ind., where his parents moved when he was but four years old. He was bound out to work for his board and clothes when a boy, and at nineteen found employment on the Erie canal. He continued in this occupation until he was married to Miss Euritta J. Egbert, who was born in Findlay, Ohio, October 20, 1834. He then sought a better means of making a livelihood, and in 1870 moved to this county and bought forty acres of land in Perrysburg township, which he has since carefully improved. He is now one of the opulent farmers of the vicinity, and holds an important place in the community, his natural ability and integrity of character having gained him the entire confidence of all who know him. He was first elected justice of the peace in 1877, and has now held the office for more than eighteen consecutive years. He has been a member of the school board for the same length of time, and for six years has been a notary public. Where he is well known he receives votes irrespective of party lines, but, being a Democrat, the large Republican plurality in this county has prevented him from entering county office, although the members of his party have often prevailed upon him to lead the "forlorn hope" for the sake of their cause. He has displayed the spirit of the true soldier on many occasion, and in 1861 was among the first to respond to the call of his country, enlisting in Company H, 57th O. V. I., and serving until December, 1863. There were six of the Brown boys, who enlisted in the war of the Rebellion in 1861, thus furnishing Uncle Sam with at least eighteen years of service. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., Fort Meigs Lodge No. 774, of the F. & A. M., Phoenix Lodge No. 123, and of Robert Stewart Post No. 690, G. A. R. He is the present postmaster at Dowling.

**JOSEPH REDFEARN.** Like a giant oak in a forest of weather-beaten comrades, the subject of this sketch stands prominent among those noble pioneers whose best energies have been spent in bringing Wood county forward to her present high position in the magnificent galaxy of Ohio's counties.

He was born February 14, 1812, in Muker, Yorkshire, England. His father, Francis Redfearn, a farmer and miner there, married Ruth Milner, and reared a family of six children. In 1830 they came to the United States on the "Caledonia," landing at Philadelphia after a voyage of seven weeks and four days. He first

located at Pottsville, Penn., where he mined coal for some time, and on coming to Ohio spent two years in Wayne county, and then settled in Washington township, Hancock county, in the woods. To reach their new home they had to cut a road for their wagon for most of the way from Fostoria (then Rome and Risdon), and they crossed the Sandusky river by floating their wagon and making their cattle swim the stream. In later years our subject's father bought a large tract of land in Jo Davies county, Ill., near Apple River, where he died January 13, 1858, his wife having passed to her final rest November 9 of the previous year. Of their children the eldest, Peter, died at Apple River at the age of fifty years from injuries received in a runaway. Francis died at Warren, Ill., at seventy-eight years of age. Joseph is our subject. Ruth was married in the fall of 1830 to Charles Gouldborough, of Minneapolis, Minn., with whom she has now passed over sixty-five years of married life. Elizabeth is the widow of Robert Levitt, of Arlington, S. D. Margaret married John Eaton, and died at Apple River at the age of sixty.

Joseph Redfearn had little opportunity for education, but he was ambitious, and, while working on the farm during the day, he attended night school in England—paying two cents a night. He was eighteen years old when the family came to America, and he quickly found employment as a farm hand, being unusually strong and active. He could mow two acres of grass in a day with a scythe, and has done many a large day's work at threshing with a flail, being paid fifty cents per day, and even that was not always in cash. He was married January 8, 1835, to Miss Ann Phillips, a native of Pennsylvania, born July 19, 1816, the daughter of Benjamin Phillips, an early settler of Washington township, Hancock county. He and his wife began housekeeping on fifty acres of land, a gift from his father, and he entered forty acres more, all "in the woods." He traded this soon after to his brother, Francis, for a tract of eighty acres in Bloom township, Wood county, to which he removed December 7, 1837, their first home being a comfortable log house. Tiffin was the nearest point where a good gristmill could be found, though there were several horse mills in the neighborhood.

Twelve children were born to our subject and his wife, all of whom lived to mature age: Henry and Francis are farmers in Nemaha county, Neb.; Peter died at McComb in 1892; Harrison, a farmer of Perry township, died in 1872; Matilda A. married Dr. E. J. Reed, of Leipsic; Joseph

P. is a farmer in Cass township, Hancock county; James R. is a prominent merchant of Bloomdale; John O. is a prosperous farmer in Nemaha county, Neb., and a leading citizen of his neighborhood; Rhoda S. married Jerry Loman, and died December 1, 1894; Margaret R. is the wife of R. B. Drake, an insurance agent of Tiffin; Charles is a farmer in Perry township, and Edward T. is a farmer in Bloom township. On February 19, 1864, Mr. Redfearn's wife died, and she was buried in Fostoria cemetery. She was a woman of rare qualities of mind and heart, a devout Christian and a member of the M. E. Church, and was deeply and sincerely mourned. Mr. Redfearn never married again. Their children have taken honorable positions in life, and the family hold a prominent place in the history of this county. All are abstainers from liquors and tobacco, and their upright lives reflect honor upon the father who, by precept and example, has trained them for useful citizenship. Four sons served in the Civil war, a remarkable record. Henry was a member of a Nebraska cavalry regiment; Peter enlisted in Wood county in the one-hundred-days' service; William H. served in the famous 49th O. V. I., the "Black Swamp Jayhawkers," and Joseph P. was a member of the 111th O. V. I.

Mr. Redfearn has owned large tracts of land at different times, and had held the title to all the land on the west side of Main street in Bloomdale, but has sold it for building purposes. He has given his children a good start in life, and still owns 325 acres of land in Bloom and Cass townships. Despite his advanced age he is in good health, aside from being a sufferer from rheumatism, and his mental faculties are clear, his native shrewdness and caution being in no way lessened. In politics he has been identified with the Republican party from its beginning, but previously he was a Whig. He served as constable in his younger days, but has never joined in the struggle for political honors. He has, however, been a leading promoter of different measures for the public welfare, and gave liberally toward the building of the first court house at Bowling Green, Ohio. For over fifty years he has been a member of the M. E. Church, in which he has held every office except that of preacher, and he was a teacher and superintendent of the Sunday-school for many years.

JOHN W. MILLER. In the latter part of the eighteenth century Christopher Miller, a native of Germany, sailed with his wife and two children for America. After a long and tedious voy-

age of nine months they arrived at New York. Delay after delay had occurred, and crew and passengers were on the verge of starvation. At length the vessel reached New York harbor, and Mr. Miller, with his family, proceeded to Allegany county, Md., where he spent his remaining days. Two of his sons were soldiers of the war of 1812. The father of our subject, Andrew Miller, was born in Allegany county, on December 1, 1805. He was a man of limited education, and was reared on a farm, while throughout his business career he carried on agricultural pursuits. He married Miss Charlotte Duckworth, also a native of Allegany county, born April 8, 1812. In 1865 the father removed with his family to Delaware county, Ohio, locating on a farm of 105 acres in Trenton township, where he spent his remaining days. His death occurred April 30, 1894, and his wife passed away, May 1, 1887.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller were the parents of twelve children, namely: Louise, who became the wife of Joseph Deremer, and after his death married Monroe Cockrell, her death occurring in Delaware county; Uriah, who died in Delaware county, at the age of forty-five; Harriet Ann, wife of Henry Dash, of Maryland; Almira, wife of James Loor, of Delaware county; Henry H., who is carrying on agricultural pursuits in Delaware county; Lloyd W., a farmer of Union county, Ohio; Sarah, who became the wife of Emery Leak, and died in Delaware county; Altha, wife of Jefferson Miles, of Delaware county; Mary, who is living in the same county; John W., of this review; Zeltha wife of Franklin DeWolf, of Delaware county; and Rebecca, who died at the age of three years.

Our subject was a child of twelve years when he accompanied his parents to Delaware county. He began his education in an old log school house in his native county, and completed it in the district schools of this State. During vacations and after school hours he aided in the cultivation and improvement of the farm, and continued to give his father the benefit of his services until his marriage.

On February 16, 1881, Mr. Miller was joined in wedlock with Miss Tina Tripier, the wedding ceremony being performed in Trenton township, Delaware county. The lady was born in Licking county, Ohio, October 13, 1857, and is a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Payne) Tripier. Mr. and Mrs. Miller came to Wood county, and the former purchased forty acres of land in Section 25, Jackson township, continuing its cultivation and improvement for five years, when he sold and purchased his present farm compris-



ing eighty acres. He has made this one of the valuable and desirable properties in Wood county, has erected a pleasant and substantial residence, built barns and outbuildings, and fenced, tiled and ditched the entire place. The neat and thrifty appearance of the farm indicates his careful supervision, and the place is a monument to his thrift and enterprise. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have had two children: Sperna, born July 12, 1883; and Blynn T., born May 15, 1895, died August 30, 1895.

In his political views Mr. Miller is a stalwart Democrat, unswerving in his support of the principles of the party. He has been honored with several local offices, having served as school director, road supervisor and is now trustee. His life has been an honorable and upright one, and he has the high regard of all who know him. As a citizen he is true to every duty, and gives a hearty support to all interests which he believes will benefit the community. In personal appearance he is tall and finely proportioned, and he is one of the most popular citizens of Wood county.

FLOYD W. HEALD, a prominent resident of Bowling Green, and the deputy collector of the 10th District, was born in Crawford county, Penn., December 3, 1861. Genial, popular, possessed of fine mental gifts, a sound practical education, a character which inspires confidence, a magnificent physique, he is well fitted to fill any office of public trust to which he may aspire.

Until the age of fifteen, his life was spent upon a farm, assisting his father in the work, and attending the district school. In 1876 his father bought a sawmill, where Mr. Heald was employed for some time. He then worked a while in the oil fields; but at eighteen, entered the State Normal school at Edinboro, Penn., and studied for two terms. For two years following, he was baggage master at Chautauqua, N. Y., during the summer season, and in 1882, he came to Jerry City, and entered the employ of J. D. Wilsey & Sons, as boat-oar finisher in their extensive factory. He remained with them six years, finding—or making—time, in the intervals of labor, to continue his studies in the Normal school at Fostoria, and he now holds a diploma from the business course of that institution, having passed the examination with a grade of 99 *per cent.*

In 1884, he was elected mayor of Jerry City, by a large majority, on the Democratic ticket, and proved an efficient and popular officer. On leaving the firm of Wilsey & Sons, Mr. Heald formed a partnership with Henry Meyers in the

lumber business, buying for Eastern markets; but this soon ceased to be profitable, and he went to work for the Ohio Oil Co., first as pumper and then as tool dresser, and while thus engaged he was appointed deputy sheriff of Wood county by William B. Bryant. The duties of this office were performed with his accustomed ability and energy, and brought him into favorable notice throughout the county, and in 1895 he was appointed to his present position. He is a member of the F. & A. M., the I. O. O. F., and the K. of P.

GEORGE BRIM. Ohio, as well as her sister States, has her quota of citizens of foreign birth, who, coming to this favored land in pursuit of fortune, in addition to the advantages derived from its free institutions, have not only reaped the reward of their labors in the shape of material prosperity, but have added to the resources of their communities, and to the progress and betterment of their people. Among those who claim "Merrie Old England" as the land of their nativity may be found the subject of this sketch, and the story of his life, briefly given here, may form an incentive to some other young man whose start in life may be made under no more favorable auspices than was his.

George Brim was born April 25, 1834, in beautiful Devonshire, England, the son of W. W. and Harriet (Ellis) Brim. His parents were natives of the same locality, the father born August 19, 1809, and the mother October 2, 1810. They came of poor people, and when quite young were both bound out to the same man. They grew up together, shared each other's joys and sorrows, worked together and played together, and their love for each other deepened as the boy and girl developed into youth and maiden, finally culminating in their marriage, which took place January 10, 1834. For some time after this event Mr. Brim worked on a farm at \$2.20 a week, and when they finally decided to come to America, in 1855, the only capital they possessed on reaching Wood county, Ohio, was one sovereign. They had, however, no end of courage and hopefulness, and with their only child, George, began their life in the new country with brave hearts and a determination to succeed.

From the outset the son cast in his lot with his father, and together the two worked and managed their affairs, the younger man contributing in no small degree, by his business ability and industry, to their success in the New World. They first bought eighty acres of land in Plain township, Wood county, and added to it



*Geo Brim*



*Amelia Brim*



as their means increased until at one time they owned 360 acres; all of this was prairie land, which they converted into farms, and cultivated. They were prosperous from the beginning, and at his death, which took place April 5, 1885, the father was a wealthy man. The mother is now making her home with her son George.

The subject of this sketch was married July 4, 1865, to Miss Amelia Austin, who was born in Somersetshire, England, February 10, 1848. Her parents were James and Mary (Keats) Austin, the former of whom, born in England in 1823, died in Wood county in 1865; the latter also died in Wood county. Mr. and Mrs. Brim have had a family of four children: (1) James E., born April 16, 1866, married Lena Knauss, and lives in Bowling Green; they have three children—Walter, Ethel and Mabel. (2) Walter, born October 16, 1867, was educated at the Ada Normal School, and resides at home; he was married in December, 1895, to Cora Goldsmith. (3) Samuel, born March 25, 1870, died January 3, 1871. (4) George, born November 12, 1876, is at home.

Mr. Brim is recognized as a leading man, and one of the best citizens of Wood county. He is unassuming in his manners, attends strictly to his business and has accumulated a fine property. In politics he is a Republican; socially he belongs to Centennial Lodge No 626, I. O. O. F., of Bowling Green.

**MICHAEL AMOS, JR.** This prosperous and intelligent farmer living in Section 3, Portage township, has spent most of his life in Wood county. His father, who also bears the name of Michael, is one of the oldest living pioneers. His birth occurred in Bavaria, Germany, November 28, 1818, and in October, 1837, he was brought to the United States by his parents, Michael and Caroline (Sondheimer) Amos. They took passage on the "Wild Lion" at Havre, France, and after a long and tedious voyage of thirty-six days landed safely at New York. At New Lisbon, Ohio, they remained until January, 1838, when the grandfather hired a team and brought his family to Section 1, Portage township, Wood county, where he had purchased eighty acres of partially improved land. There his death occurred September 29, 1838, from typhoid fever and nostalgia, and he was laid to rest on the farm, but his body was afterward interred in Portage cemetery.

The father of our subject being the eldest son, the care of the family fell upon him, and, in order to better perform this duty, he worked for others as a farm hand. His widowed mother

lived with him a great portion of the time, but died at the home of her son Frederick, in Portage township. In 1844, Mr. Amos married Theresa Brackley, a native of Lancaster, Ohio, and a daughter of Michael Brackley, a carpenter by trade. Eight children came to bless their union: Michael, of this review; Philip, a farmer of Portage township; Catherine, who became the wife of Ezra Heminger, and died in Center township; John, who died in the same township, and left a family; Anthony, a farmer of Center township; William, a butcher of the village of Portage; Charles, a farmer of Portage township; and Mary, deceased wife of Monroe Helm, of Portage. The father bought the interests of the other heirs in the old homestead, and now has a good farm of 132 acres, while he has given each of his children forty acres or its equivalent. He and his estimable wife are two of the few old pioneers left in Portage township, are highly respected people, and members of the Lutheran Church. Although they have now reached a ripe old age, and are bent by years of toil, they are yet comparatively active. The entire life of Mr. Amos has been passed in usefulness and hard labor. He never cared for political preferment, but has served as school director and supervisor, and is a supporter of the Democratic party.

On Section 1, Portage township, October 4, 1848, Michael Amos, Jr., first opened his eyes to the light of day. He attended school a few months each winter in District No. 1, thus acquiring a fair education, and at the age of twenty left home, going to Nebraska, where he remained a month. For a short time he was then employed on a farm in Jefferson county, Iowa, after which he went to Pike county, Ill., and later to southeastern Missouri, where he engaged in hunting and trapping. With the money thus earned he returned to Pike county, Ill., where he was employed by James Wallace to take rafts down the river to St. Louis, Mo., which proved quite profitable, our subject receiving \$2 per day and board. He worked in Illinois for some time and helped to cut 135 acres of wheat, which was bound by hand, after which he came back to Wood county. In the fall, however, he went to Missouri, where he again engaged in hunting and trapping, spent the following summer in a fishery in Illinois, and the next winter was also passed in Missouri. On returning to Wood county, he engaged in ditching and threshing for several years.

On December 21, 1876, in Portage township, this county, Mr. Amos was united in marriage with Miss Emma Wilcox, a native of Sandusky

county, Ohio, and a daughter of Sterling Wilcox. Three children have been born to them: Edward B., who is attending school in Bowling Green, Ohio; and Curtis and "Cap", at home. Soon after his marriage our subject rented a farm of forty acres in Center township, and his first purchase was ninety-three acres in Section 3, Portage township, mostly unimproved, with a log house standing upon it. For three years he made that place his home, and on selling out removed to his present farm of eighty acres in Section 2, in April, 1881. He is a wide-awake, progressive citizen, and has made his place one of the best farms in Portage township. Besides general farming, he has also dealt in stock for several years, making many friends and acquaintances while engaged in this business. He is one of the leading workers in the Republican party in the community, and in 1886 was elected infirmity director, taking the office January 1, 1887, in which he served very acceptably for six years. Both himself and wife are esteemed members of the United Brethren Church.

ISAAC G. RIDEOUT, a reliable and progressive agriculturist of Ross township, was born near Massillon, Stark Co., Ohio, May 1, 1839, and is a son of Isaac and Hannah (Galpin) Rideout, both natives of Dorsetshire, England, the former born December 24, 1793, and the latter December 3, 1798. On emigrating to the New World, in 1830, they located at Massillon, Ohio, where the father worked in the Moore & Hart foundry for a few years, but, in 1844, became a resident of Wood county, purchasing forty-five acres of the farm on which our subject now lives. Five of their ten children were born in England, and in order of birth they are as follows: James, deceased; Elizabeth, widow of T. Whitson, and a resident of Iowa; Thomas, of Lucas county, Ohio; Jane, wife of John Kinney, of Lime City, Ohio; and William, deceased. The births of the others occurred in Stark county, Ohio—Anna, deceased; Mary Ann, wife of James Craine, of Lucas county; Margaret, the deceased wife of a Mr. Vickers; Isaac G., and Mrs. Lavina<sup>a</sup> McDougall.

Our subject obtained his education in the first log school house erected in Ross township, but his advantages along that line were limited. He remained at home until twenty-two years of age, when, October 22, 1861, at Toledo, Ohio, he enlisted in the Union army, as a member of Company B, 67th O. V. I., under Capt. Ford, and Col. A. C. Voris, of Akron, Ohio, and after serving his entire term, at Hilton Head, S. C.,

he veteranized. He had been discharged, January 31, 1864, and after a thirty-days' furlough rejoined his regiment, and was finally discharged at Richmond, Va., September 1, 1865, after almost four years of faithful and arduous service on Southern battle fields. Returning home, Mr. Rideout has since devoted his attention to general farming, but expects soon to go into fruit raising. He has tiled and drained his land and placed it under a high state of cultivation, and has erected three good dwellings, besides barns and other outbuildings, which stand as monuments to his thrift and industry.

On Christmas Day, of 1867, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Rideout and Miss Louisa T. Coy, and to them nine children were born—Darwin, born August 28, 1868, married Carrie Smith, daughter of W. J. Smith, and they have two children, Frank and Ervin; William, born April 6, 1870, married Alberta Royce, daughter of Edward Royce, by whom he has one child, Addie Elizabeth; Ervin, was born October 9, 1872; Margaret, born December 31, 1873, is the wife of Charles Crane, and they have twin sons, Isaac R. and Thomas C.; Charles, born December 17, 1875; Olive, born June 15, 1879; Anna, born March 2, 1882; Isaac, born July 4, 1890, died on August 4, following; and Richard, born March 24, 1894.

Mr. Rideout affiliates with Ford Post, No. 14, G. A. R., of East Toledo, and with John W. Fuller Command, No. 49, U. V. U. He served as sergeant in his company, and now has a medal presented to him by Major-Gen. Q. A. Gilmore, commanding the Department of the South, for gallant and meritorious conduct on the field of battle. Since casting his first vote he has been an ardent Republican in politics, as was also his father, and has served acceptably as township treasurer for two terms, and was school director for a number of years. In all the relations of life he is honorable and upright, and as faithful to his country in days of peace, as when following the old flag in defense of the Union.

J. W. LONG, an ex-soldier and highly-respected citizen of Bloom township, is descended from that race known as Scotch-Irish, which has given to America many of her best citizens. His ancestors were natives of the North of Ireland, whence his grandfather, George Long, emigrated to the United States in 1817, locating in Carroll county, Ohio, where he was married, and became the father of seven children: George, William, John, Catherine, Ellen, Susan and Alexander.

The second in order of birth in that family,

William Long, was the father of our subject. In 1841 he was united in marriage with Sarah Mettaker, a native of Westmoreland county, Penn., and to them were born six children: Mary Jane, who died in infancy; Eliza E., who became the wife of James Byall, and died in September, 1868; J. W., subject of this review; Catherine and William H., both living in Missouri; and Violet A., who died in that State in 1871. The father was a natural mechanical genius, and worked at various trades, principally carpentering and wagon making. For seven years after his marriage he continued to reside in Carroll county, and then removed to Hancock county, Ohio, near the present city of North Baltimore, where he followed his chosen occupation for the remainder of his life. His tragic death, which occurred in 1861, has few parallels in western Ohio. While engaged in remodeling the largest gristmill in Hancock county, at Gilboa, he became entangled in a belt connected with a rapidly revolving shaft, making 105 revolutions a minute, and was instantly conveyed to the shaft and horribly mangled, almost every bone in his body being broken. His untimely death left his widow and family in straitened circumstances, and our subject, then a boy of but fourteen years, being the eldest son, suddenly had to assume the responsibilities of father and provider.

Mr. Long was born in Carroll county, in 1846, and was but a child of three years when his parents removed to Hancock county. As the portion of the county in which they located was quite backward, he was reared midst the trials and vicissitudes of pioneer life, and, being the eldest son of parents whose means were limited, his opportunities in many ways, including those for an education, were very meager. He first attended the Thicket school, near Van Buren, Hancock county, his teacher being Miss Angeline Warner. The numerous removals of his parents served to further handicap him in his efforts to secure his education, which was concluded at Findlay, Ohio, at the early age of fifteen years. He has seen the vast improvement in the schools of the present over those of his youth, which he heartily favors and fully endorses. While the opportunities were not his, the great school of experience has impressed him with the necessity of education.

As previously stated, Mr. Long was at a youthful age compelled to perform the duties that his father's death thrust upon him, and he remained at home, administering to the wants and cares of the fatherless family, until his enlistment, on August 15, 1862, in the 111th O. V. I.

It was necessary at this time for him to represent himself as being eighteen years of age, so eager was he to defend the flag which had been fired upon at Fort Sumter. His career as a soldier was interrupted by sickness, as soon after his enlistment he was seized with the measles and typhoid fever. He suffered the complete temporary loss of his eyesight, and was discharged in March, 1863, on a surgeon's certificate of disability. Our subject returned home, leaving the scenes of carnage for those of a quiet rural life, in Hancock county, a complete physical wreck. Much time and money were spent in his efforts to secure good eyesight, which came to him after a great deal of suffering; but his shattered physical condition could not be restored to its youthful vigor and vitality. He worked at whatever employment he could secure, his every spare penny going toward the support of his mother and younger brothers and sisters.

On August 16, 1868, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Long and Miss Susanna Wineland, a native of Westmoreland county, Penn., and six children came to bless their union: B. F., proprietor of a bicycle livery at North Baltimore, Ohio; William H., general agent for the Porter's cure of pain remedies; Martha F., now Mrs. Charles Brandeberry, of Bloom township; James E., of the same township; and D. W. and Lemuel L., both at home. After his marriage Mr. Long located near Portage, Wood county, where he resided only a short time, and in 1869 returned to Hancock county, buying a small farm, on which he resided until 1885, when he came to Bloom township, this county. He has forty acres of rich and fertile land in Section 33, and in 1895 completed his present commodious and substantial home. He now takes life easy, having all but retired from active farm work. Politically he is a silver Democrat, and while not an office-seeker, manifests keen interest in the success of his party. For many years he belonged to the Independent Order of Good Templars, and is now a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his wife are consistent and active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Bairdstown, Ohio, and are held in the highest esteem by all who know them.

H. L. HINKLEY, of Bowling Green, the able and popular young recorder of Wood county, was born in Milton Center, February 5, 1867.

His grandparents, Luther G. and Sally M. Hinkley, came from New York State and settled in Erie county, Ohio, where their son, D. S. Hinkley, our subject's father, was born August

27, 1838. He learned the wagon maker's trade in early life, and came to Milton Center, where he married Miss Mary J. Hill, a native of that place, born October 28, 1846. Of late years he and his wife have made their home in Prairie Depot, where he follows the carpenter's trade. They have seven children, of whom our subject is the eldest: Lottie is the wife of W. J. Graham, of Portage township; Joseph J. and Charles are in business at Prairie Depot; and D. S., William and Jessie are three at home.

Mr. Hinkley spent the first eight years of his life at his birthplace, and has since lived at Sandusky on the Bay Shore, for five years, and later at Prairie Depot. He supplemented his common-school education by a course in the business department of the Fostoria Normal School, from which he graduated in October, 1891. For ten years he was a successful teacher in this county, the last three being spent at Prairie Depot, where he was principal of the high school. He resigned in June, 1895, having been elected the previous November to the position which he now holds. He was installed in office September 2, 1895. Although he is one of the youngest workers in the Republican party in this locality, he has already given evidence of marked ability in public affairs, and his friends predict a bright future for him. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., and of the Good Templars Lodge. He was married June 15, 1893, to Miss Effie Mercer, who was born in Liberty township, December 25, 1871, and has one child, Harold Cecil.

CHESTER L. POWELL (deceased) was born in Fairfield county, Ohio, November 10, 1857, a son of George and Sarah Powell, and was reared near Bowling Green. He taught school for several years, and, later, for two years, kept a hardware store at Portage. This he sold, and then went to Fostoria, where for a time he and his brother, A. V. Powell, conducted a similar business. Afterward he went on the road for a hardware firm, but resigned and came to Weston, where, together with a Mr. Baldwin, he opened a clothing and furnishing-goods store, under the firm name of Baldwin & Powell. Soon afterward he bought Mr. Baldwin's interest, also the stock of shoes and the shoe-shop belonging to Mr. Ames, and he operated the store with marked success up to his death, which occurred July 6, 1893. He was admired for his business ability, and his good qualities as a citizen. In demeanor he was quiet, but firm in purpose, and seldom failed in anything he undertook. His death was greatly

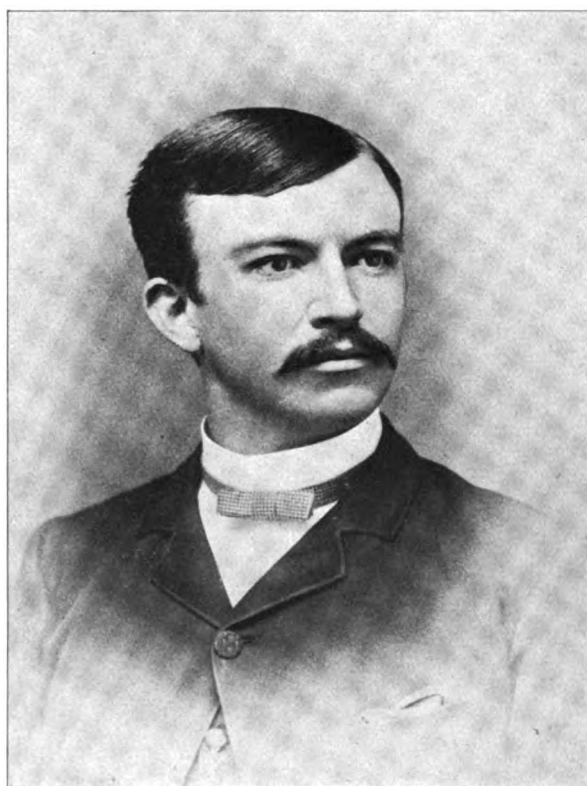
mourned by the community in which he resided. He was a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., having joined the order at Fostoria, whence he "took his card" to Weston; in religious faith he was a member of the United Brethren Church.

On October 7, 1886, Mr. Powell married Miss Elfa Pugh, who was born in Henry county, Ohio, November 15, 1859. John Pugh, her father, was born in the parish of Kerry, County of Montgomery, North Wales, on the 11th day of February, 1810, of English parents, and when twenty-one years old married and came to the United States, first locating in New York State, then in Perrysburg, Ohio, afterward in Henry county, finally, in 1877, settling in Weston, Wood county, where he died January 9, 1892. He followed the occupation of a farmer; was of the Episcopal faith; was a Whig before the war and a Republican afterward, and he voted for both the Harrisons (his first and last votes respectively). His home was the meeting place of many of the most prominent of the early pioneers of this section, and he was a great friend of the Indians. The adventures that have been rehearsed, and the stories that have been told by himself and others when gathered around the fire-side, if preserved, would have been worthy of being immortalized in romance and song; but unfortunately only a faint glimpse of the conditions of life, and the character of those sturdy pioneers, have been handed down to us. Although miles of swamp and woods separated neighbor from neighbor, a common cause and, we might say, a common misfortune united them in bonds of sympathy almost as strong as family ties.

John Pugh, for his second wife, married, in 1845, Clarissa B. Junkins, who was born January 3, 1820, in Preston county, Va. (now W. Va.). Her father having died in Fairview, Ohio, when she was two years old, her mother subsequently married John Rice, and in 1833 they came to Wood county; but during their first year's residence in the county, Mr. Rice died, leaving a widow with five children, viz.: Samuel, who died when about fifty-seven years old; Thomas, a farmer of Weston township; Julia Ann; Annabella; and Clarissa B., who now resides with her daughter, Mrs. Powell; she is the mother of five children: Ann M. (now Mrs. L. McKee), of Fostoria, Ohio; Luther S., of Weston; Mrs. William Martin, also of Weston; John A., who died at the age of twenty-five; and Mrs. Elfa Powell. Mrs. Pugh was among the earliest pioneers of Wood county, coming here when but thirteen years old, with the rest of the family. When they reached Beaver creek, their destination in Wood county,



ELFA.



Mrs. L. Elfa (Pugh) Powell

L. L. Powell





they stopped at the home of uncle McKee (who had preceded them), until they could build themselves a log house, after the fashion of the country in those early days (they were not so long in building a house as they are now-a-days). Mrs. Pugh's stepfather, John Rice, having died in the first year of their coming here, as related above, there was much responsibility left on the widowed mother with her five children; but being a woman of tact and foresight, she always provided years ahead for the family. So they suffered but little from the privations of early pioneer life among the Indians, who were numerous on Beaver creek at that time, and all became the owners of good homes in Wood county, except Annabella, who had died at the age of nineteen years. Grandmother Junkins-Rice's home was called "the poor house," because if there was an orphan child in the country she would bring it to her home and care for it until another home could be found for it. At one time she had no less than five infants on her hands to be cared for, and some remained with her until her death. Mrs. James Raymer, of Toledo, was one of grandmother Junkins-Rice's loves. After being left a widow with five children to raise in a new country, God gave her health and strength to help the helpless. Such was the kindheartedness and unselfishness of that noble pioneer grandmother and mother.

Mrs. Chester L. Powell was educated in part at the schools of Weston, and in part at those of Fostoria. After her marriage she resided almost constantly with her parents, and cared for them with a tender hand, her aged mother, now living with her, being an object of deep solicitude. Her one great comfort is her flowers, of which she is a great lover, and which she gathers around her and enjoys. From earliest childhood Mrs. Powell has been the companion of her parents, and through them and their acquaintances learned of the habits of many of the pioneers, and has always felt a deep interest in them, although at a time when life was sweetest and separation hardest to bear, she has borne the death of her husband with a philosophic and Christian-like spirit. She has continued her husband's store, showing excellent capability, and, through the service of efficient employes under her personal supervision, it continues to be one of the flourishing business houses of Weston.

Prior to his death Mr. Powell had established a fruit farm within the corporation of Weston, and his widow also conducts this with marked success. It comprises some twenty-five acres,

given to Mrs. Powell by her mother, Mrs. John Pugh, whereon are abundantly grown plums, peaches, strawberries, grapes, and all other small fruits. There are also a house and lot in Weston, and two other farms—one in Wood county, and one in Hancock county—which Mrs. Powell rents. She also owns the store building, 35 x 50 feet in dimensions, and which is recognized as the pioneer building of Weston. Notwithstanding her many business engagements, and the care of a home, Mrs. Powell yet finds time for the study of literature, and for years past she been one of the teachers in the Presbyterian Church Sabbath-school, having an interesting class of girls of which she is justly proud.

MALON K. MANLEY, a veteran of the Mexican war, and a retired merchant of Haskins, is a native of the Keystone State. He was born in Columbia county, Penn., March 28, 1825, a son of John Manley, who was born in 1799. The grandfather, John Manley, Sr., was a native of Switzerland, and took part in the revolution of 1776 to 1780. The father was educated in Pennsylvania, and followed the carpenter's and builder's trade. He married Sybilla Case, and their children were: Eli R., a carpenter, who resided in David City, Neb., and died November 30, 1896; Malon K.; William W., a merchant of Pennsylvania; Anna, deceased wife of Joseph Buck; Mary J., deceased wife of Samuel Culp. The father of this family died in New York, by drowning, and the mother afterward married Francis Burdanier, by whom she had seven children, the only survivor being George, of Pennsylvania. Her death occurred in the Keystone State, January 27, 1888, when she was aged eighty-eight years, and six months.

Our subject acquired his education in the common schools near his home, but his privileges in that direction were limited, for at an early age he was thrown upon his own resources. He learned the shoemaker's trade, which he followed for forty years. During the Mexican war, in 1846, he enlisted at Danville, Penn., in Company C, 2d Penn. V. I., and proceeded to Vera Cruz. He participated in the capture of that city, and in other service in that locality, and in July, 1848, returned to his home. He suffered intensely from the oppressive heat in the South. Again, during the Civil war, he manifested his loyalty to the government, enlisting on May 14, 1861. He formed a company at Danville, Penn., which was attached to the Sixth Regiment of Pennsylvania Reserves, and went to Camp Curtin, thence to Richmond, and participated in the

battles of Bull Run, the Wilderness, Fredericksburg and others, serving in all for two years.

In 1868, Mr. Manley came to Wood county, and purchased a farm of seventy acres near Haskins, which he operated for five years, when he removed to the town and established a grocery and shoe store, which he conducted for eleven years. He was afterward engaged in business in Toledo for a time as a dealer in shoes, but is now living retired in Haskins, enjoying a rest which he has truly earned and richly deserves. He has aided greatly in the upbuilding of this community, and has been an important factor in its progress and development.

On October 12, 1848, Mr. Manley wedded Mary A. Mellon, who was born in Danville, Penn., June 21, 1828, a daughter of Gideon and Sarah Mellon, the father a boot and shoe dealer, of Danville. Five children were born to them—John, born July 29, 1849; Sarah M., September 26, 1853, now the wife of Philmore Gustin, a blacksmith; Clarence, born April 23, 1865, died April 20, 1889; Mary B., who died at the age of five years; and Anna B., who became the wife of A. L. Herritt, an oil operator, and died July 22, 1895. Mary B. and Anna B. were twins, born July 23, 1869.

Mr. Manley and wife have been faithful members of the Baptist Church for fifty-three years, and he has served as trustee, deacon, treasurer and secretary of the Church. In politics he is a Democrat, and for one term was school director, while in 1880 he acted as census enumerator, being appointed by the general government, has served as assessor and tax-collector several years. Socially, he is connected with the Odd Fellows society, the Masonic fraternity, and Encampment of Patriarchs. His honorable, upright life, his kindly manner, and his affable and social disposition have won him a host of warm friends.

J. F. LONG, a leading merchant and citizen of Bowling Green, and senior partner in the dry-goods firm of Long & Rutherford, was born in Seneca county, Ohio, February 8, 1837, and is a son of the Rev. John and Lydia (Fry) Long.

Daniel Long, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1779, of Dutch descent. He was there married to Margaret Brill, who was born in the same State in 1783, and in 1834 removed with his family to Seneca county, Ohio, where, on May 22, of that year, he entered the northwest quarter of Section 1, in Jackson township. For forty years he worked at his trade as a blacksmith, and he was a soldier in the war of 1812. His death took

place in 1871 at the good old age of ninety-two, his wife having passed away in 1853. This estimable couple were the parents of twelve children, as follows: Daniel is living in Stark county, and is now nearly one hundred years of age; Samuel, who was a minister in the United Brethren Church for many years, died in Seneca county, Ohio; Charles migrated to California during the gold excitement, and died in Seneca county; John was the father of our subject; Peggy married Jacob Sprout, of Seneca county, and is still living; Nancy became the wife of Samuel Sprout, of the same county, and died there; Michael became a minister in the United Brethren Church at Upper Sandusky, in 1835, and died recently at Fremont, Ohio (he was born May 3, 1814, was almost a giant in stature, with a voice which could be heard a mile away, and was a famous camp-meeting preacher); George died in Seneca county; David spent a part of his life in California, and died in Seneca county; Benjamin, who was born September 12, 1823, spent his life on the old homestead in Seneca county, and died there June 14, 1890; Wesley, who went west after serving in the army, was never heard from again; and Henry, who died when quite small.

John Long, the father of our subject, was born in 1808. When a young man he entered the ministry of the United Brethren Church, and about the year 1847 removed to Gibsonburg, Sandusky Co., Ohio, where he made his home for many years, traveling and preaching constantly throughout a large circuit in northern Ohio. About eighteen years ago he came to Wood county, where he continued his life work until broken down by years of toil and the feebleness of old age. For some years preceding his death he made his home in Bowling Green. He passed peacefully to his well-earned rest February 9, 1895, at the home of his daughter, in Gibsonburg; his wife died at her home, in Center township, Wood county, April 19, 1878, aged sixty-three years, eleven months, eleven days, a faithful member of the U. B. Church. After many years of faithful duty to her family, her Church and her God, she passed away in the triumph of her faith, thus leaving to her family the best gift a mother could leave. To this honored couple were born ten children, as follows: Louisa, wife of Jacob Sampsel, of Gibsonburg; Samuel, a farmer at St. Louis, Mich.; J. F., our subject; Daniel S., residing in Bowling Green; Rebecca, married to A. B. Garn, of Gibsonburg; William, a farmer of Wood county, Ohio; Wesley, a farmer of Center township, Wood county; Arcanus C. and Michael, residing near Gibson-

burg; and Samantha, the wife of Charles Pike, of Bowling Green. The parents of this interesting family became the grandparents of fifty grandchildren, and the great-grandparents of thirty-one great-grandchildren.

On the maternal side, our subject's grandparents were Jacob and Elizabeth Fry, who had ten children, namely: Jacob, Lydia (the mother of our subject), Moses, Mary, Anna, Adam, Josia, Elizabeth, Solomon, and Samuel. All these are living in the West, except Jacob and Samuel, who died in Ohio.

J. F. Long, the subject proper of this sketch, spent his boyhood days in Gibsonburg, where he attended the common schools and secured his education. He was a natural mathematician, and became especially interested in the study of mechanics; in 1865 he removed to Wood county, where he bought a tract of land and put up a saw-mill. For several years he carried on the manufacture of lumber, making a handsome fortune, and later, in 1871, removed to Bowling Green, where for some time he was not engaged in any active business except contracting and building. In November, 1892, he opened up his present store, in which he is carrying on an extensive business. It is the largest establishment of its kind in Bowling Green, the firm carrying from \$20,000 to \$30,000 worth of stock, and employing ten clerks. Mr. Long also owns 180 acres of land and town property, and is recognized as one of the substantial and representative citizens of the county. He was formerly a Republican, but of later years has identified himself with the Prohibitionists, in the ranks of which party he is an earnest worker. In religious faith he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Long was married December 31, 1861, to Mary Klotz, a native of Pennsylvania, born February 9, 1845, and three children have blessed their union, namely: (1) Frank M., who learned the business of a dry-goods merchant in Toledo, and is now chief buyer for his father's firm; he married Bertha Littel, of Toledo, and they have one child, May. (2) Elsie D. is the wife of S. E. Vail, editor of the *Sentinel*, and they have one child, Merl DeWitt; and (3) Netta is the wife of R. P. Hankey, a son of Senator J. K. Hankey. The mother of this highly respected family died February 28, 1893, a faithful and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. From the year 1872 until her death, a period of over twenty years, she was known as an active worker in the Sabbath-school, much of her time in the capacity of assistant superintendent thereof, having charge of a class of young

men, many of whom can give evidence of her faithful work. She spent many hours in looking after the poor and needy of the town, and searching out the lonely homes of strangers, and of the desolate and disconsolate. She was also an active worker in the cause of home missions. Any one visiting the Elizabeth Gamble Deaconess Home and Christ's Hospital will find therein a beautiful room, "No. 57," fitted and furnished in memory of her good life, and for the good of that noble work.

GIDEON UNDERWOOD, deceased. The pioneers of a country, the founders of a business, the originators of any undertaking that will promote the material welfare, or advance the educational and moral influence of a community, deserve the gratitude of humanity. Our subject was for many years an honored citizen of Wood county, and one of the prominent pioneers of Center township. Mr. Underwood was born in Lawrence county, Penn., August 22, 1820, and was a son of William and Mary (Wright) Underwood, both natives of the Buckeye State. He attended the common school in his native county, and besides assisting in the labors of the home farm while young, he also worked on the canals. He then went West to California, remaining in the Golden State for three years, and later came to Wood county, Ohio, and purchased eighty acres of land in Center township, turning his attention to agricultural pursuits, which occupation he continued to follow up to the time of his death. He cleared and improved his land, building thereon a substantial dwelling, barns and other outbuildings, set out a fine orchard, and supplied the place with all the conveniences found upon a model farm of the nineteenth century. To his original purchase he later added 100 acres, and the entire tract comprised one of the best farms of the county.

In Lowell, Penn., on December 29, 1852, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Underwood and Margaret (McMahan), who was born in Mahoning county, Ohio, January 21, 1821, and was then the widow of Henry Humston. Two children graced this union—John W., and Laura C., who was born November 22, 1860, and is now the wife of John Walker, a farmer of Center township, by whom she has three children. By her first marriage Mrs. Underwood had one daughter, Amerilas, who married Simon Crum, a farmer of Center township.

Mr. Underwood always bore the reputation of an honest, upright man, affable and genial in disposition, and no man took a deeper interest in

the prosperity of his adopted county, while it is safe to say that few contributed in a larger degree to bring about this result. His death, which occurred April 7, 1895, was deeply regretted by his loving wife and children, and also a large number of friends who loved and respected him in life and mourned for him in death. He was a Republican in politics, and was school director many terms. For many years he was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, but later he joined the M. E. Church. Mrs. Underwood still resides upon the old homestead where so many happy years of her life were passed.

During the Civil war Mr. Underwood served as a soldier in the one-hundred-day service, being a member of Company C, 144th O. V. I.

**SILAS H. POWELL.** In manner hospitable and kind, disposition genial and social, this gentleman is one of the most highly esteemed residents of Liberty township. He was born March 10, 1852, in Green Castle, Ohio, a son of George and Sarah (Beatty) Powell. In 1872 the father removed with his family to Wood county, locating on a farm of 460 acres in Liberty township, where he made his home until his death, January 26, 1893. The mother died April 27, 1892. Their children were Wesley; Martha, wife of Louis Smaltz; Silas H.; Alonzo V.; Chester L. (deceased); and Laura, wife of James Stafford, of Liberty.

Our subject acquired his education in Green Castle, was reared on a farm, and at the age of twenty years came with his parents to Wood county. In 1873, however, he returned to Fairfield county, and was married in Winchester to Miss Margaret Elizabeth Fellers, who was born November 27, 1853, in that county. Her parents, Joshua and Barbara (Runkle) Fellers, were born February 14, 1821, and June 8, 1822, respectively; they are still living in Fairfield county. In the family were the following children: Eliza, wife of David Smith, of Pickaway county, Ohio; Minerva, wife of Thomas Courtwright, of Green Castle, Ohio; Martha, wife of Joseph Green, of Fairfield county; Clara, wife of George Courtwright, of Fairfield county; Mrs. Powell; Eleanor, wife of Samuel Brown, of Warren county, Ohio; Florence, wife of Henry Hempleman; John, a farmer of Fairfield county; Alice, wife of James Cheney; and Docia, wife of Edward Hickie, of Wood county.

Upon their marriage Mr. Powell and his wife took up their residence on the family homestead which he now owns, his farm comprising 191 acres. He is progressive in his methods, and his

close attention to business has secured him a comfortable property. In politics he is a Republican, and a strong advocate of temperance. In the family is one son, Chauncey, born April 4, 1874. Mr. and Mrs. Powell are members of the United Brethren Church, the one known as the "Powell Church."

**OSMAN A. DIVER**, a prominent oil operator of this section of the State, and one of the most extensive land owners in Montgomery township, is perhaps more widely known as an able and popular worker in the political field. A Democrat in a Republican stronghold—he has heavy odds against him, yet he has been called upon to fill nearly every office on the township ticket, sometimes carrying the day by 160 plurality against a Republican plurality of 140, and throughout the county he has hosts of friends who would gladly see him serving the public in a wider sphere. At times when the prospect of certain defeat has made it almost impossible to fill the county ticket, he has allowed his name to be used, and this has always meant a hard fight for his opponent, the large vote given him being a high testimonial from the independent voters of the county, to his ability and worth.

He is a native of Montgomery township, born March 16, 1845, in Section 30, a son of the late Osman Diver, a pioneer farmer of that locality, and his wife, Esther F. Robinson, a woman of rare mental ability and noble character, who was a teacher in this county in the early "forties." As the only son of this worthy couple, our subject was given better advantages in his youth than fell to the lot of some of the boys of that time—his district school course being followed by an attendance at more advanced schools in Fostoria and Osceola, with one year at Oberlin College. He was an active boy, and his energies were given full scope in farm work on the large tracts of land owned by his father.

On February 20, 1869, he was married, in Amherst township, Lorain Co., Ohio, to Miss Sarah Curtis, daughter of Zebulum and Lucy (Belden) Curtis, well-known citizens of that locality. After his marriage Mr. Diver began farming on his own account, in his native township, giving considerable attention to raising and dealing in stock. In 1885 he removed to Prairie Depot, and engaged in mercantile business with A. Fike. Later he became sole proprietor, continuing until 1894, when, after a successful career, he sold his store. He has large individual oil holdings, and owns 450 acres of land in his township.



*Margaret-E. Powell*



*Lila H. Powell*



His home at Prairie Depot is an elegant one, and Mrs. Diver's fine intellectual gifts and literary tastes give it an additional charm and influence as a social center. She is a member of the Disciples Church, active in various lines of local and foreign missionary work, and is also prominent in the Daughters of Rebekah order, also the Good Templars, at the present time being State deputy and district superintendent in the latter society. She has held different elective offices in the State work in that order, being State superintendent of the Juvenile Department, and organized in Ohio sixty-six Juvenile temples, re-organized many, also several subordinate lodges, and held meetings in the interest of the order and cause. Mr. and Mrs. Diver have had three children: Flora L., who was fatally burned at the age of four years, her clothing catching fire from a stove, and death resulting from her injuries forty-eight hours later; Frank E., a law student at Toledo; and Curtis B., a young man of more than ordinary talent, and an accomplished musician.

Mr. Diver is a skilled reinsman, and has always been an admirer of good horses; his stables contain some of the best specimens to be found in the county. Public spirited and progressive, he is active in the cause of better education, and has served it ably as a member of the school board. He belongs to the I. O. O. F., and was a charter member of Petroleum Lodge No. 499, K. of P., at Prairie Depot, and its first chancellor commander. For two years he represented his lodge at the State meeting.

Osman Diver, our subject's father, was born in Deerfield, Portage (then Trumbull) Co., Ohio, August 23, 1807. He was the oldest son of John Diver, a native of Massachusetts, who came to Deerfield in October, 1803, and of Laura Ely Diver, a descendant of the Elys, of England. When twelve years of age he went with a party to Cleveland for supplies, when that city was but a hamlet of log houses, he driving one of the teams there and back. On November 13, 1832, he married Margaret Kinnaman, and settled in his native town, where two years later a son was born, who lived but a few hours. On March 29, 1836, a second son, Franklin, was born, and in the fall of that same year he, with his wife and child, moved to Montgomery township, Wood county, and settled on a farm in Section 30. The country was then a wilderness, the roads being little more than Indian trails along the banks of streams. In the course of a few months he bought property in Fostoria (then Rome and Risdon), and engaged in hotel business in that

city. There a daughter, Laura H. (now Mrs. Cline), was born, September 19, 1838. The following year he sold his town property, and returned to his farm, taking up the arduous task of converting it into fertile fields. On January 18, 1841, his home was made desolate by the death of his wife. Placing his two little children in the care of their grandparents, he lived on alone, toiling unremittingly to leave to his loved ones a home. On February 24, 1842, he married Esther F. Robinson, and to them three children were born: Margaret E. (Mrs. Miles), Osman A. (our subject), and Harriet N. (Mrs. C. W. Lenhart). By this time he had made quite an opening in the dense forest, and in addition to the house of unhewed logs that had served him for a dwelling, he built a hewed log front, one and one-half stories high, with a good cellar—quite a pretentious mansion for those days. He usually went to Fremont (twenty-two miles distant) for flour and groceries, always taking an axe along to chop the fallen trees and remove them from the road. On one trip he stayed two nights at the same place; leaving his wagon in the mire, he proceeded with his team the first night, and returning the second night for shelter.

The constant toil and good management of Mr. Diver and his wife were rewarded; in the course of a few years, they found themselves in possession of 1,700 acres of good farming land. In 1848 he built a sawmill on the east branch of the Portage river, and manufactured the lumber with which he built a new house, one mile east of his first home, on the Perrysburg and McCutchenville pike. This was the second frame house built in this section of the country. In June, 1849, he moved his family into this house, and occupied it until his death, September 30, 1888, when he was aged eighty-one years, one month and seven days. In politics he was a Democrat, but believed it right to support the most worthy candidate, especially in municipal affairs. In religion, he was a faithful member of the Church of Christ, and was a liberal supporter of every good cause within his reach. In disposition he was quiet and unassuming, a lover of books and his own fireside, and was the friend of the poor and oppressed. Only the pioneers who toiled with him know how much this generation owes to those who changed the despised Black Swamp into the garden of Ohio.

Esther F. (Robinson), our subject's mother, was born April 2, 1818, near New Portage, Portage (now Summit) Co., Ohio. At nine years of age, death deprived her of her father, and at eleven years of age she began teaching, a voca-



tion she followed until the time of her marriage. Her labors were confined principally to the Western Reserve, with the exception of two years which were spent largely in Wood county, at West Millgrove, and four miles north of that village, at what was known as the Morgan school house. Her mother having moved to a farm near Latimerville, Crawford Co., Ohio, she made the journey from these points to her mother's home and return, several times on horseback, during her stay in Wood county. On February 24, 1842, she was married to Osman Diver at her mother's home, in Crawford county, returning with him on horseback. At the age of fifteen she espoused the cause of Christ, and has been throughout her life a faithful, consistent Christian. To her husband she was a helpmeet and counsellor, and to the five children entrusted to her care, she was a most lovable mother, a competent teacher and guide. She still survives her husband, living at the home her hand so industriously helped to carve out of the wilderness.

WILSON W. BROWN, one of the heroes of the Civil war, the engineer of the train captured from the Confederacy by the famous Mitchell raiders, is now living quietly on his farm near Dowling, wearing his well-earned honors with the modesty which becomes so brave and distinguished a soldier. He was born in Fountain county, Ind., December 25, 1839, the son of Harlan S. Brown.

Possessing rare mechanical genius, our subject early acquired a thorough knowledge of machinery, and before the war served some years as engineer on the Mobile & Ohio railroad. Just before hostilities began he returned home, and in September, 1861, he enlisted in Company F, 21st O. V. I., which was assigned to the army of the Cumberland. He took part in the battles of Ivy Mountain, Shelbyville, Ky., and many other engagements that occurred in the early part of the war. When the 21st was encamped at Shelbyville, Ky., he was detailed by Gen. O. M. Mitchell to go as engineer on the famous Mitchell raid—the story of whose gallant exploits forms one of the most thrilling chapters in the history of that time. He was more fortunate than many of his companions, eight of whom were hanged at Atlanta, Ga., while Mr. Brown, with fourteen of his comrades, escaped to the North, but not until they had endured three months of suffering and hardship, did they reach the Union lines. Our subject reported to his regiment, and went into active service again, was appointed corporal by the colonel of the regiment, and soon after was made ser-

geant of Company F, 21st O. V. I., for gallant and distinguished service. He participated in the battle of Stone River, and, for his bravery here, was granted a thirty-days' furlough and went home. While at home he received orders to report at Washington to depose in regard to the execution of his comrades, and while there had personal interviews with President Lincoln, Judge Holt, Gen. Hitchcock, and Secretary Stanton, and, before leaving, was presented with a gold medal from the hand of Mr. Stanton. By a special act of Congress he was promoted to 2nd lieutenant. After leaving Washington, he returned to Ohio, and was ordered to report to Gov. Tod, at Columbus, who presented him with his commission. He then returned to his regiment and reported for duty as acting lieutenant until a vacancy occurred, after engaging in many battles, skirmishes and forced marches. He was twice wounded at the battle of Chickamauga, having two fingers shot from the left hand, and a severe wound in the knee joint, for which wounds and his gallant service on the Mitchell raid, he was given a pension of twenty-four dollars per month by a special act of Congress. He was mustered out May 15, 1864.

In 1863 Mr. Brown was married to Miss Clarissa Loman, who was born in Fostoria, Ohio, March 1, 1845. Ten children were born of this union: Emma H., married Samuel G. Cordery, and died at the age of twenty-four, leaving one son—George W.; Alice M. died in childhood; Ada Lodisca married Charles E. Ward, of Toledo, and has two children—Rayman Oliver, and Ruby Marie; Harlan S. is a carpenter in Webster township, and married Miss Anna Beard, by whom he has one daughter—Gladys; James W. lives in Toledo (he married Cora Glenn and has one child, Ethel G.); Mary M. resides in Toledo; Mahlon T. is at home; Marquis A. lives in Toledo; and Edith G. and Cecil Ulena are at home.

After the close of the war, Mr. Brown engaged in agricultural pursuits, and spent some years in Logan and Hancock counties. In 1870 he established the home in Perrysburg township, where he now resides. He is a member of the G. A. R., and in politics is a Republican.

ISAAC VAN HORN, a well-known agriculturist of Grand Rapids township, was born in Harrison county, Ohio, December 7, 1830. He is a son of one of the earliest settlers of his locality, the late Samuel Van Horn, a native of Jefferson county, Ohio, born July 4, 1801, which honored pioneer was married in October, 1824, to Miss Sophia Miner, a native of Pennsylvania, born

December 15, 1804. They were the parents of twelve children, seven of whom are still living.

In 1831 they came to Wood county, traveling in a wagon, which contained all their household goods. They settled upon a tract of eighty acres of wild land, building a house, 16 x 18 feet, immediately upon their arrival, and went through all the experiences incident to frontier life. They lived upon potatoes, corn, turkey, squirrel and deer, game being so plentiful that the family have known their dog to chase a deer out of the woods and up the lane leading to the house, where the boys would knock the animal down with clubs. Turkeys they would shoot enough of in the morning for that day's supply; and as for squirrels, they were so numerous that Mr. Van Horn says he has gone out in the wheat field by the woods, and shot from ten to twenty of them before picking any up. In spite of the far advanced spring, Mr. Van Horn succeeded in clearing more than an acre of ground in time to raise a crop of potatoes that year, and the second year he raised an excellent crop of wheat without plowing the soil, his pair of oxen having been sacrificed to secure ready money. Mr. Van Horn and his wife had united with the M. E. Church before coming to Wood county, and were among the members of the first M. E. class, which was organized, in 1833, in Weston township, Rev. Elim Day being the leader. Samuel Van Horn died on the morning of February 4, 1886, aged eighty-four years and seven months to the day. The funeral services were held at home the next day, the Rev. George Matthews officiating, and his remains were then laid to rest in Beaver Creek cemetery. His wife, Sophia Van Horn, died June 4, 1890, and the funeral was held at Beaver Creek church, Rev. James Long officiating.

Isaac Van Horn, our subject, worked upon his father's farm until he was twenty-five years old, when he bought twenty acres of land, and began farming on his own account. In the spring of 1864, he enlisted in Company I, 144th O. V. I., under Col. Lew Wallace, and Capt. J. McKee. He participated in several engagements, and was taken prisoner at Perryville, Va., August 31, 1864. He was taken to Lynchburg, and from there to Libby prison, thence to Belle Isle, and then to Salisbury, from there back to Libby again, serving about eight months of prison life. He was the only one of seven, taken from his county, to survive prison life. From Libby he was sent to Annapolis, Md., and from there was sent home to Columbus, Ohio, where he received his discharge, March 23, 1865. He then returned to his little farm, which he sold a few

years later to buy fifty-five acres near Grand Rapids, upon which he has since resided. The improvements he has made thereon are of a high class, and he conducts the property in a model manner, having constructed ditches, planted orchards, and built substantial structures as needed.

On November 22, 1855, Mr. Van Horn was married to Miss Eliza J. Kerr, a sister of William B. Kerr, a prominent citizen of Grand Rapids township, and they had four children: Ella J., born June 11, 1858, married George Wolcott, of Deshler, Ohio; Etta May, born May 30, 1864, died in girlhood; Frank W., born August 26, 1866, now conducting the homestead; and one other died in infancy. The mother of this family died May 19, 1884, and September 11, 1889, Mr. Van Horn, for his second wife, married Miss Lizzie Dean, of Weston, who was born April 7, 1843. Mr. Van Horn cast his first vote for the Whig party. The issues of the war made him a "Black Republican," and he has adhered to that party since. He takes no active part in political work, and has never held an office, or been a juror, or been engaged in any legal controversy. By his friends and neighbors he is held in high esteem, and he is a leading member of the United Presbyterian Church.

B. B. BUCK, the cashier of the Exchange Banking Company, of Weston, and one of the leaders among the younger business men of the county, was born in Milton Center, December 13, 1862. William Buck, his father, was born July 31, 1832, in Stark county, Ohio. He married Miss Ann Hartz, and a few years later moved to Wood county, locating at Milton Center, where they still reside.

Mr. Buck (our subject) attended the district schools near his home during his earlier years, and then entered the Normal School at Valparaiso, Ind., and was graduated from the commercial department in 1887. On his return home he was made bookkeeper of the Exchange Banking Company, in which he is a stockholder, and later he became its cashier. In the discharge of the duties of his responsible position he has shown himself fully worthy of the trust confided to him. He was married October 17, 1889, to an adopted daughter of Dr. Schooley, of Weston—Miss Jessie Robinson—who was born November 9, 1867. They have one daughter, Agnes.

In politics Mr. Buck is a Republican, and he takes an influential part in all progressive movements in his locality. He is a member of the I. O. O. F., No. 59, Milton Center, the F. &

A. M., 530, Weston, and of the order of Mac-cabees.

HON. JOHN J. GEGHAN. No man is more widely or favorably known in North Baltimore and vicinity than the one whose name introduces this sketch, and it is to him more than to any other single individual that the city owes its manufactories, railroads, and other improvements which have developed its resources, and brought wealth and prosperity to its inhabitants. The career of Mr. Geghan has been a rather remarkable one. In his years of restless activity he has seen the ups and downs of life in no small degree, yet his persistence, and unbounded faith in his ability to overcome all obstacles, have always brought him out of his difficulties with flying colors, and with a determination to accomplish still greater results.

Mr. Geghan is a native of the "Emerald Isle," where he was born May 9, 1845, in County Meath, son of James and Elizabeth (McSweeny) Geghan. His father was a farmer, and spent his entire life in Ireland. After the death of her husband, the mother, in 1854, came with her little family to New Orleans, from there moving to Cincinnati, Ohio, where our subject attended the public schools, and afterward took a course in Nelson's Commercial College. After leaving school Mr. Geghan was employed in the tobacco business, and organized the Tobacconists Association, of Cincinnati, of which he was made president. In 1865 the tobacco manufacturing company of Geghan, Porter & McHugh was established, and in the latter part of the year Mr. Geghan bought out the interests of his partners and formed the firm of Geghan & Brashears. He disposed of his share in this connection in 1866, and his next step was to organize a company which took part in the Fenian raids in Canada, being engaged in the fights at Ridgeway and Fort Erie. Having sunk all his means in this venture, Mr. Geghan returned to Cincinnati, and became foreman in a leading tobacco house, which position he filled until 1870, when, in company with James W. Murphy, he established the Red Cloud Tobacco Works, at No. 18 Hammond street, in that city, which he conducted until 1876.

During this time and for a number of years previous Mr. Geghan took an active part in politics, his first affiliation being with the Republican party. During the campaign of 1868 he, in connection with Hon. J. W. Fitzgerald, organized the Irish "Grant & Colfax" Club of Cincinnati. He was also at the head of the liberal movement in that city which helped to carry Ham-

ilton county against Grant at a later date, and was president of the Greeley & Brown Club. Mr. Geghan has always been an intense Irish Nationalist, firmly believing that Ireland should be an independent nation, and, like the majority of Irish Nationalists, believing in the policy of the Republican party. He took an active part in the Presidential campaign of 1884, and at a meeting of Irish-American Republicans held at Long Branch, N. Y., immediately after the nomination of James G. Blaine, he was unanimously chosen secretary of the Irish National Republican League, which accomplished such effective work in that memorable campaign. In 1873 Mr. Geghan was nominated by the Democratic party for member of the State Legislature from Hamilton county, and was elected, serving two years. He took a prominent share in legislative matters, and was instrumental in passing several important measures. Among the bills introduced by him were the amendment to the Adair Liquor Law, compelling parties wishing to bring suit or otherwise, to serve notice on the saloon-keeper to desist from selling liquor, or file the same with the county clerk; the Padrone bill, the Militia law, and the celebrated Religious Liberty bill, known as the Geghan bill. After his term in the legislature had expired, Mr. Geghan went to Washington, D. C., where he engaged as traveling salesman until he secured a position in the Adjutant-General's department. This he held for a few months, and then resigned to accept the office of first assistant to the Dairy and Food Commissioner of the State of Ohio, which occupied his attention from 1886 to 1890. While in the commissioner's service he visited, among other places in his district, the thriving city of North Baltimore, and, at once perceiving its advantages as a manufacturing point, he concluded to locate there. Accordingly, in June, 1887, he took an option on 156 acres of land belonging to Joseph Dirk, at \$150 per acre, and associating with himself A. L. Pfau and Col. I. Richardson, incorporated the North Baltimore Glass Co., of which he was made vice-president and director—the factory buildings being erected in the fall of the same year. In 1892, Mr. Geghan sold out his interest in these works, and engaged in general contracting, forming a company which built the North Baltimore water works, and in which he held the offices of secretary, treasurer and general manager. A year later he disposed of his stock in this company, and paved Broadway street, and also macadamized Water street, two substantial and much needed improvements. He also bought eighty acres of ground, and deeded



*John Jellicoe*



six acres of the same to the Zihlman Glass Company, on which to erect their plant. He assisted in organizing a company known as the Missouri Railway & Navigation Company, and spent some time in southeast Missouri looking after its interests and a tract of land he still owns there.

In 1891 Mr. Geghan, in company with G. G. Grimes, began the publication of the *North Baltimore Times*, which he later disposed of. He has now settled in North Baltimore as a contractor and oil producer, being interested in seven oil wells in the vicinity, and expects hereafter to devote his entire time and attention to these pursuits. He also put on foot the building of a railroad between Welker and North Baltimore, which will add another to the many enterprises he has conducted for the benefit of this section of Wood county. He is a man of irrepressible energy, always busy, a genial companion, and popular with all classes of society.

In 1888, Mr. Geghan married Miss Sadie Tarr, daughter of the late Levi A. Tarr, one of the first settlers of Henry township. They have one child, Nellie. Mr. Geghan is a prominent Mason, belonging to Blue Lodge, Royal Arch Masons and Royal — Council. He is also a Knight of the Red Cross and a Knight Templar.

PETER P. SWINEHART, an industrious and thorough farmer of Bloom township, in connection with his agricultural pursuits, is also engaged in operating a feedmill, near Bloom Center. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Hopewell township, Perry county, July 23, 1848, and there his father, Andrew Swinehart, was also born, October 29, 1824. The paternal grandfather, John Swinehart, was a native of Northumberland county, Penn., in which State his father, Andrew Swinehart, lived and died. John learned the carpenter's and cabinet maker's trades, which he followed in the Keystone State, and there married Christina Cruber, a native of the same township, a mountain separating their homes. On locating in Perry county, Ohio, in 1802, they had one daughter—Sarah—who became the wife of George Onsbaugh, and there died. Their family later numbered fourteen children, those living to adult age being as follows: Peter, who died in Perry county; Jacob, who died in Wyandot county, Ohio; Elizabeth, who married Jacob Cooperiole, and died in Perry county; Catherine, who wedded Jerome Stalter, and died in Wyandot county; Jonathan, who died in Portage township, Wood county; Samuel, who died in Perry county; Daniel, who died in Fulton county, Ind.; Juda, now Mrs. Jacob Lawrence, of Wyandot

county; George, a farmer of Sandusky county; and Andrew, the father of our subject. When the last named was only fourteen years old his father died; his mother survived her husband many years, and they were both buried in St. Paul's church cemetery, in Hopewell township, Perry county.

Andrew Swinehart, the father of our subject, was able to attend school only a short time, as the family was large and the parents poor, and while young he learned the trade of a plasterer. He was married in Hopewell township, Perry county, September 30, 1847, to Miss Lydia A. Stimmel, who was born there July 13, 1824, and is the daughter of Peter and Margaret (Lutz) Stimmel, who were married in Maryland, and Mrs. Swinehart was the oldest in their family of twelve children, six sons and six daughters. Mr. Stimmel, who was a farmer by occupation, died in 1864, while his wife was burned to death when past the age of ninety years, and they were both buried in Thorn township, Perry county. For ten years Mr. Swinehart made his home on his father-in-law's farm, during which time he worked at his trade, or at day's labor, and for the following six years rented a house and garden of James Parks, in Hopewell township, much of the time being employed by that gentleman. On coming to Bloom township, Wood county, in December, 1864, the family located on a farm belonging to the father's brother, though he had previously purchased land in Section 35, that township, where he built a log house into which the family moved March 28, 1865, it being the first home they ever owned. The farm then comprised forty acres of swamp land, the water being so deep in some places that a horse would be compelled to swim across, but the land has been transformed into fertile fields. In politics the father is a Democrat, but voted for Abraham Lincoln and supports the man whom he thinks best qualified for office, regardless of party affiliations. He and his wife are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Peter P. Swinehart is the oldest in the family and he was followed by nine others born in Perry county, namely: Margaret A., born January 10, 1850, died on the 1st of March following; Christina E., born January 16, 1851, first wedded William Slater, and is now Mrs. Patrick Campbell, of Gloucester City, N. J.; Lydia A., born January 22, 1853, died on the 18th of April following; Catherine E., born May 29, 1854, is now the wife of David Wiker, of Bloom township; Andrew J., born May 30, 1856, died September 15, of the same year; John A., born October 25,

1857, died April 17, 1859; Susanna H., born September 4, 1859, is now Mrs. Nathan Denhoff, of Bloom township; Sarah Jane, born September 17, 1861, is the wife of George Parson, of North Baltimore; and Jacob H., born September 12, 1863, is also a resident of North Baltimore. Two sons were added to the family after coming to Wood county—George F., born October 19, 1865, lives in North Baltimore; and Noah A., born March 4, 1869, is at home.

In the primitive schools of his native county, Peter P. Swinehart obtained most of his education, which was completed in Wood county by attending a school taught by W. S. Richard, but failing health compelled him to lay aside his studies. He remained at home until the age of twenty-seven years as his help was needed in the development of the farm. At Findlay, Ohio, in December, 1875, was celebrated the marriage of our subject and Mrs. Staley, widow of John Staley. She is of German parentage, and bore the maiden name of Eva Helfrish. They have become the parents of three children—Oliver A., Charles H., and Matthias B. At the time of his marriage, Mr. Swinehart owned eighty acres of land in Section 23, Bloom township, two head of horses, a mule, a plow and a drag. He had agreed to pay \$2,000 for his land, and on that amount had to pay fifteen *per cent.* interest, but he went resolutely to work and soon had the indebtedness removed. On locating there only ten acres had been cleared, but now sixty acres have been placed under the plow, and a comfortable dwelling has replaced the log house which was then standing, while everything about the place denotes the thrift and enterprise of the owner. He had previously owned a sawmill in Henry township, and in the spring of 1894 established a feedmill near Bloom Center, which he is now successfully conducting. He was reared a Democrat, but voted with either of the larger parties until becoming disgusted with their practices, when he joined the Greenback party, but is not strictly partisan, voting as his judgment dictates. Mrs. Swinehart is a member of the Lutheran Church.

WILLIAM H. LEVERS was born December 17, 1825, in Franklin county, Penn., and is a son of William S. and Elizabeth (Light) Levers. The father was born on the ocean, while his parents were crossing the Atlantic, from Switzerland to America, on May 8, 1772. The grandfather, Abraham Levers, was a banker in Switzerland in comfortable circumstances. He with his wife and daughter came to the New World, and made

Philadelphia the place of their residence. William S. Levers, when a child of nine years, was bound out to a man in Lancaster, Penn., where he remained until twenty-two years of age. In early life he learned the weaver's trade, and afterward became a successful veterinary surgeon. He married Elizabeth Light, who was born in Dauphin county, Penn., and in 1845 brought his family to Ohio, his death occurring in Seneca county, May 27, 1851. His wife died near Brookfield, Stark Co., Ohio. Their children were David, who died in Brookfield, Ohio; Isaac, who died near Upper Sandusky, Ohio; Sarah, who was married and died in Illinois, leaving ten children; Solomon, who died in Wooster, Wayne Co., Ohio; Elizabeth, who became the wife of John McDowel, and died in Wooster; Joel, of Chippewa township, Wayne county; Daniel, who is living near Fulton, Ohio; Susan, wife of Ephraim Baker, of Michigan; Mrs. Liddy Hirschy; and William H., our subject.

Mr. Levers, of this sketch, was educated in the public schools of Franklin county, Penn. When a young man he learned the trade of a stone mason and plasterer, which pursuit he has followed more or less since that time. He was married May 9, 1850, in Fulton, Ohio, by Rev. Hartley, to Miss Liddy Vernon, who was born February 20, 1826, in Philadelphia, and is a daughter of Thomas H. and Mary (Ekoff) Vernon, also natives of Philadelphia. The parents both died on a farm near Bowling Green.

Mr. and Mrs. Levers took up their residence in Brookfield, Ohio, but a year later removed to a farm in that locality, on which they lived for two years. They afterward spent two years on a farm in Wayne county, and subsequently lived for one year on a farm near Tiffin, Ohio, and afterward near Hedgetown, Ohio. Going to Sandusky county, Mr. Levers there worked at his trade for two years, and in 1860 he came to Wood county, settling at Bowling Green. During the years passed there he made the first improvements upon a twenty-acre tract of land, which he had purchased. He cleared and drained this, built thereon a rude log cabin, and continued the work of improvement and cultivation until he now owns a valuable farm.

To Mr. and Mrs. Levers have been born the following children—William T., born February 20, 1851; Isaac Newton, born October 28, 1852, now an oil man of Liberty township; Mary Matilda, who was born June 17, 1855, and is the deceased wife of Joel Reeves; Emily Anna, born May 11, 1857; Liddy Ann, born October 10, 1858, now the wife of Richard Ducat, of Wood

county; Daniel Webster, born May 11, 1861, a farmer of Liberty township; Viola Belle, born August 30, 1863, now the wife of William Errett; Izora, born May 10, 1865, now the wife of Wilbur Hansen; and Precida Louisa, born February 17, 1869, now the wife of George Hansen.

Our subject has always been a staunch Republican in politics, and served for four years as trustee, while for many years he was township clerk of the school board. He belongs to the Methodist Church, and is a charitable and benevolent man, who is ever ready to extend a helping hand to the poor and needy, and to aid others less fortunate than himself. He owes his own success entirely to his energy and good management, and may truly be called a self-made man.

EDWARD S. BRYANT, of Bloomdale, the well-known lieutenant-colonel of the 2d Regiment, O. N. G., of which one company is the famous Bloomdale Rifles, and a prominent business man of this county, was born July 12, 1853, in Pittsfield, Lorain Co., Ohio.

His father, John W. Bryant, was a student at Oberlin College, where he met Miss Elvira Harmon, a descendant of one of the pioneer families of Lorain county, to whom he was married about 1847. Three children were born of this union: Warren C., Edward S., and Charles H., all of whom reside in Bloomdale. Our subject's father was a man of great natural ability and wide culture. He practiced law successfully for some years, and then having purchased the *Banner*, of Albion, Ind., he assumed editorial charge and soon made it a power in political circles. He died at Albion in 1857, and was buried there amid the sincere mourning of a wide circle of friends. Mrs. Bryant was married again, this time to Mr. Barnes, of Wellington, Ohio, but after his death she moved to Bloomdale, where she died in 1888, her remains resting in VanBuren cemetery.

Left fatherless at the age of four years, the subject of this sketch found a home with a man named Chet Smith, of LaGrange Center, Lorain county, and later with Bishop Bradley, of Pittsfield, doing such work at each place as his years permitted, and attending the district schools. At twelve he became an errand boy in the confectionery establishment of Henry Weisgerber, at Cleveland, and was soon advanced to a more responsible position. After three years he returned to Pittsfield, where his mother then lived, and began to study telegraphy at Oberlin, walking three and a half miles to and fro each morning and evening. Four months later he entered the

office of the L. S. & M. S. R. R., at Oberlin, as an apprentice, and not long after was made night operator there. Later he held the position of operator at Wauseon, Ohio, and Ligonier, Elkhart, Goshen and Kendallville, Ind., and then resigned from the service of the L. S. & M. S., receiving a letter of recommendation which made it easy for him to secure similar work elsewhere. For some years he was in the employ of the Pennsylvania R. R. Co., first at Crestline, Ohio, and then in Columbia City, Ind., and South Chicago, Ill., and when the B. & O. R. R. was completed to Chicago, he became their first operator there, remaining nine months. By this time he had become weary of the routine of office work, and prepared himself to add the duties of station agent, his first assignment to the double duty being at Cromwell, Ind. On December 13, 1875, he opened the first telegraph office at Bloomdale, holding also the position of agent in the newly established depot.

November 25, 1877, he was married to Miss Effie Wineland, a native of Hancock county, and a daughter of Daniel Wineland, a prominent business man of Bloomdale, and the senior member of the firm of Wineland Bros., operators of a sawmill there. Col. Bryant took an interest in this business, and, by the introduction of improved machinery, gave it new life, the trade increasing until he found it necessary to give up his position with the railroad. For some time he carried on the sawmill alone, until Joseph Linhart, and later S. A. Linhart, joined him, the firm name from 1881 to 1883 being Bryant & Linhart Bros. Since the retirement of Joseph Linhart the firm has been Bryant & Linhart, a name distinguished throughout trade circles for enterprise, progressive methods, and fair dealing. Col. Bryant is interested in many lines of business, and is a charter member of the Bloomdale Building and Loan Association, and an incorporator of the Diamond Oil Co., chartered in July, 1895, the first to be organized in Bloomdale. Col. and Mrs. Bryant have always taken a prominent place in the social life of Bloomdale. They have had three children: Detie, born September 23, 1879; Alma, born March 28, 1881, died at the age of two; and Clyde, born May 7, 1885.

Politically Mr. Bryant is a Republican, and has served as chairman of the Wood county central committee. He is one of the chief counselors of his party in this vicinity, and, although he seeks no favors for himself, the success of more than one candidate has been due to his efforts. Col. Bryant's connection with the renowned Bloomdale Rifles of the O. N. G., which he was



active in organizing, has given him a wide acquaintance in military circles. He served five years as captain, and had been re-elected for another term, but in April, 1893, he was elected to his present rank. He belongs to the F. & A. M., Fostoria Lodge, to the I. O. O. F., and is a charter member of the K. of P., 278, Bloomdale Lodge, where he has served in all the chairs; is colonel of the U. R. K. of P., 6th Regiment, headquarters Bowling Green, and is U. S. Deputy Marshal, Toledo District.

W. H. BENN, deceased, was one of the honored pioneers of Washington township, where he was widely and favorably known. He was a native of New York, born on January 12, 1832, and was one of the seven children of John and Elizabeth (Moore) Benn, the others being George, a veterinary surgeon, of Toledo, Ohio; Elizabeth, widow of James Bogers, of Toledo; Hannah, wife of S. Sharpiot, of Toledo; John, deceased; Elias; Emily, wife of Allen Druess. The parents removed with their family from the Empire State to Huron county, Ohio, but afterward came to Wood county, where they located on a farm of eighty acres in Plain township. There they spent the remainder of their lives.

In the schools of Huron county, Ohio, W. H. Benn pursued his literary studies, and remained under the parental roof until he had attained his majority, assisting his father in the operation of the farm. When old enough he also worked as a farm hand for others. In 1845 he left Huron county, coming with his father to Plain township, Wood county, where he worked in a sawmill. In 1865 he bought a farm of forty acres in Washington township, which he improved and operated, and as his financial resources increased, added to it thirty acres more, all of which he placed under a high state of cultivation, making it one of the best farms in the locality. Neat and substantial buildings were erected thereon, and the whole place indicated the progressive spirit of the owner. Feeling that his country needed his services, he enlisted in 1861 in Company A, 144th O. V. I., under Capt. Black, and participated in all the engagements in which his regiment took part, being always found at his post of duty.

In Plain township, in July, 1856, was celebrated the marriage of W. H. Benn and Rhodie Hogue. To them were born two sons, James and John, who now make their homes in Cleveland. The mother died of consumption on August 18, 1863, after which Mr. Benn was again married in 1865 at Tontogony, his second union being with Martha Brown, a daughter of J. B.

Brown, a cooper, of Sugar Ridge. They became the parents of seven children, but two died in infancy. They are as follows: Charles W.; Jennie, wife of William Lennard, of Washington township; Addie, wife of Thomas Custer, an oil operator; Cora; William H., who resides on the homestead farm; and Emma and May, twins, who have passed away.

Mr. Benn took an active interest in school matters, serving four years as school director, and also held other offices in the township, including that of supervisor. A Democrat in politics, he gave his earnest support to the principles of the party, and his religious connections were with the Presbyterian Church. An honest, industrious man and highly respected citizen, his death was deeply regretted by all who knew him. He passed away in Washington township.

THOMAS GOODENOUGH, a wealthy farmer of Weston township, was born in Wiltshire, England, December 10, 1845, his parents coming to this country, in 1849, when he was four years old. They settled at Greenfield, Huron Co., and there he received his education in the common schools.

When old enough our subject learned the trade of a blacksmith, which he followed for three years, and then learned the boiler maker's trade at Brownell's boiler works, in Dayton, Ohio. He was employed there until 1873, when he came to Plain township, this county, and bought ninety acres of land. This he improved, but subsequently sold, and removed to Weston township, purchasing the Ward farm of 100 acres. This property Mr. Goodenough has placed under a high state of cultivation, draining, tiling it, and otherwise making it a model farm. He has erected a comfortable residence, and has one of the best barns in the county, which cost \$1,500, also a grain barn which was built at a cost of \$500, and a fine windmill. He has a small orchard of choice assorted fruit trees set out, and, taking all in all, the place is one of the best arranged and most complete in the township.

Mr. Goodenough was the first boiler maker in Wood county, and followed his trade, at the same time managing his farm, for seventeen years, being known, also, as the most extensive hog raiser in the county. He experienced many of the hardships of pioneer life in his early days, and, among other experiences, tells of the time when, for a year, he was a sailor on the great lakes, sailing most of the time between Grand Haven and Manistee, Mich. He is a man who



Thomas Goodenough Mary E. Goodenough.



has worked hard, has been energetic and saving, and well deserves the prosperity which has crowned his efforts, and enabled him to spend the remainder of his life in ease and comfort.

Mr. Goodenough was married, April 14, 1877, to Miss Mary E. Dotts, of Bowling Green, Ohio, and three children have blessed their union: Hattie, born August 14, 1878, wife of George Gloor, a farmer in Milton township; Robert, born March 3, 1881; and Thomas S., born March 24, 1889. Mrs. Goodenough's parents were Jacob and Ann (Battin) Dotts, the former born about 1816, in Pennsylvania, the latter in 1817, in Columbiana county, Ohio. They were married in Ohio, and had seven children: John Y., a farmer; Eli B., who enlisted in the Civil war, in Company K, 111th O. V. I., and died in hospital; Osborn S., a farmer in Defiance county, Ohio (he was also a soldier in the Civil war, serving with the 130th O. V. I.); Jefferson S., who is a farmer in Weston township; Sarah P., deceased; Mary E., born November 29, 1855, at Bowling Green, wife of our subject; and Cynthia M., wife of S. Johnson, a farmer near Weston.

In politics our subject is a Republican, and was for five years supervisor of Plain township. He served as clerk of the school board for nine years, and was also a member of the township school board in Sub-District No. 9. He is a Master Mason, belonging to Lodge No. 560, F. & A. M., at Weston. The family are all respectable citizens. Mr. Goodenough is a self-made man, and he is highly respected and esteemed in the community, where he is regarded as a most worthy citizen.

**WILL S. BAIRD.** The subject of this personal sketch is one of the successful and progressive farmers within the borders of Bloom township, and one of the representative men of this section. He has made his special field of industry a success, and highly esteemed and respected by those who know him best. He is the second child in the family of Shelman and Keziah (Locy) Baird, and was born in Perry township, Wood county, December 17, 1852.

Mr. Baird was educated in District No. 4, of his native township, and remained under the parental roof until eighteen years of age, when he hired out as a farm hand; previous to this time, however, he had begun to learn the carpenter's trade, but not liking the business he gave it up. Later he resumed carpentering, working one season for C. J. Updegraff. On April 18, 1878, he wedded Miss Addie Pelton, who was born in La Grange, Lorain Co., Ohio,

August 14, 1861, and is a daughter of James and Lydia (Beaumont) Pelton. On coming to Wood county, her parents first located in Bloom township, later moved to Perry township, and died at North Baltimore, Ohio.

On Section 18, Perry township, Mr. Baird began housekeeping, having scarcely any furniture or cooking utensils, and those he had, being second-handed. He later purchased a cow, span of horses, and a buggy. At the end of a year he removed to his father's farm, which he cultivated on the shares for nearly two years, when he went to Bloomdale, there being employed as a laborer by Bryant & Linhart for the same length of time. During that time he was able to save enough money to purchase two lots, and he built a house in Bloomdale, which he sold in 1883, removing to Section 16, Perry township, where he rented a house and a small piece of ground, while he worked in the sawmill of his father-in-law. In the spring of 1884, Mr. Baird purchased eighty acres of land in Section 13, Bloom township, from Andrew Emerine, for which he went in debt \$1,800, and the first season, which was very wet, his crops failed; but he did not allow himself to become discouraged, hoping for better days. Fortunately he had purchased his place of a gentleman who was very lenient with him, and instead of forcing the payment of \$200 annually, he allowed the debt to go for three years without any payments. Our subject secured outside work which enabled him to earn considerable, and as his land was further developed it became more productive. It is now entirely free from debt, and in 1895 a substantial home was erected thereon. With the exception of twenty acres, the land has all been cleared, thoroughly tiled and drained, and now bountiful harvests yield a ready return for the care and labor expended upon the place.

Mr. Baird and wife may be properly classed among the self-made citizens of Wood county, who, by the exercise of their own industry and perseverance, have not only gained for themselves a home, but have materially assisted in the progress and development of the country around them. They have always enjoyed life, taking many pleasures that others in their circumstances would have probably denied themselves. His first vote was cast with the Democratic party, later he became a Prohibitionist, and is now a Republican, though not bound by party ties, voting for the best man regardless of politics. He is a charter member of West Millgrove K. of P. Lodge, No. 445, while himself and wife are active members of the Disciples Church.

F. E. WHITKER, a well-known grocery merchant of Bowling Green, a member of the firm of Bankey & Whitker, is a strictly first-class business man, reliable and energetic. He was born at Weston, Wood county, November 2, 1867, and is the offspring of excellent stock of stanch German ancestry, his paternal grandfather having come from the Fatherland. He located near Pemberville, Wood county, where John Whitker, the father of our subject, was reared. At Toledo, Ohio, was celebrated the marriage of the latter and Miss Elizabeth Matzinger, a native of Switzerland, who had come with her people to the New World and located in that city. After their marriage the parents made their home at Weston, where the father engaged in the lumber business for ten years, and then removed to his present farm, two and a half miles northwest of that village. Our subject is the oldest child, the others being Lillie, John, Maggie, Abbie, Alice, May and Mertie.

In the place of his nativity, Mr. F. E. Whitker grew to manhood, and attended the public schools there until January 1, 1884. On laying aside his text books he became a clerk in the store of H. C. Uhlman. In 1893 he came to Bowling Green, where he entered business as a co-partner in the firm of Bankey & Whitker, and they have become the leading dealers in groceries, crockery and queensware in the place.

On June 15, 1892, Mr. Whitker was married to Miss Maude Royce, who was born November 29, 1871. Socially, he holds membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Royal Arcanum. In business, he is energetic and trustworthy, and has gained the confidence of the people by his honesty and integrity.

ABRAHAM COEN, a well-known retired agriculturist of Bowling Green, was born in Knox county, Ohio, July 27, 1817.

His father, William Coen, was a native of Pennsylvania, but came early in life to Knox county, where he was engaged in farming many years. He was married near Wheeling, W. Va., to Miss Sarah Brokaw, who was born in New York State, in 1800. In religious belief, they were Presbyterians, and they exemplified their faith in faithful, practical, right-doing. Their later years were spent in Hancock county, where our subject's mother died in 1840. His father died in 1853, at the age of sixty-six. They had nine children, five of whom are yet living: (1) Cecelia, deceased, formerly Mrs. Robert Black, of Tontogany; (2) Ann, Mrs. I. S. Wilson, of Coles county, Ill.; (3) Abraham, our subject; (4)

John, a prominent resident of Bowling Green; (5) Margaret, deceased, formerly the wife of John Gray, of Cloud county, Kans.; (6) James, deceased, a resident of Indiana; (7) William, a well-known citizen of Bowling Green; (8) Ebenezer, of Wood county, Ohio, fell in the battle of Monocacy, in the Union army; (9) George Coen, of Indiana.

Mr. Coen lived with his parents in Knox county until the age of fourteen, when they moved to Hancock county. His early education was obtained in a log school house near his home, and his time was mainly devoted to farm work and getting out logs for the market. On August 28, 1838, he married Miss Sarah Hall, who was born December 30, 1818, in Harrison county, Ohio. The first years of their married life were passed in Hancock county, but in 1849, they came to Plain township, Wood county, and bought a farm, which they cultivated until the development of the oil industry in that locality resulted in the opening of four wells upon their estate. A few years ago they moved to Bowling Green to enjoy the fruits of their labor, and here Mrs. Coen sank into the unbroken repose of death, December 20, 1894, after over fifty-six years of married life. Eleven children were born to them, six of whom grew to adult age: (1) Harriet married Andrew Rush, of Bowling Green, and both died, leaving a family of five children—Flora, Erva, Benham, Boyd and Newell. (2) Mary married Henry Goodenough, a leading citizen of Plain township, whose biography appears elsewhere in this volume; five children were born to them—May, Ruth, Sarah, Harry A., and Walter. (3) Aaron died as the result of exposure and hardship in the army. He was a member of Company C, 21st O. V. I., and had re-enlisted at the end of his first term, when his health gave way and he was sent home. (4) Nancy married Thomas E. Adams, of Findlay, Ohio. (5) Delilah is the wife of A. Chapman, of Bowling Green. They have four children—Fred, Anna, Arthur and Ralph. (6) Rachel married William Hopper, of Plain township, and has three children—George, Perry and Virnil.

Mr. Coen is a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church, and politically is a Republican. His first vote was cast for William H. Harrison. He is a man of remarkably fine physique, and has usually weighed 220 pounds, his "working weight." His declining years are free from care, but the passing away of early associates brings of necessity the chill of loneliness, and a longing for reunion. Notwithstanding the esteem of later friends, and the affection of his children he "is

like a giant oak, which, having outlived the storms which laid his companions low, now stands alone."

PETER KRAMP, a retired agriculturist, now residing at Bowling Green, was born in Nassau, Prussia, January 17, 1835. His parents both died when he was quite young, and no record of them has been kept. He was one of six children, the others being Adam, a miner, who died in Germany, at an advanced age; David, who also lived to an old age, and died in Germany; Elizabeth married Philip Schid, and died in Germany; Jennie married Henry Menor, and died in the old country; Catherine is the twin sister of our subject, married Ernest Gross, and lives in Germany.

When Mr. Kramp first came to America, in 1854, he took passage in a sailing vessel, and was thirty-two days in making the voyage. In 1894, when he visited his sister in Germany, he made the trip in eleven days, and the return trip in ten days.

After the death of his parents, our subject and his sister were reared by their eldest brother. Mr. Kramp attended the public schools, and at an early age worked at and learned the tailor's trade. When he came to America, he landed in New York, and thence went direct to Sandusky City, Ohio. At the end of the journey he was indebted four dollars to a friend who had assisted him to reach his destination. He worked on a farm at first, for six dollars per month, and afterwards for \$160 per year, until he got married. After his marriage he rented a small farm in Erie county, Ohio, the owner of the farm furnishing a team to do the plowing and heavy work, Mr. Kramp being able only to furnish a horse to do the light work. His wife was a great help to him, and through her assistance and economy, at the end of a year they were able to buy a team, and then rented a larger farm, upon which they lived until they came to Wood county, in 1869. At this time they had saved \$1,000, which they paid on an eighty-acre tract in Plain township, which they had purchased for \$4,000. After living on this land for eight years, Mr. Kramp exchanged it for 160 acres in the same township, which he yet owns. There are about fifteen producing oil wells on this farm, which yield a comfortable income to the owner. He removed from his farm to Bowling Green about three years since, and has built a comfortable residence in the west part of the village, where he now lives in contentment and quiet enjoyment.

He was married, February 22, 1861, to Miss

Christiana Seel, who was born in Germany, November 13, 1840. Twelve children were born to them, as follows: (1) Henry, now living on his father's farm, born November 13, 1861, married Miss Ida Plowright, and has six children, viz.: Ralph, Mabel, Lena, Clarence, Wallace and Esther. (2) William, born May 18, 1864, married Miss Lydia Wright, and has three children, viz.: Floyd, Leah and Lucy. (3) Philip Peter, born June 7, 1866, married Miss Ada Hartman, and has two children, Edna and Merle. (4) Frederick, born May 22, 1868, died December 9, 1891. (5) Peter, born July 17, 1870, married Miss Vallie Pulse, and has one child, May. (6) George, born August 13, 1872, married Miss Ettie Wright, a sister of his brother William's wife, and has one child, Burl. (7) Louise, born December 9, 1874, died February 9, 1875. (8) Charley, born January 15, 1876, was married in 1895 to Miss Mattie Borland, who died in 1896; one child was born to them, but is now dead. (9) Christiana, born April 11, 1878, lives with her parents. (10) Edward, born April 10, 1880, and (11) John A., born May 28, 1882, reside with their parents. (12) Reuben, the youngest, was born September 2, 1885.

Mr. Kramp belongs to the Evangelical Association, and in politics is a Prohibitionist. He is one of the representative citizens of Wood county, and is enjoying the reward of a well-spent, industrious life.

WILLIAM NELSON is a representative farmer of Center township, where he owns a fine farm of 250 acres. His operations have been marked with uniform success, and in addition to being a thorough and skillful agriculturist, he is a business man of more than ordinary capacity, wise and judicious in his investments, and taking advantage of the facilities afforded at this day and age by improved machinery, and all the other appliances, required by the modern tiller of the soil. Mahoning county, Ohio, was the earliest home of our subject, where he was born June 30, 1820. His parents, James and Sarah (Evenings) Nelson, were natives of Buffalo Valley, Union Co., Penn., where the father engaged in farming until coming to Wood county to make his home with his son. Here his death occurred in 1873, and his wife, who had preceded him to the world beyond, died in 1865. In their family were ten children, named as follows: Jane, Liddie, Jonathan, Katherine, William, James, Mary, John D., Sarah and Jesta.

William Nelson received his education in the district schools, while his farm training was re-

ceived on the old homestead. At the age of fourteen years he began selling goods on the road, which occupation he continued to follow for sixteen years, during which time he managed by strict economy to save enough money to purchase 160 acres of land in Hancock county, Ohio. A portion of the farm had been placed under cultivation, and to its improvement he devoted his time and attention until 1865, when he disposed of that property and removed to Missouri, remaining there a short time. Coming back to Ohio, he located in Center township, where he bought 100 acres, half of which had been improved. He cleared the balance, and as his financial resources increased, added 150 acres to his farm. Starting out in life with very little capital—in fact, nothing but his strong hands and resolute will—the present condition of Mr. Nelson, socially and financially, reflects great credit upon him, both as an agriculturist and a business man.

In August, 1852, Mr. Nelson was married in Hancock county, the lady of his choice being Miss Rebecca Bowman, who was born March 20, 1830, and is a daughter of Henry Bowman, a prominent farmer of that county. Eight children were born of this union, all of whom survive, and in order of birth are as follows: James L., born July 23, 1853, is a farmer, and, by his marriage with Ellen Shinew, has eight children; William H., born July 26, 1855, carries on agricultural pursuits in Gratiot county, Mich.; Sarah E., born January 4, 1858, is the wife of Thomas Shinew, a farmer of Portage township; Liddie E., born August 31, 1860, is the wife of James Davis, a contractor and builder, of Plain township, Wood county; John A., born May 24, 1864, is a farmer living on the homestead; Louisa J., born October 10, 1866, is the wife of George Crom, a farmer of Michigan; Elmert, born August 7, 1868, married Della Stacy; and Emma R., born November 28, 1872, is the wife of Arthur Vermillia, a farmer of Henry county, Ohio.

Mr. Nelson still resides upon his farm, which is now conducted by his son John, but has laid aside business cares, resting in the enjoyment of the fruits of his former toil. He has liberally aided his children in securing good homes, and to all objects for the good of the community, he has been a cheerful and liberal contributor. His early education was quite limited, but his natural intelligence and habits of observation have served to keep him well informed upon matters of general interest. He is politically at true-blue Republican, and there are few people held in higher

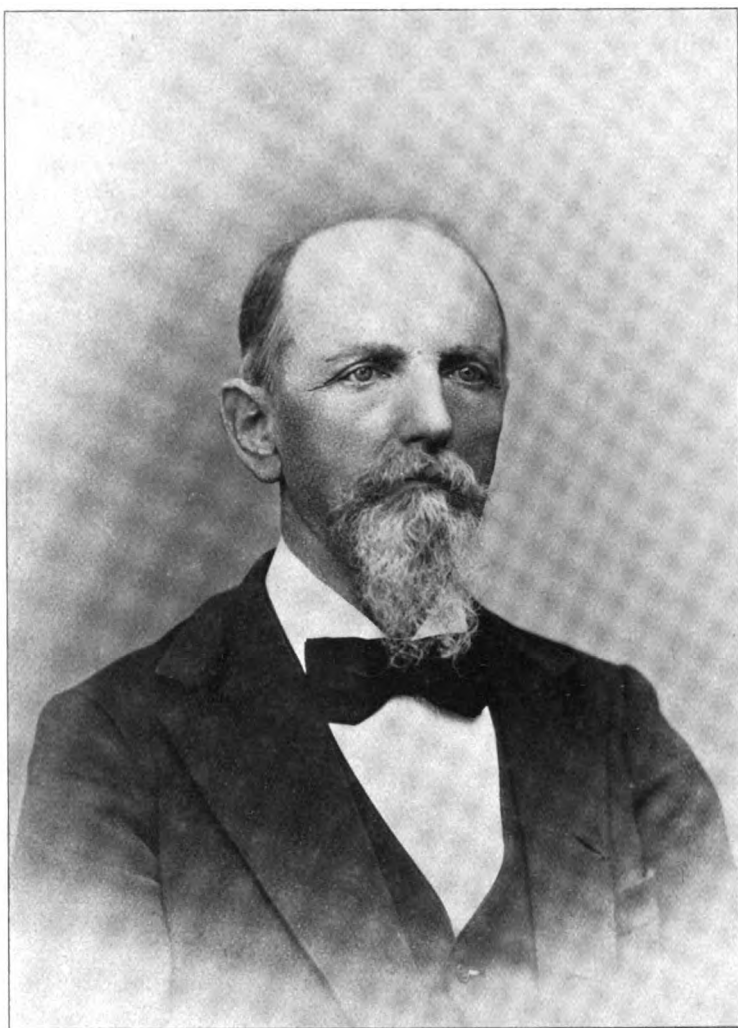
esteem than William Nelson and his excellent wife, who has been his faithful and sympathizing companion for upwards of forty-four years.

SAMUEL CASE, one of the most highly respected and influential citizens of Bowling Green, was born in Wayne county, Ohio, March 25, 1832. His great-grandfather, Joshua Case, was born either on Long Island or in Connecticut, and was a farmer by occupation. He reared a family of six children, of whom Augustus, our subject's grandfather, was born July 17, 1759, on Long Island, was there married and removed to New Jersey in 1792.

Augustus Case raised six children, two of whom were born in New Jersey, after which the family removed to Greene county, Penn. The father was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and received a pension until the time of his death, which took place in Wayne county, Ohio, in 1852, he having reached the advanced age of ninety-three years. The record of his children is as follows: Anna married John Culberson, and they removed to Lawrence county, Ill., where she died; Samuel Y. comes next; John B. died in Indiana; Elizabeth married William Kean, of Wayne county, Ohio; Onesimus died in Wayne county; and Joshua died in Wayne county when thirty-two years old. All of those deceased left families. Dr. Augustus Case, of Miami county, Ind., is a son of Onesimus, and Harvey B. Case, of Loudonville, Ohio, is a son of Joshua.

Samuel Y., the father of our subject, was born September 22, 1796, in Sussex county, N. J., and, as will be seen, was two years of age when, in 1798, the family removed to Pennsylvania. In 1814 he came with his father to Wayne county, Ohio, where he was married, August 20, 1817, to Jane Eakright. The young couple at once settled on a farm in Plain township, Wayne county, which had been given to Mr. Case by his father, and which was their home for forty-five years, and until the death of the husband, which took place in 1870. Mrs. Case was born in Monongahela county, Penn., in 1795, and after the death of her husband made her home with our subject until 1876, when she, too, passed away. This worthy couple were both lifelong members of the Methodist Church, with which body they had worshiped over sixty years. A church was built upon their farm, which was named for them, and in the burying-ground adjacent many members of their family are laid to rest.

Nine children were born to Samuel Y. Case and his wife, of whom the following mention is made: Milton B. died at Grand Junction, Colo.,



*S. Case*





March 29, 1896; he reared a family of sixteen children. Augustus B. died in Cass county, Neb., in 1865. Youngs C. died in Bowling Green March 22, 1894. Reason B. lives on a part of the old farm in Wayne county. Aaron B. was a farmer in Schuyler county, Mo., where he died in 1886. John B. is a farmer in Sheridan county, Neb. Samuel, our subject, comes next. Elizabeth J. is the wife of M. A. Faws, of Bowling Green. W. H. H. died near Lyons, Colo., December 10, 1885.

The subject of this sketch spent his early days on his father's farm in Wayne county, and when eighteen years old began teaching school, which, in connection with farming, he carried on until he was twenty-eight years old, in the meantime, however, also attending school for two terms in Loudonville, also the O. W. U. at Delaware. After his marriage in 1860 he engaged in the mercantile business for one year at Big Prairie, Wayne county, afterward proceeding to Crestline, Crawford county, where he conducted a dry-goods store for six years. He then removed to Portage, Wood county, keeping a store there for one year, when, in 1868, he took up his residence in Bowling Green, and, in connection with Addison Fay, opened a store which they conducted some four years. Our subject then sold out his interest, and spent some time in traveling, after which he bought land on Liberty Prairie, in this county.

In 1874 Mr. Case was elected auditor of Wood county, on the Republican ticket, and served seven consecutive years, after which he engaged in the real-estate business, to which he has devoted the most of his attention up to the present time. For two years he was the secretary of the Bowling Green Natural Gas Co., in which he had an interest, and has been largely interested in the production of oil and the development of the oil field in his county. He received ninety-seven votes in the Republican State Convention, held in Columbus in 1881, for member of the Board of Public Works, and was only defeated because of his location.

Mr. Case was married September 6, 1860, to Miss Mary E. McMahon, who was born May 23, 1840, in Jeromesville, Ashland Co., Ohio. Of this union four children have been born, namely: Laura May, who married Rev. Lemuel Lee Warner; he died December 19, 1888, at Genoa, leaving two children—Marie L. and Donald C. Myron L. married Agnes Boyd; he is cashier of the National Bank at Dunkirk, Ind.; this couple have one daughter—Marjorie. Rosella C. is the wife of Rev. Elmer E. McCammon, pastor of the

Methodist Episcopal Church at Marysville, Ohio; they have two children—John W. and Myron B. Samuel R. married Kate, only child of Dr. Whitehead; he is a merchant tailor in Bowling Green.

Mr. Case has been an important factor in the growth and development of the city and county, where he has made his home for so many years, and has always used his influence to promote their best interests. He took an active part in raising the subscription for the building of the T. & O. C. railway through Bowling Green, and has materially assisted in various other public enterprises. He was a member of the school board some eleven years, and a justice of the peace for one term in Plain township. He has been a consistent member of the Methodist Church since sixteen years of age, and his upright, honorable life is an example which any young man would do well to follow. He possesses the love and esteem of all who know him, and wields a powerful influence for good throughout the community.

NATHAN HOWARD MILLS, one of the leading and honored citizens of Wood county, prominent in business, political and social circles, was born in Perry county, Ohio, June 1, 1862, and is a son of Greenbury Mills. His father was born in Maryland, August 19, 1823, and when a boy left his native State, removing with his parents to Perry county, Ohio, the family locating on a farm near New Lexington. Before the war the father of our subject removed to Hancock county, where he was employed as a farm hand for a few years. There he was married in 1843, and soon after returned to Perry county, where he resided until 1862, when he went with his family to Hancock county, taking up his residence near Findlay. In 1871 he came to Wood county, and purchased forty acres of wild land in Jackson township. Part of the the town of Hoytville now stands upon this place, and the first grocery store there was built upon the father's land. Mr. Mills at once began to clear and improve his farm, and some years later erected thereon a comfortable dwelling, which he made his place of abode until his death, which occurred April 12, 1895. Mrs. Mills died August 17, 1891. She was a kind and faithful wife and mother, and dearly beloved by all who knew her. She was an active worker in the Christian Church, and the father also held membership with that Church. In politics he was a staunch Democrat, and was an honored and esteemed citizen.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills had a family of eleven children, namely: Mary, wife of T. J. Down-

ham, of Jackson township; John T., a farmer of Jackson township; Delilah Jane, wife of W. M. Clarke, of Arkansas; Catherine, wife of John Eaken, of Hoytville; James E., a carpenter of Hoytville; William H., of Swanton, Ohio; Liddy M., wife of A. P. Kiger, of Hoytville; Nathan H.; Lucinda H., wife of John Embrey, of Athens county, Ohio; Henry C., of Hoytville; and Sarah, who died at the age of sixteen years. Our subject was only a year old when the family removed to Hancock county, Ohio, and a child of eight when they came to Wood county. He acquired his education in the district schools of these two counties; but at the age of fourteen left the school room to learn the harder duties of of practical business life. He then entered the employ of the Dewey Stave Company, with which he has since been connected, working his way steadily upward, until since April, 1892, he has served as superintendent. Fidelity to duty is numbered among his chief characteristics, and was the secret of his advancement.

In Hoytville, on October 27, 1882, Mr. Mills married Miss Amy C. Wall, who was born February 4, 1862, in Hancock county, Ohio, daughter of Henry B. and Mary Jane (Green) Wall. They now have three children—William W., Mabel G., and Arnold E. They began their domestic life in Hoytville, Mr. Mills erecting a home close to his place of business, and there resided until June, 1895, when he sold his dwelling and removed to the old homestead. His business career has been one of success, and he now has considerable capital out at interest.

In his political affiliations he is a stalwart Republican, and in 1895 was elected mayor of Hoytville, but his pressing business duties forced him to resign. He has served as councilman for two years, and in all possible ways has promoted his county's welfare. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias fraternity, has filled all of the chairs, and represented the local lodge in the Grand Lodge. He also holds a life insurance policy in the Endowment Rank, K. P., and is secretary of Section 1,498. He has been dependent entirely upon his own resources since the age of fourteen years, and is the architect of his own fortune. Upon the solid foundation of diligence, enterprise, and sound judgment, he has erected the superstructure of success, and to-day is a substantial citizen of the community.

DAVID H. WIRICK, who has lived retired in Jerry City since the spring of 1891, is one of the successful self-made farmers of Wood county. He is a native of Ohio, born May 15, 1835, in

Monroe township, Richland county, son of Henry and Catherine (Spade) Wirick, who had a family of ten children—seven sons and three daughters. Henry Wirick was born in Pennsylvania, and learned the trade of cabinet maker in Baltimore when a young man. He was married in Pennsylvania, where he lived for a time, moving from that State to Ohio in pioneer days, and locating in Richland county, where his wife died. He subsequently removed to Wyandot county, this State, where he passed his remaining days, dying at the home of his daughter Sarah; he and his wife rest side by side in the cemetery in Monroe township, Richland county. Mr. Wirick was a soldier in the war of 1812. He was a Democrat in politics, and in religious faith was an adherent of the Swedenborgian Church.

Our subject was the sixth child and fifth son of his father's large family. During his boyhood he attended the subscription schools then in vogue in the home neighborhood, and received a thorough training to agriculture under his father, working at home until he reached his majority. On commencing life for himself he worked for from three shillings to fifty cents a day and board. On November 18, 1859, he was married, in Richland county, to Mary A. Smith, a native of that county, who was born November 15, 1834, daughter of John H. Smith, and the following spring the young couple came to Wood county, where they commenced housekeeping. They made the trip by team, and on their arrival located on an eighty-acre tract which he had purchased, situated in Section 8, Bloom township, and which cost \$800. Mr. Wirick paid down \$200 of this amount, and settled the remainder in installments of \$50, so it will be seen that he did not have an over-abundance of capital with which to begin. The land was timber covered, and the five acres which had been partly cleared, were, if anything, in a worse condition than the remainder. A log cabin was the only dwelling on the place, and they commenced in true pioneer style, Mr. Wirick working steadily until he had transformed the place from a wilderness to a fertile, productive farm. In 1888 he had an attack of "la grippe," which undermined his health so much as to unfit him for active labor, and he has since lived retired, having removed to his pleasant home in Jerry City, in the spring of 1891. He acquired a comfortable competence, and was able to give to each of his two sons an eighty-acre farm.

To David H. and Mary A. Wirick were born three children, viz.: Francis M., who is a farmer of Bloom township; Laura C., who died

in infancy; and Charles, who is also a farmer in Bloom township. The mother of these passed from earth April 9, 1870, and was buried in Bloom Chapel cemetery, and Mr. Wirick wedded, for his second wife, Mrs. Lavina Edgar, widow of Hector Edgar, and daughter of John Davis, of Henry township, Wood county. She died June 3, 1880, without issue, and was laid to rest in North Baltimore cemetery. December 28, 1882, Mr. Wirick was again married, this time, in Bloom township, to Mrs. Sarah (Boyd) Swope, a native of Jackson township, Seneca county; no children have come to this union. Mr. Wirick is a most highly esteemed citizen, and he is as well liked for his kindness of heart as for his integrity and industry. Possessed of good common sense and judgment, he was an influential man in his community, and served as trustee and constable in Bloom township. He is a Democrat in political faith, but usually votes for the best man, regardless of politics.

WILLIAM H. MINTON, one of the pioneers of Wood county, now an honored resident of Plain Center, Plain township, was born March 7, 1828, in Morris county, N. J., where his ancestors had settled at an early period.

His grandfather, Nathan Minton, was a soldier in the war of 1812, and his great-grandfather, Isaac Johnston, was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His father, Jacob Minton, was born February 26, 1796, and was in early life a wagon maker. He married Miss Phileta Willison, also a native of New Jersey, born September 27, 1798, and, in 1834, they moved to Ohio, traveling part of the way by water. They stopped for a short time at Fort Miami, and then after a few months at the old missionary station on the banks of the Maumee river, twenty miles above Toledo, they settled upon land in Plain township, Wood county, where they established their home in the clearing. They were both members of the Presbyterian Church, of Morristown, N. J. (Rev. Albert Barnes, pastor), but after coming west they united with the Plain Congregational Church, of which they remained throughout life, faithful and active members. Before the war issues arose, Mr. Minton, Sr., was a Whig, and then became a Republican, and later joined the Prohibition party. He died April 6, 1884, followed two years and a half later by his wife, who breathed her last on the eve of her eighty-eighth birthday. They had eight children: Hannah M. (deceased) married Martin Warner, of Tontogany, now an elder in the Presbyterian Church; Robert B. died in Carlinville, Ill., and

was a professor in Blackburn University at the time of his death; Nathan W. lives in Washington county, Ky.; William H.; Sarah (deceased); Martha B. is the wife of Luke Carr, of Bowling Green; Jacob was a soldier in the Civil war in Company H, 67th O. V. I., and was killed at Fort Wagner; Phileta died when four months old.

Our subject, who is the fourth child of this family, spent his boyhood upon his father's farm, and attended the neighboring schools. Later he studied for one year in the academy at Castalian Springs, Tenn. On October 23, 1850, he married Miss Sallie S. Woodbury, who was born in Falmouth, Mass., December 15, 1832. Their seven children are all living. Benjamin H. is a photographer at Bellevue, Huron county; he married Miss Eliza Clark. Alice J. married Fred Smedley, of Berea, Ohio, who is a graduate of Oberlin College and a photographer, and has four children—Grace, Ruth, Clifford, and Bessie. Lillie C. married Henry A. Ross, of Caldwell, Kans., and has four sons—Minton, Harry, Marshall, and Elbert. Charlotte M. is the wife of Thaddeus W. Heermans, a machinist of Evanston, Ill.; they have two children—Thomas and Miriam. Henry M. is a captain in the Salvation Army in the Hawaiian Islands. Jacob D. lives in Enid, O. T.; he married Miriam Lee, of Kansas City, and has one son—Harvey L. Mabel married Edwin Munn, of Portage, Ohio, and has one child—Lelia F.

Mr. Minton served his country during the Civil war by enlisting in Company B, 144th O. V. I. Both he and his wife are members of the Plain Congregational Church, with which Mr. Minton united at the age of fourteen. He is a prominent Prohibitionist, and has been a delegate to several State conventions, and his integrity and devotion to his principles win the respect of even political opponents.

IRA B. BANKS, deceased. The subject of this sketch, formerly a leading business man of Wood county, was born in New York State December 4, 1826. He came west early in life, locating first in Woodville, Sandusky county, and, later, on a farm near by, at what is now known as Banks' Corners.

In 1864 he came to Wood county, and started a mercantile business at Pemberville, which in 1865, he moved to Weston, where a few years afterward Mr. H. C. Uhlman became his junior partner. The business was confined to general merchandise, and finally limited to dry goods. Mr. Banks was an active agent in the development of trade in his vicinity, and his

sterling qualities of mind and heart made him friends wherever he was known. His death, which occurred October 21, 1891, was widely mourned by a wide circle of acquaintances. His mother (who resides at Elmore, Ohio), his wife and five children survive him. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and had for many years given generous support to its work. In politics he was a Republican, and he belonged to Phoenix Lodge, F. & A. M., at Perrysburg.

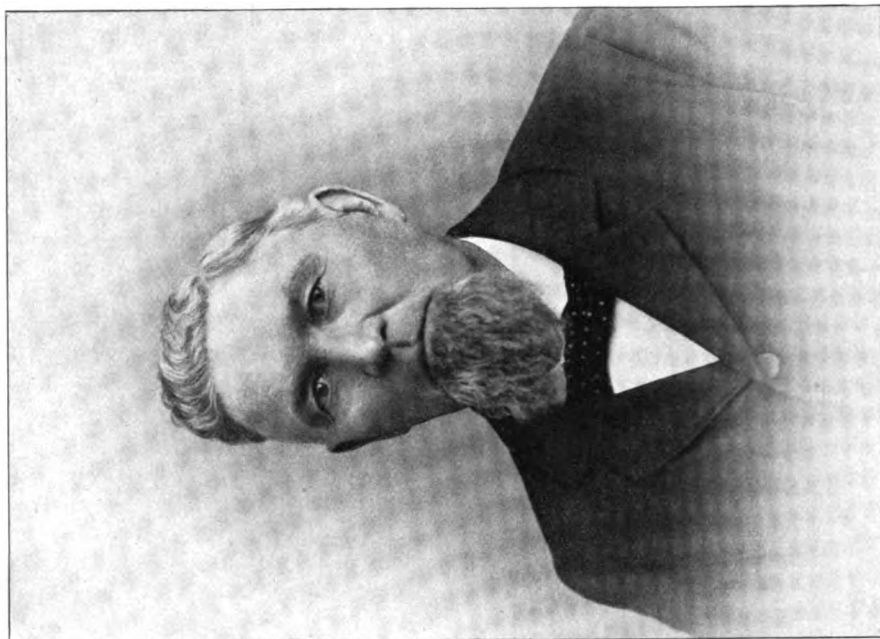
Mr. Banks was married, in Fremont, Ohio, to Miss Jemima Smith, who was born in Essex county, N. J., August 10, 1834. She was the daughter of John and Catherine Smith, who came from New Jersey to Ohio in 1851 and settled near Woodville, where their last days were spent. Mrs. Banks still resides in Weston, and with her sons conducts the old business under the firm name of I. B. Banks Co. Her eldest son is Fred J. (2) Bradley D., born March 26, 1858, was educated in the Weston schools, and for some time clerked for his father—in 1880 taking a one-half interest in the hardware business. In 1884 he assumed charge of the branch hardware store at McClure, Henry county; but four years later sold out and returned to Weston. He is non-partisan in politics, and, fraternally, is a member of the F. & A. M. (3) George R., born October 20, 1862, was educated in the Weston schools. He has been connected with the store from boyhood, clerking there prior to his father's death. At that time, having been appointed executor of the estate, by his father's will, he took full charge of the business, which he has ever since conducted with eminent success, and in a manner highly creditable to himself. He is a stockholder in the Exchange Bank, and, though yet a young man, is regarded as a leader in business circles. Politically he is a Republican, and is at present serving his second term as village treasurer. Socially, he is a member of the K. O. T. M., at Weston. (4) John B. is in the furniture and undertaking business at Perry, O. T. (5) Julia is the wife of L. E. Long, of Deshler, Ohio. The Banks family have always been noted for sound business judgment and a spirit of enterprise, and the present generation are worthy representatives of the old stock.

LEWIS DIENST, one of Wood county's prominent farmers, and residing in Portage township, was born on a farm in Upper Canada, December 10, 1834. His father was born in Germany, and when a young man crossed the Atlantic to Canada, where he met and married Miss Barbara Unsicker, also a native of Germany, who came with her

parents to America during her early girlhood. He died when our subject was a young lad, leaving but two children: Lewis, and Daniel, who is now engaged in farming near Lincoln, in Platte county, Neb. The mother afterward became the wife of Nicholas Dienst, and our subject has always borne the name of his step-father. Six children were born by the second union, namely: Eliza, wife of Rufus Sumner, of Trumbull county, Ohio; Nicholas, a mechanic and farmer living in Portage township, Wood county; Mrs. Barbara Jones, of Akron, Ohio; John, a farmer of Kansas; Henry, an agriculturist of Michigan; and one that died in infancy.

Our subject was only about two years old when he accompanied his mother and step-father to the United States. They made their way to Cleveland, Ohio, thence to Sandusky county, and subsequently removed to Lucas county. The year 1847 witnessed their arrival in Wood county, and they located in the town of Portage, where Mr. Dienst, Sr., purchased a house and lot. He was a tailor by trade, and followed that business throughout the greater part of his life. He passed away in Portage many years ago; his wife died in 1854.

The educational privileges which Lewis Dienst received were very limited. He was fourteen years of age before he began to learn the alphabet; then walked a quarter of a mile to the home of Henry Hoskins, to receive instruction, and subsequently attended the schools of Portage. Through experience and observation he has become a well-informed man, but is self-educated as well as self-made. He began to earn his living by working as a farm hand for Collister Haskins, at \$6 per month and board. His wages were afterward increased from time to time until, on attaining his majority, he was receiving \$14 per month and board. He remained in the employ of Mr. Haskins fifteen consecutive years. Trustworthy and reliable, he had the unqualified confidence of that gentleman, as is well indicated by his long service. He then operated the farm on shares for a few years, after which he purchased forty acres of prairie land in Liberty township, continuing its cultivation some four years. The labors of Mr. Dienst were then interrupted by his service in the Union army. On August 6, 1862, he enlisted at Portage, in Company K, 111th O. V. I. During his service he was once slightly wounded, but remained until the close of the war, and took part in every engagement in which his regiment participated. He received a wound in his left shoulder at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., and several times his



LEWIS DIENST.



MRS. ELIZABETH DIENST.



clothes were pierced with bullets. He served as sergeant, and was promoted from first sergeant to second lieutenant, April 12, 1864, and was first lieutenant at close of the war, or when his regiment was discharged. The war having ended, he was mustered out at Cleveland, Ohio, July 27, 1865, and at once returned to his home.

In the fall of 1861, in Trumbull county, Ohio, Mr. Dienst was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Shaffer, and to them have been born four children: Albert, who became a conductor on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, lost his health through exposure in that service, and died (a Christian man) at the age of twenty-four; Altha A. is the wife of Curtis Munn, of Portage, Ohio; Jennie E. is the wife of John Friend, of Rudolph, Ohio; one child died in infancy.

Before going to the war Mr. Dienst sold his first farm, and in the fall after his return he purchased 128 acres in Portage township, a wild and unimproved tract, but with characteristic energy he began its development. His first home was a log cabin, 16 x 20 feet, which he helped to build during his boyhood. He now has a large and comfortable frame residence, and a well-improved farm of fifty-two acres, having sold the remainder of the property. He also owns 392 acres of land in Sheridan county, Kans., situated within two miles of the county seat, Hoxie (in this vicinity Albert L. Dienst pre-empted seventy-two acres, and it was there he died). Success has attended his enterprising efforts, and his prosperity is the just reward of his labors. In politics he is a stalwart Republican. He has been offered various offices, but declined to serve, though he acted as assessor some four years, has been school director of the corporation for nine years, and was councilman for several years. The cause of education, and all interests calculated to improve the community, receive his support, and he is a valued and esteemed citizen of Wood county. He holds membership with the United Brethren Church, with which his wife and children are also connected.

MRS. MARY J. BECK, wife of A. D. Beck, was born in Beaver, (now Lawrence) county, Penn., on April 30, 1837, and is a daughter of Robert and Mary (McCarter) Mackey. Her father was a farmer of the Keystone State, and in 1850 drove across the country to Wood county, Ohio, locating on a new farm of 160 acres in Section 18, Bloom township. He continued to clear and cultivate his land until his death, which occurred November 16, 1871, and on the same farm his wife died November 28, 1874, being interred in

Whitacre cemetery. In their family were the following children: (1) Daniel, born February 20, 1822, died in Lawrence county, Penn. (2) William, born July 13, 1825, died in Pennsylvania at the age of four years. (3) Alexander, born March 4, 1827, makes his home in North Baltimore, Ohio. (4) James, born July 5, 1829, died in Bloom township, Wood county, in 1861. (5) Robert, who makes his home in Perry township, was born April 17, 1831, and for twenty-seven winter terms and one summer term engaged in teaching, while for fifteen years he conducted a saw-mill. (6) Joseph, of Fannin county, Texas, was born December 22, 1832, and served throughout the Civil war as a member of the 9th Ill. Cav. (7) Mary J. is the next in order of birth. (8) John, born February 28, 1840, resides in Putnam county, Ohio. The political affiliations of the father were with the Democratic party.

On July 12, 1864, was celebrated the marriage of A. C. Russell and Miss Mary J. Mackey. The former was born in the Empire State, in 1838, and was a son of Norman Russell, an early settler of Perry township. He engaged in farming in Perry township until 1881, when he removed to Van Zandt county, Texas, where, in November of the following year, he died, and his remains were brought back and interred at West Millgrove, Ohio. On December 18, 1887, in Texas, Mrs. Russell became the wife of A. D. Beck, who was born in Washington county, Ind., June 19, 1831, son of Andrew and Susan (Diven) Beck. The father was born in 1800, in North Carolina, and when only eight years old was taken by his father to Washington county, Ind., where the latter was one of the honored pioneers.

In 1852 Mr. Beck went to Texas, but the following year returned to Lawrence county, Ind., where he wedded Catherine Horsey, by whom he had four children—Susan, now Mrs. Kemp Morley, of Greenville, Texas; Emma, wife of John Roberts, of Van Zandt county, Texas; Clara, who died in childhood, and John, of Van Zandt county. The mother passed away December 1, 1866, in Martin county, Ind. In October, 1864, Mr. Beck enlisted from Indiana, in Company B, 31st Ind. V. I., and served nearly a year. He had again married in his native State, and in 1880 removed with his wife to Texas, where she died. He was again married, in the Lone Star State, but this wife died there about ten months after their marriage.

In 1888 Mr. and Mrs. Beck returned North, locating in Perry township, Wood Co., Ohio, and here have a good farm of 100 acres, which he is successfully operating. A large willow tree, which



stands on this farm, has grown from a little riding whip, brought from Perrysburg, nearly sixty years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Beck have a large circle of friends, who hold them in the highest esteem and confidence. Mrs. Beck has no children of her own, but is rearing a little niece, Mary Mackey, the daughter of Joseph Mackey. In politics Mr. Beck is an ardent Democrat, and he is a member of the Disciples Church.

LEWIS C. CAROTHERS, a well-known and highly esteemed hotel-keeper, of Rudolph, was born in Portage township, Wood county, May 23, 1844, and is the son of Francis and Elizabeth (Garthwaite) Carothers.

Francis Carothers was born in Pennsylvania, and was there married, October 17, 1815, to Miss Margaret Fitzsimmons, who was born February 20, 1788. She died in November, 1839, and was buried in Sargent cemetery. His second wife (the mother of our subject) was the widow of Pascal Besanson. She and Mr. Carothers were married August 5, 1841, in Wood county. Mr. Carothers died five years later in Portage township, and was buried in Sargent cemetery. Mrs. Carothers died in 1881, and was buried in Portage township. She always lived on the home farm, in Portage township; in religious faith she was a Presbyterian. Mr. Carothers took a prominent part in all matters pertaining to the county, and was associate judge and assessor of Wood county. In fulfilling the duties of the latter office he was obliged to go over the entire county. The children by his first wife were: James H., born November 18, 1816, died in California in 1878; William R., born January 1, 1818, died in Portage township in 1883; Samuel, born November 16, 1820, died in California in 1873; Nancy J., born February 18, 1823, died in April, 1852, unmarried; Eleanor, born February 14, 1825, died September 10, 1849; David N., born August 7, 1827, followed the sea all his life, traveled all over the world, and "came home to die"; Mary Margaret, born April 1, 1830, married William Brokaw, and died October 9, 1882, in Galion, Ohio. By the second wife two children were born: Francis, September 22, 1842, died May 28, 1845; and Lewis C., our subject.

Lewis C. Carothers was reared on the farm near the village of Portage. In 1862, he enlisted in Company D, 111th O. V. I., under Capt. J. E. McGowen. The regiment's first engagement was at Huff's Ferry, Tenn. Mr. Carothers participated in all the battles of his regiment, being with it continuously, with the exception of two weeks, until his discharge in June, 1865. The

war now over, he returned to his home on the farm. When oil was discovered in Pennsylvania, he left home to work in the oil-field there. For a year he worked at the business until he had done all kinds of work that was to be done in the field, except the dressing of tools (at that time the driller was below the tool-dresser in rank). Returning to the farm, he remained until October, 1872, when he went to California, and embarked in the sheep business. Pleased with the prospects before him, he returned home at the lapse of a year and married a lady well known to the teachers of Wood county, she having taught for five years in the county. Miss Rose Call now becomes the happy Mrs. Carothers. On the 20th day of November, 1873, they are married, and on the same day started for the Pacific Coast to become partners in the sheep business, as well as all affairs pertaining to their future life. During the drouth of 1874-75 (nineteen months without a drop of rain), the sheep business became a general failure, and Mr. Carothers lost so heavily that he was forced to give up the business. In farming, however, and other work, he gathered a little means; but getting badly hurt by being thrown from a horse, which accident unfitted him for business for the time, he decided to return to the home farm once more, and care for his aged mother and brother, now very anxious for his return.

In 1878 he again finds himself on the old homestead. Two years later his mother died, and three years later his brother William followed, leaving Mr. Carothers the only representative of his father's family. On his farm he remained until the spring of 1892, when he took up the management of the Ruth-Miller farm, in Portage township, near Mermill. He farmed this place for three seasons, then embarked in the hotel business at Rudolph.

To Mr. and Mrs. Carothers have come the following children: Herbert L., born in Tulare county, Cal., September 7, 1874, died in same place, February 3, 1876; Frank L., born in Pacheco, Cal., March 20, 1878, died at Portage (on farm), February 23, 1891; William G., born June 12, 1881, and Leonard V., born February 26, 1886, both at home; and Jessie M., born October 24, 1890, died July 23, 1894. Politically, Mr. Carothers had always been a Democrat until 1884, when his great interest in the temperance reform led him out of the old party, and he declared himself, out-and-out, for Prohibition. His wife is an ardent lover of the W. C. T. U., and has been for years a faithful worker in the cause of temperance. They are members of the

Christian Church. Mr. Carothers is of a genial nature, and his kind-hearted wife is a woman of noble character. They carry on their business in a very commendable and successful manner, and are highly spoken of by all who have the pleasure of their acquaintance.

PROF. W. G. ELLIOTT, a prominent educator of Wood county, and one of the leading citizens of Bloomdale, was born in Loudon township, Seneca Co., Ohio, November 7, 1860. His family is of English origin, his great-grandfather, Samuel Elliott, having come alone from England when a boy. He married, and reared a family of six children: George, Samuel, Joseph, Susan, Winnie and Lydia. Joseph Elliott, our subject's grandfather, was born near Fredericksburg, Md. He married Eleanor McKenny, who was born in the United States of Irish parentage, and had nine children: David, Frederick, Augustus, William, James, Ann, Susan, Eliza, and Melvina, all of whom lived to adult age. He was a successful farmer in Maryland until 1850, and then moved to a fine farm near Little Washington, Rappahannock Co., Va., where he and his wife lived to a ripe old age.

David Elliott, our subject's father, was born near Fredericksburg, January 31, 1824. He had but limited education, as the subscription schools of the locality only furnished instruction in reading and writing, and, while his parents were comfortably situated, they could not afford the cash needed for schooling elsewhere. He lived at home until after the removal of the family to Virginia, and in 1851 started for California in search of wealth, but impelled chiefly by a dislike for slavery. The only employment open to him was the guarding of negro slaves, and these he often allowed to escape. He stopped in Missouri, where he spent about a year, but the total severance of old ties of friendship proved too painful. A former neighbor, Mrs. Sarah Updyke, and her family, had settled in Seneca county, Ohio, in April, 1853, on an eighty-acre tract, and this fact led to a visit, in September, 1853, to that locality. He was married there, on October 4, 1853, to Miss Lydia A. Updyke, who was born in Rappahannock county, Va., October 20, 1826. She was one of a family of seven children: Rufus, who died in Fairfield county; Susan, who married Christopher Santemyer, and died in Bloom township, Wood county; Elizabeth, the widow of George Worley, of Bloom township; Lydia A. (Mr. Elliott's first wife); Jane, who died in Virginia at eighteen years of age; Mahala, now the widow of Caleb Worley, of Montgomery town-

ship; and Mary E. (Mrs. Elliott). Mr. Updyke died in 1840, and his widow kept a home for the family until her children were all settled in life, when she sold the farm and lived with her children. Her death occurred in Bloom township in 1894 at the age of ninety years.

After his marriage David Elliott located upon forty acres of land near his wife's family, where he remained until 1866. His first wife died February 13, 1855, leaving one child—Marshall H., born January 15, 1855, now a farmer in Bloom township. Mr. Elliott was married April 17, 1856, to Miss Mary E. Updyke, a sister of the former wife, born in Virginia, January 18, 1833. Four children were born of this union: Mary A., June 26, 1857, who is at home; William G., our subject; Sarah E., January 29, 1862, now Mrs. George W. Markwood, of Perry township, and David F., April 2, 1864, a resident of Ionia county, Mich. In April, 1866, David Elliott sold his farm and came to Wood county, purchasing forty acres in Bloom township, to which he added until he owned 160 acres, which he sold in 1887 for \$15,000. In September, 1887, he moved to Perry township, and bought 100 acres, where he made his home. He was a tall, robust man, and until five years before his death, which occurred September 5, 1891, he had enjoyed the best of health. He was a Republican in politics, but sympathized strongly with the Prohibition party. He never allowed his name to be presented as a candidate for office. He and his wife were prominent members of the U. B. Church to which he gave liberally both of money and time, holding many different offices. His widow still lives at the homestead, passing her declining years free from care and highly respected by all who know her.

W. G. Elliott was a boy of five years when he first came to this county, and the district schools of Bloom township gave him his first draught at the well of knowledge. Their facilities were very limited, however, and when he had finished the common branches, they could do no more for him, and his later extensive knowledge of the higher branches was obtained by private study. He attended Fostoria Academy (Prof. Jackson, principal) for four months. His first teaching was in 1880, in the Kimberlin school, in Weston township, and he has since become one of the best known instructors in the county, holding the position of superintendent of schools at Bairdstown, Bloomdale and Millbury. His information is accurate, and covers a wide range of modern thought, and it has been won by his almost unaided efforts. He is

peculiarly fitted to understand and smooth away the perplexities of other students. In the fall of 1893 he was elected superintendent of schools for Perry township, which position he held for three successive years, and is the only official of that rank in Wood county who succeeded in holding that position for more than one year. He is a shrewd business man also, and, as executor of his father's will, he displayed excellent management. From 1890 to 1893, he was engaged in the grocery and queensware business in Bloomdale, and erected a fine business block with two store rooms, and this building he still owns. In 1893, Mr. Elliott began the study of law, under the tutorship of Hon. Benjamin F. James, of Bowling Green, Ohio; in April, 1896, he entered the law school at Ada, Ohio, where he was admitted to the Senior class, from which institution he graduated with honors, and was admitted to the bar to practice in the Ohio courts, June 25, 1896. He is at the present time completing the post-graduate course in law from the same institution. He is a stockholder in the Bloomdale Building and Loan Association. He was married October 12, 1887, in Genoa, Ohio, to Flora A. Shaner, a native of Perrysburg, and a daughter of Wesley Shaner, of Genoa, Ohio. She is a lady of rare ability and culture, a member of the M. E. Church, and was a teacher before her marriage. With the exception of a few years in Millbury, their home has been in Bloom township. They have had three children: Ruth L., born January 4, 1890, died June 1, 1892; Howard W., born October 13, 1892; and Marion E., born February 24, 1895.

In politics Prof. Elliott is a stanch Republican, and his first vote was cast for James G. Blaine. He has always been an active worker in the ranks of his party. He is a member of the K. of P. Lodge No. 278, Bloomdale.

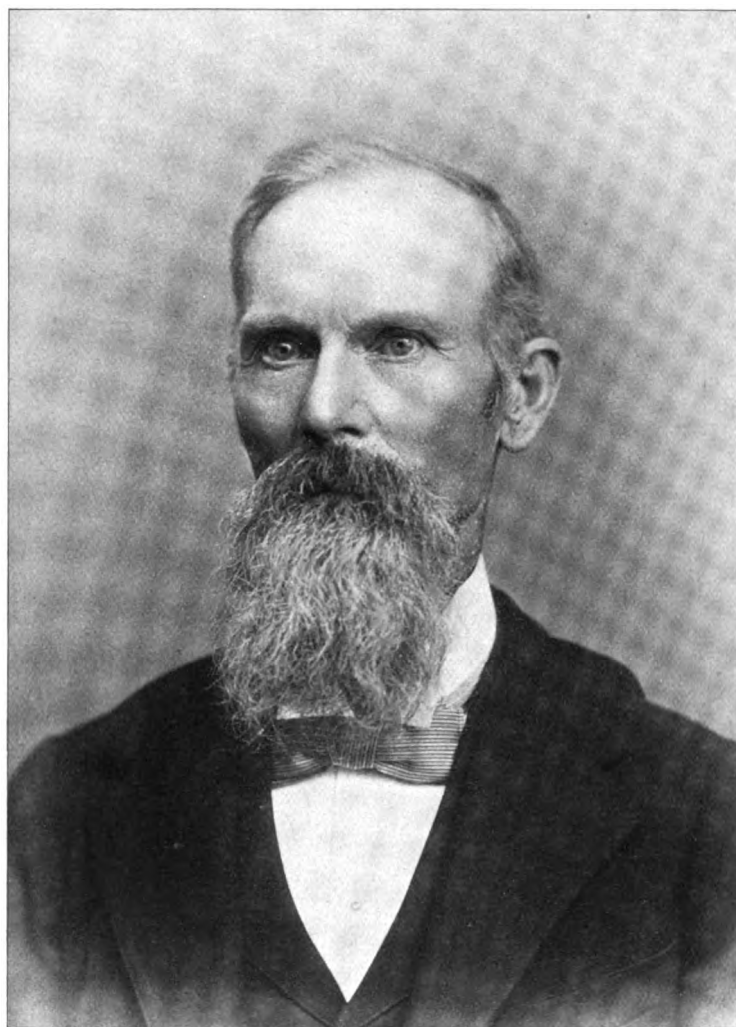
ABRAM HYTER, a prosperous agriculturist and sawmill operator of Montgomery township, is one of the most respected citizens of his locality, and he and his estimable wife have been identified with many progressive movements—social, religious and charitable.

He is a native of Carroll county, Md., where he began his earthly pilgrimage June 4, 1829. His parents were Jacob and Margaret (Koontz) Hyter. They came to Ohio when our subject was very young, and his early years were passed in Seneca county as a pioneer farmer's boy with only the district schools, often times two miles distant, to supply his thirst for knowledge. His time was mainly spent at home until his mar-

riage, April 26, 1855, in Tiffin, Ohio, to Miss Mary Stewart, who was born in Lycoming county, Penn., November 8, 1830, the eldest child of Thomas D. and Fannie (Riddle) Stewart. In 1838 they came to Seneca county, Ohio, where Mrs. Stewart died in 1843; and in 1854, Mr. Stewart located in Perry township, Wood county, where he passed his remaining years. Mrs. Hyter, for three years before her marriage, taught in the district schools, her salary being sometimes as low as \$10.00 a month, and of course, "boarded round."

Mr. Hyter bought forty acres of land in Perry township, upon which little clearing had been done, and here they began housekeeping. The land was very wet and sadly in need of ditching. A year later they returned to Seneca county, and Mr. Hyter there rented land of his father-in-law, for a time; but in 1859 he purchased ninety-five acres in Section 11, Montgomery township, and removed thither, occupying a log cabin which, with a small log stable, was the only building on the place. There were but a few acres of cleared land, and the ensuing years were full of toil; but he prospered, and now has 135 acres of land, with fine buildings and improvements. In the spring of 1871 he went to Genoa, Ohio, and remained until the spring of 1881, during his stay there conducting a wooden-bowl factory. For several years past he has engaged in the sawmill business, and his success in acquiring a competence demonstrates his business ability.

Mr. and Mrs. Hyter have had six children: Anna F., who married E. R. Kirk, of Ottawa county, Ohio, and has one son; Jennie A., who died in childhood; Nellie C., who married A. A. Stump, of Bradner, and has three sons; Charles E., a resident of Bradner, married Jennie Clark, and has two sons and one daughter; Schuyler C. married Gail Hamilton, and has one daughter (they live in Bradner), and Inez G. is at home. The parents are leading members of the M. P. Church, of Bradner, in which he now holds the office of trustee. Mrs. Hyter is a woman of noble character and fine mentality, whose helpfulness in varied lines of work has done much for the locality. She is a valued member of the Woman's Relief Corps, and of the Rebekah Lodge. Mr. Hyter belongs to the I. O. O. F. at Genoa. He has been a Republican from the formation of the party, and has taken an active share in the local work, serving as township trustee for six terms, and for some time as member of the Bradner District school board. He holds an interest in fourteen oil wells, nine of which are on his own land.



*Abram Hyter*











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